qtr. *abbr* quarter

qty. *abbr* quantity

qua /ˈkwɑ:/ *prep, formal* : in the character or role of (someone or something) : AS — used to indicate that someone or something is being referred to or thought about in a particular way ▪ The artist *qua* artist is less interesting to me than the artist as a human being. — see also SINE QUA NON

[1]quack /ˈkwæk/ *verb* **quacks**; **quacked**; **quack•ing** [*no obj*] *of a duck* : to make a loud sound ▪ We could hear the ducks *quacking*.

[2]quack *noun, pl* **quacks** [*count*] : the loud sound that is made by a duck — compare [3]QUACK

[3]quack *noun, pl* **quacks** [*count*] *informal*

1 *disapproving* : an unskillful doctor or a person who falsely claims to have medical skills ▪ That *quack* almost killed me by prescribing the wrong medication. ▪ Her doctor turned out to be a real *quack*.

2 *Brit* — used in usually a negative or humorous way to refer to a doctor ▪ a visit to the *quack*

– compare [2]QUACK

– **quack** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *quack* medicines ▪ a *quack* doctor

quack•ery /ˈkwækəri/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving* : the methods and treatments used by unskillful doctors or by people who pretend to be doctors ▪ His cure was nothing but *quackery*.

quad /ˈkwɑ:d/ *noun, pl* **quads** [*count*] *informal*

1 : QUADRANGLE 2 ▪ Meet me at the *quad* after class.

2 : QUADRICEPS ▪ She suffered a *quad* injury. — usually plural ▪ I overworked my *quads* at the gym.

3 : QUADRUPLET ▪ She gave birth to *quads*.

quad•ran•gle /ˈkwɑ:ˌdræŋgəl/ *noun, pl* **-ran•gles** [*count*]

1 *geometry* : a flat shape that has four sides and four angles : QUADRILATERAL

2 : an open square or rectangular area at a college, school, etc., that is surrounded by buildings on all four sides

quad•rant /ˈkwɑ:drənt/ *noun, pl* **-rants** [*count*] : one part of something that is evenly divided into four parts ▪ Draw two intersecting lines that divide the page into four *quadrants*. ▪ The town is located in the northwest *quadrant* of the state.; *especially, geometry* : one part of a circle that is evenly divided into four parts

qua•drat•ic equation /kwɑˈdrætɪk-/ *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] *mathematics* : an equation in which the highest unknown variable is multiplied by itself only once ▪ $x^2 + 4x + 4 = 0$ is a *quadratic equation*.

quad•ri•ceps /ˈkwɑ:drəˌsɛps/ *noun, pl* **quadriceps** [*count*] : a large muscle at the front of your upper leg ▪ He felt a pain in his right *quadriceps*. ▪ My *quadriceps* are sore.

quad•ri•lat•er•al /ˌkwɑ:drəˈlætərəl/ *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] *geometry* : a flat shape that has four sides and four angles

– **quadrilateral** *adj* ▪ The sheet of metal was cut into even *quadrilateral* shapes.

qua•drille /kwɑˈdrɪl/ *noun, pl* **-drilles** [*count*] : a dance for four couples who each form one side of a square ✧ This dance was popular in the 18th and 19th centuries.

qua•dril•lion /kwɑˈdrɪljən/ *noun, pl* **quadrillion** *or* **quadril•lions** [*count*] : the number 1,000,000,000,000,000 : one thousand trillion

quad•ri•ple•gia /ˌkwɑ:drəˈpli:ʤijə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a condition in which you are permanently unable to move or feel your arms and legs and most of your body because of injury or illness

quad•ri•ple•gic /ˌkwɑ:drəˈpli:ʤɪk/ *noun, pl* **-gics** [*count*] *medical* : a person who is permanently unable to move or feel both arms and both legs because of injury or illness — compare PARAPLEGIC

– **quadriplegic** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *quadriplegic* patients

quad•ru•ped /ˈkwɑ:drəˌpɛd/ *noun, pl* **-peds** [*count*] *technical* : an animal that has four feet ▪ Horses and cows are *quadrupeds*. — compare BIPED

[1]qua•dru•ple /kwɑˈdru:pəl/ *verb* **-dru•ples**; **-dru•pled**; **-dru•pling**

1 [*no obj*] : to become four times bigger in value or number ▪ The value of the stock has *quadrupled* in the past year. ▪ The town's population has *quadrupled* in the past 50 years.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to become four times bigger ▪ He *quadrupled* his winnings. ▪ The company has *quadrupled* the number of its employees.

[2]quadruple *adj*

1 : four times bigger in size or amount ▪ She ordered a *quadruple* espresso.

2 *always used before a noun* : having four parts or including four people or things ▪ a *quadruple* murder [=a murder of four people]

qua•dru•plet /kwɑˈdru:plət/ *noun, pl* **-plets** [*count*] : one of four babies that are born at the same time to the same mother — usually plural ▪ She had (a set of) *quadruplets*. [=she gave birth to four babies] — compare QUINTUPLET, SEXTUPLET, TRIPLET, TWIN

quaff /ˈkwɑ:f/ *verb* **quaffs**; **quaffed**; **quaff•ing** [+ *obj*] *old-fashioned + literary* : to drink a large amount of (something) quickly ▪ We stopped at a bar and *quaffed* a few beers.

quag•mire /ˈkwægˌmajɚ/ *noun, pl* **-mires** [*count*]

1 : an area of soft, wet ground — usually singular ▪ After a lot of rain, the dirt road becomes a *quagmire*.

2 : a situation that is hard to deal with or get out of : a situation that is full of problems — usually singular ▪ The trial became a legal *quagmire*. ▪ She's caught in a *quagmire* of debt.

qua•hog /ˈkoʊˌhɑ:g/ *noun, pl* **-hogs** [*count*] *US* : a type of large clam that is eaten as food

[1]quail /ˈkweɪl/ *noun, pl* **quail** *or* **quails**

1 [*count*] : a kind of small wild bird that is often hunted

2 [*noncount*] : the meat of quail eaten as food ▪ We had *quail* for dinner.



quail

[2]quail *verb* **quails**; **quailed**; **quail•ing** [*no obj*] *literary* : to feel afraid and often to show your fear in a way that can be clearly seen ▪ Other politicians *quailed* before him. ▪ He *quailed* at the thought of seeing her again.

quaint /ˈkweɪnt/ *adj* **quaint•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~] : having an old-fashioned or unusual quality or appearance that is usually attractive or appealing ▪ The fishing village was very *quaint*. ▪ The writer talks about the *quaint* customs of the natives. ▪ They have some *quaint* [=*outdated*] notions about how women should behave.

– **quaint•ly** *adv* ▪ The town is *quaintly* old-fashioned.

[1]quake /ˈkweɪk/ *verb* **quakes**; **quaked**; **quak•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to shake because of fear, anger, etc. : TREMBLE ▪ He *quaked* with fear. ▪ She was *quaking* with rage.

2 : to shake violently ▪ The explosion made the whole house *quake*.

[2]quake *noun, pl* **quakes** [*count*] *informal* : EARTHQUAKE

Quak•er /ˈkweɪkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a member of a Christian religious group whose members dress simply, are against violence, and have meetings without any special ceremony or priests — called also *Friend*

– **Quaker** *adj* ▪ a *Quaker* school/family

qual•i•fi•ca•tion /ˌkwɑ:ləfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] **a** : a special skill or type of experience or knowledge that makes someone suitable to do a particular job or activity — usually plural ▪ He has the best *qualifications* for the job. ▪ She has the proper *qualifications* to teach. ▪ academic/educational/technical *qualifications* **b** : something that is necessary in order for you to do, have, or be a part of something — usually plural ▪ What are the *qualifications* for owning a gun? ▪ He met all the health *qualifications* for joining the army.

2 *formal* : something that is added to a statement to limit or change its effect or meaning [*noncount*] I agree with the statement without *qualification*. [=I agree completely] [*count*] They will agree to the deal only with the *qualification* [=*stipulation*] that they get 40 percent of the profits.

3 [*count*] *Brit* : an official record or document (such as a degree, certificate, or diploma) which shows that you have completed a course of study or training and are qualified to do something ▪ She is finishing up her *qualification* in marketing. ▪ He is studying for his teaching *qualification*. ▪ Students working towards their *qualifications*. ▪ Her ***paper qualifications*** [=her qualifications on paper; her qualifications as shown by documents] make her a good candidate, but do you think she has the right personality for the job?

4 [*noncount*] : the act of qualifying for something or the fact of having qualified for something ▪ Your credit card will be sent to you by mail upon *qualification*. [=when you have qualified to receive it] ▪ The team earned *qualification* for the tournament. [=the team qualified to play in the tournament]

qual•i•fied /ˈkwɑ:ləˌfaɪd/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having the necessary skill, experience, or knowledge to do a particular job or activity : having the qualifications to do something ▪ She is highly *qualified* for the job. ▪ He is *qualified* [=*eligible*] to run for president. ▪ She is *qualified* [=*licensed*] to practice law in this state. ▪ fully *qualified* teachers/nurses ▪ I'm not *qualified* to give you advice about what you should do.

2 *formal* : not complete : limited in some way : PARTIAL ▪ She gave a *qualified* yes to the question. ▪ The plan was given *qualified* approval.

qual•i•fi•er /ˈkwɑːləˌfajɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person or team that has defeated others to enter a competition ▪ She's one of the *qualifiers* for the tournament.

2 : a game or contest that a person or team must win in order to enter a particular competition ▪ She'll be playing in the tournament this year after winning the *qualifier*.

3 *grammar* : a word (such as an adjective or adverb) or phrase that describes another word or group of words : MODIFIER

qual•i•fy /ˈkwɑːləˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to give (someone) the necessary skill or knowledge to do a particular job or activity ▪ His experience *qualifies* him for the job. ▪ The training will *qualify* you to sell insurance. **b** [*no obj*] : to have the necessary skill or knowledge to do a particular job or activity : to have the qualifications to do something ▪ They both *qualify* for the job.

2 [*no obj*] : to pass an exam or complete a course of study that is required in order to do something ▪ Lawyers may only work in the state in which they *qualified*. [=passed the exam] — often + *as* ▪ He has just *qualified as* a doctor/pilot.

3 a [*no obj*] : to have the right to do, have, or be a part of something ▪ Did she *qualify* to receive financial aid? ▪ Financial assistance is available for those who *qualify*. — often + *for* ▪ Town residents *qualify for* a discount on the tickets. ▪ To *qualify for* the contest, you must be at least 18 years old. **b** [+ *obj*] : to give (someone) the right to do, have, or be a part of something ▪ The win *qualifies* her to compete in the final race. ▪ The certification *qualifies* you to teach only in this state. — often + *for* ▪ The insurance plan *qualifies* you *for* an eye exam every two years. ▪ Further education will *qualify* you *for* a pay raise.

4 [*no obj*] : to have the skills that are required or do the things that are required to become a member of a team or to be allowed in a competition ▪ Only those racers who *qualify* will continue to the next round. ▪ She tried to get into the tournament, but she failed to *qualify*. — often + *for* ▪ She *qualified for* the Olympic team.

5 a [*no obj*] : to have all the necessary qualities to be thought of or described in a particular way — + *as* ▪ Does this shirt *qualify as* business attire? ▪ Living in a camper for a weekend does not *qualify as* outdoor camping. ▪ A 10–3 victory *qualifies as* a blowout. ▪ The book is too short to *qualify as* a novel. **b** [+ *obj*] : to give (someone or something) the right to be thought of or described in a particular way — + *as* ▪ His brief time in the army doesn't *qualify* him *as* a military expert.

6 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (a statement) more specific or limited in meaning or effect ▪ I would like to *qualify* [=*modify*] what I said earlier to avoid any misinterpretation.

7 [+ *obj*] *grammar* : to limit or describe the meaning of (a word or group of words) : MODIFY ▪ Adjectives *qualify* nouns.

qual•i•ta•tive /ˈkwɑːləˌteɪtɪv/ *adj* : of or relating to how good something is : of or relating to the quality of something ▪ a *qualitative* analysis of the product [=an analysis concerned with the quality of the product] ▪ The research showed a *qualitative* difference between the two teaching methods. [=showed that one teaching method is better than the other] — compare QUANTITATIVE

– qual•i•ta•tive•ly *adv*

[1]qual•i•ty /ˈkwɑːləti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : how good or bad something is ▪ Pollution affects air/water *quality*. ▪ The restaurant serves food of high *quality*. [=the food at the restaurant is very good] ▪ The dress material is of poor *quality*. [=the dress material is not good] — often + *of* ▪ The *quality of* the service we received was very good. ▪ The *quality of* their products has gone down. ▪ His attention to detail shows in the *quality of* his work. ▪ She has raised/improved her ***quality of life*** [=she has become more successful] with her new career. ▪ The drug is used to improve the *quality of life* for patients who have chronic illnesses. [=to make their lives more pleasant and enjoyable]

2 [*count*] : a characteristic or feature that someone or something has : something that can be noticed as a part of a person or thing ▪ Honesty is a desirable *quality*. ▪ Stubbornness is one of his bad *qualities*. ▪ She has strong leadership *qualities*. ▪ The house has many fine *qualities*. ▪ His music has a primitive *quality*. — often + *of* ▪ Hardness is a *quality of* steel. ▪ He considered the good and bad *qualities of* the car before buying it.

3 [*noncount*] : a high level of value or excellence ▪ wine of *quality* [=very good wine] ▪ They offer *quality* at a reasonable price.

[2]quality *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : very good or excellent ▪ The restaurant offers *quality* service. ▪ The store sells *quality* furniture at reasonable prices. ▪ It can be difficult to find *quality* childcare. ▪ He had a *quality* education.

2 *Brit* : intended for people who are educated and who care about serious matters ▪ a *quality* newspaper/paper ▪ the *quality* press

quality assurance *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of checking goods or services to make sure that they are good — abbr. *QA*

quality control *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of checking goods as they are produced to make sure that the final products are good — abbr. *QC*

quality time *noun* [*noncount*] : time that you spend giving all of your attention to someone who is close to you (such as your child) ▪ Spending some *quality time* after work with your children is very important. ▪ Dad and I spent some *quality time* together.

qualm /ˈkwɑːm/ *noun, pl* **qualms** [*count*] : a feeling of doubt or uncertainty about whether you are doing the right thing ▪ He accepted their offer without a *qualm*. — usually plural; often + *about* ▪ She had/felt some *qualms about* moving to the big city. ▪ He had no *qualms about* accepting their offer.

quan•da•ry /ˈkwɑːndri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *formal* : a situation in which you are confused about what to do ▪ The unexpected results of the test have created a *quandary* for researchers. ▪ He was ***in a quandary*** [=*unsure, confused*] about which candidate to choose.

quan•go /ˈkwæŋˌgoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-gos** [*count*] *Brit* : an organization that deals with public matters and is supported by the government but that works independently and has its own legal powers ✧ *Quango* was formed as an abbreviation of "quasi-nongovernmental organization."

quanta *plural of* [1]QUANTUM

quan•ti•fi•er /ˈkwɑːntəˌfajɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *grammar* : a word or number (such as "many," "few," "some," "two," or "2") that is used with a noun to show the amount of something ▪ "Five" in "the five men" is a *quantifier*.

quan•ti•fy /ˈkwɑːntəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to find or calculate the quantity or amount of (something) ▪ It is difficult to *quantify* intelligence. ▪ Doctors have *quantified* the risks of smoking cigarettes. ▪ It is impossible to *quantify* the number of Web sites on the Internet.

– quan•ti•fi•able /ˌkwɑːntəˈfajəbəl/ *adj* ▪ The health risks are not *quantifiable*. ▪ *quantifiable* benefits

quan•ti•ta•tive /ˈkwɑːntəˌteɪtɪv/ *adj* : of or relating to how much there is of something : of or relating to the quantity or amount of something ▪ a *quantitative* analysis/measurement ▪ Scientists are gathering *quantitative* information about human intelligence. — compare QUALITATIVE

– quan•ti•ta•tive•ly *adv*

quan•ti•ty /ˈkwɑːntəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 : an amount or number of something [*count*] The wine is made in small/large *quantities*. — often + *of* ▪ I ate a large *quantity of* food. [=I ate a lot of food] ▪ Farmers grow large *quantities of* wheat and corn. ▪ Add a half a cup of oil, and the same *quantity of* vinegar. [*noncount*] The boss is worried about *quantity* as well as quality. ▪ Production saw an increase ***in quantity***. [=there was an increase in the amount produced] — abbr. *qty*.

2 : a large amount or number of something [*count*] — + *of* ▪ Police found *quantities of* drugs and guns in the house. ▪ There is a *quantity of* information [=a lot of information] available on this topic. [*noncount*] Blood cells are produced ***in quantity***. [=in large amounts] ▪ The family buys food *in quantity*.

known quantity : someone or something whose abilities or characteristics are well known ▪ When she was cast in the role of the princess, she was already a *known quantity* from her work in several films.

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unknown quantity : someone or something whose abilities or characteristics are not yet known ▪ If you've never been published before, you're an *unknown quantity*, so you're going to have difficulty selling your first novel.

quantity surveyor *noun, pl* ~ **-ors** [*count*] *Brit* : someone whose job is to estimate the amount and cost of materials needed for building something and how long it will take to build

[1]quan•tum /ˈkwɑːntəm/ *noun, pl* **quan•ta** /ˈkwɑːntə/ [*count*] *physics* : the smallest amount of many forms of energy (such as light)

[2]quantum *adj, always used before a noun, physics* : of, relating to, or using the principles of quantum theory ▪ *quantum* physics

quantum leap *noun, pl* ~ **leaps** [*count*] : a sudden large change, development, or improvement ▪ Prices have taken a *quantum leap* upward. ▪ The new drug is a *quantum leap* in the fight against cancer. — called also *quantum jump*

quantum mechanics *noun* [*noncount*] *physics* : a branch of physics that deals with the structure and behavior of very small pieces of matter

quantum theory *noun* [*noncount*] *physics* : a theory in physics that is based on the idea that energy (such as light) is made of small separate units of energy

[1]quar•an•tine /ˈkworənˌtiːn/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the period of time during which a person or animal that has a disease or that might have a disease is kept away from others to prevent the disease from spreading ▪ a six-month *quarantine*

2 : the situation of being kept away from others to prevent a disease from spreading ▪ The infected people were put into *quarantine*. ▪ The cows will be kept/held ***in quarantine*** for another week. ▪ The dog was put/placed ***under quarantine***

[2]quarantine *verb* **-tines**; **-tined**; **-tin•ing** [+ *obj*] : to keep (a person or animal) away from others to prevent a disease from spreading : to put or keep (a person or animal) in quarantine ▪ The hospital *quarantined* the infected patients. ▪ The dog was immediately *quarantined*.

quark /ˈkwoɚk/ *noun, pl* **quarks** [*count*] *physics* : any one of several types of very small particles that make up matter

[1]quar•rel /ˈkworəl/ *noun, pl* **-rels** [*count*]

1 : an angry argument or disagreement ▪ a lover's *quarrel* = a *quarrel* between lovers ▪ They had a *quarrel* about/over money. ▪ a *quarrel* between husband and wife ▪ She had a *quarrel* with her mother.

2 : a reason to disagree with or argue about something — + *with* ▪ I have a few *quarrels with* your plan. ▪ I have ***no quarrel with*** [=I do not object to] your plan. ▪ It would be foolish to ***pick a quarrel*** [=start a quarrel] ***with*** him.

[2]quarrel *verb* **-rels**; *US* **-reled** *or Brit* **-relled**; *US* **-rel•ing** *or Brit* **-rel•ling** [*no obj*] : to argue about or disagree with something ▪ The children *quarrel* all the time. ▪ She and her husband are always *quarreling* about/over money. ▪ I don't want to *quarrel* with you. ▪ I won't *quarrel* [=*disagree*] with your version of what happened.

quar•rel•some /ˈkworəlsəm/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : ready or likely to argue or disagree ▪ She is very *quarrelsome*. ▪ a *quarrelsome* person

[1]quar•ry /ˈkwori/ *noun* [*singular*] : an animal or person that is being hunted or chased ▪ The dogs chased their *quarry*. ▪ The detective followed his *quarry* into a nightclub. — compare [2]QUARRY

[2]quarry *noun, pl* **quar•ries** [*count*] : a place where large amounts of stone are dug out of the ground ▪ a limestone *quarry* — compare [1]QUARRY

[3]quarry *verb* **-ries**; **-ried**; **-ry•ing**

1 : to dig or take (stone or other materials) from a quarry [+ *obj*] — often used as *(be) quarried* ▪ Limestone *is quarried* in this area. ▪ The stone used for these buildings *was quarried* from a nearby site. [*no obj*] an area where workers are *quarrying* for limestone

2 [+ *obj*] : to make a quarry in (a place) — usually used as *(be) quarried* ▪ This area has *been quarried* for limestone.

– quarrying /ˈkworijɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

quart /ˈkwoɚt/ *noun, pl* **quarts** [*count*]

1 *US* : a unit of liquid measurement equal to two U.S. pints or 0.946 liters — abbr. *qt.*

2 *Brit* : a unit of liquid measurement equal to two British pints or 1.14 liters — abbr. *qt.*

[1]quar•ter /ˈkwoɚtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters**

1 [*count*] : one of four equal parts of something ▪ Cut the pie into *quarters*. ▪ A *quarter* [=*fourth*] of the class voted "no."

2 [*count*] : a unit of something (such as weight or length) that equals one fourth of some larger unit ▪ an inch and a *quarter* ▪ a *quarter* of a cup of sugar ▪ It happened three *quarters* of a century ago. [=75 years ago]

3 [*count*] : one of four divisions of an hour : a period of 15 minutes ▪ He was three *quarters* of an hour early. ▪ It is now ***(a) quarter to*** four. = (*US*) It is now ***(a) quarter of*** four. [=it is 15 minutes before four o'clock] ▪ The alarm went off at ***(a) quarter past*** six. = (*US*) The alarm went off at ***(a) quarter after*** six. [=15 minutes after six o'clock]

4 [*count*] : one of four divisions of a year : a period of three months ▪ The company's profits rose in the second *quarter*. ▪ (*Brit*) ***quarter day*** [=the first day of a financial quarter when payments are due]

5 [*count*] : one of four divisions of a school term usually lasting about 12 weeks ▪ She received her grades for the first *quarter*. — compare SEMESTER, TERM, TRIMESTER

6 [*count*] : one of the four equal parts of the playing time of a game (such as basketball or American football) ▪ There are two minutes left in the third *quarter*. ▪ The final *quarter* of the game was very exciting.

7 [*count*] : a coin of the United States and Canada that is worth 25 cents ▪ Do you have a *quarter* for the parking meter?; *also* : the sum of 25 cents ▪ The candy costs a *quarter*.

8 [*count*] : a person or group of people or an area in which people live ▪ Concern has been expressed in many *quarters*. [=many people have expressed concern] ▪ The move was met with dismay in this *quarter*. ▪ My brother and I have not spoken in years so I expect no help from that *quarter*. [=I expect no help from my brother] ▪ Complaints came ***from all quarters*** [=from many people or places]

9 [*count*] : a part or area of a city ▪ She lives in the historic *quarter*. [=*district*]

10 *quarters* [*plural*] : the place where someone lives ▪ Our living *quarters* were very comfortable. ▪ soldiers'/servants' *quarters*

11 [*count*] : one of the two times during a month when a quarter of the moon's surface can be seen ▪ The moon was in its/the first *quarter*. ▪ a *quarter* moon

at/in close quarters : close together usually in a very small space ▪ The sailors were living *in close quarters*. ▪ We could observe the behavior of all the animals *at close quarters*. [=from a short distance]

no quarter *literary* : no pity or mercy — used to say that an enemy, opponent, etc., is treated in a very harsh way ▪ The soldiers showed/gave *no quarter* to the enemy. ▪ They received *no quarter* or sympathy.

[2]quarter *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to divide or separate (something) into four parts ▪ The hunters *quartered* the deer. ▪ She *quartered* the potatoes.

2 : to provide (someone) with a place to stay for a usually short period of time : to provide living quarters for (someone) ▪ We were *quartered* in log cabins at the camp.

[3]quarter *adj, always used before a noun* : equal or about nearly equal in size, value, amount, etc., to one fourth of something ▪ a *quarter* century ago ▪ a *quarter* acre of land ▪ They live less than a *quarter* mile from us.

[1]quar•ter•back /ˈkwoɚtɚˌbæk/ *noun, pl* **-backs** [*count*] *American football* : a player who leads a team's attempts to score usually by passing the ball to other players — abbr. *QB*; see also MONDAY-MORNING QUARTERBACK

[2]quarterback *verb* **-backs**; **-backed**; **-back•ing** [+ *obj*] *US*

1 *American football* : to play the position of quarterback for (a team) ▪ He *quarterbacked* his high school team.

2 : to lead or organize (something) by making important decisions ▪ She *quarterbacked* the company's latest ad campaign.

quarterback sneak *noun, pl* ~ **sneaks** [*count*] *American football* : a play in which the quarterback runs forward immediately after receiving the ball instead of handing it or throwing it to another player ▪ He ran a *quarterback sneak* up the middle for a touchdown.

quar•ter•deck /ˈkwoɚtɚˌdɛk/ *noun, pl* **-decks** [*count*] : the upper level of a ship's deck that is located toward the rear of the ship and that is used mainly by officers

quar•ter•final (*US*) *or Brit* **quar•ter–final** /ˌkwoɚtɚˈfaɪnl/ *noun, pl* **-nals** [*count*] : one of four matches, games, or contests to decide the four people or teams that will continue playing in a competition (such as a tennis tournament) ▪ He

lost in the *quarterfinal*. — often plural ▪ She won in the *quarterfinals* but lost in the semifinals. — often used before another noun ▪ a *quarterfinal* match

quarter horse *noun, pl* ~ **horses** [*count*] : a small, strong horse that can run very fast for short distances

quarter hour *noun, pl* ~ **hours** [*count*] : 15 minutes ▪ Trains depart every *quarter hour*. : a period of time that lasts for 15 minutes ▪ I waited a *quarter hour* in line.

[1]quar•ter•ly /ˈkwoɚtɚli/ *adj* : happening, done, or produced four times a year ▪ The company holds *quarterly* meetings. ▪ a *quarterly* report
– **quarterly** *adv* ▪ The payments are made *quarterly*. [=four times a year] ▪ The interest on the account is compounded *quarterly*.

[2]quarterly *noun, pl* **-lies** [*count*] : a magazine that is published four times a year ▪ a literary *quarterly*

quar•ter•mas•ter /ˈkwoɚtɚˌmæstɚ, *Brit* ˈkwɔːtəˌmɑːstə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]
1 : an army officer who provides clothing and supplies for soldiers
2 : a navy officer who is in charge of the steering of a ship and the use of signals on a ship

quarter note *noun, pl* ~ **notes** [*count*] *US* : a musical note equal in time to ¼ of a whole note — called also (*Brit*) *crotchet*

quar•tet /kwoɚˈtɛt/ *noun, pl* **-tets** [*count*]
1 : a group of four singers or musicians who perform together ▪ He is a member of a jazz *quartet*.
2 : a song or piece of music performed by four singers or musicians ▪ a string *quartet* by Beethoven
3 : a group or set of four people or things ▪ The author wrote a *quartet* of novels about the same character.

quartz /ˈkwoɚts/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a mineral that is often found in the form of a hard crystal and that is used especially to make clocks and watches

qua•sar /ˈkweɪˌzɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sars** [*count*] *astronomy* : a very bright object in space that is similar to a star and that is very far away from the Earth and gives off powerful radio waves

quash /ˈkwɑːʃ/ *verb* **quash•es**; **quashed**; **quash•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to stop (something) from continuing by doing or saying something ▪ The riot was *quashed* by police. ▪ The couple *quashed* rumors that they were engaged.
2 *law* : to decide that (a ruling, decision, etc.) is wrong and no longer valid ▪ The judge *quashed* [=*overturned*] the verdict of the lower court and ordered a new trial.

qua•si- /ˈkweɪˌzaɪ, ˈkwɑːzi/ *combining form* : in some way or sense but not in a true, direct, or complete way ▪ His appearance on TV earned him *quasi*-celebrity [=*near*-celebrity] status. ▪ a *quasi*-historical novel ▪ a *quasi*-official organization [=an organization that is like an official organization but that is not actually official]

qua•train /ˈkwɑːˌtreɪn/ *noun, pl* **-trains** [*count*] : a poem or verse that has four lines

[1]qua•ver /ˈkweɪvɚ/ *verb* **-vers**; **-vered**; **-ver•ing** [*no obj*] *of your voice* : to produce sound in an unsteady way especially because you are afraid or nervous : TREMBLE ▪ Her voice *quavered* during the speech. ▪ He spoke in *quavering* tones.
– **qua•very** /ˈkweɪvəri/ *adj* ▪ a *quavery* voice

[2]quaver *noun, pl* **-vers** [*count*]
1 : an unsteady sound in someone's voice that is caused by fear or other strong emotions ▪ There was a *quaver* in his voice.
2 *Brit* : EIGHTH NOTE

quay /ˈkiː/ *noun, pl* **quays** [*count*] : a structure built on the land next to a river, lake, or ocean that is used as a place for boats to stop for loading and unloading freight and passengers

quay•side /ˈkiːˌsaɪd/ *noun, pl* **-sides** [*count*] : the area of land next to a quay ▪ a *quayside* café

quea•sy /ˈkwiːzi/ *adj* **quea•si•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having a sick feeling in the stomach : suffering from nausea ▪ The boat ride made me a little *queasy*. ▪ She complained of a *queasy* stomach. ▪ a *queasy* sensation
2 : having an unpleasantly nervous or doubtful feeling ▪ He feels *queasy* about taking the test. ▪ She had the *queasy* feeling that she was being watched.
– **quea•si•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

queen /ˈkwiːn/ *noun, pl* **queens** [*count*]
1 a : a woman who rules a country and who usually inherits her position and rules for life ▪ She was crowned *queen* of England. ▪ the reign of *Queen* Elizabeth **b** : the wife of a king ▪ the king and his *queen*
2 a : a girl or woman who is highly respected and very successful or popular ▪ She's a fashion *queen*. ▪ the *queen* of the blues **b** : a girl or woman who is awarded the highest honor for an event or contest ▪ She was voted *queen* of the prom. ▪ the homecoming *queen* **c** : something that is thought of as female and that is considered better than all others ▪ This ship is the *queen* of all the ocean liners.
3 : the most powerful piece in the game of chess that can move any number of free squares in any direction — see picture at CHESS
4 : a playing card that has a picture of a queen ▪ the *queen* of hearts/spades/clubs/diamonds — see picture at PLAYING CARD
5 : a female insect (such as a bee or ant) that lays eggs ▪ a *queen* bee
6 *informal + offensive* : a homosexual man who usually acts like a woman — see also DRAG QUEEN

queen•ly /ˈkwiːnli/ *adj* : resembling a queen or suitable for a queen ▪ She maintained a *queenly* posture. ▪ *queenly* dignity

Queen Mother *noun*
the Queen Mother : the widow of a king who is the mother of the current king or queen

Queen's Counsel *noun, pl* ~ **-sels** [*count*] : a barrister who is chosen to represent the British royal family in a court of law — used when Britain is ruled by a queen; abbr. *QC*

Queen's evidence *noun*
turn Queen's evidence *Brit, law* ✧ If you are charged with a crime and you *turn Queen's evidence* (or *turn King's evidence*), you agree to give information (such as the names of other criminals) to the court in order to reduce your own punishment. ▪ One of the gang members *turned Queen's evidence* [=(*US*) *turned state's evidence*] and testified against the other members.

queen–size /ˈkwiːnˌsaɪz/ *or* **queen–sized** /ˈkwiːnˌsaɪzd/ *adj, US, of a bed* : having a size of about 60 inches by 80 inches (about 1.5 by 1.9 meters) — compare FULL-SIZE, KING-SIZE, TWIN-SIZE

[1]queer /ˈkwiɚ/ *adj* **queer•er**; **-est**
1 *old-fashioned* : odd or unusual ▪ The sky was a *queer* shade of red. ▪ a *queer* odor ▪ I had a *queer* feeling that something bad was about to happen. ▪ He's a bit *queer* in the head. [=he's mentally strange or unwell; he's slightly crazy] — see also *queer fish* at [1]FISH
2 *informal + usually offensive* : HOMOSEXUAL ✧ *Queer* in this sense is offensive in most of its uses, but it is also now sometimes used in a neutral or positive way especially by some homosexual and bisexual people. ▪ *queer* culture ▪ She is interested in taking a class in ***queer studies***.
– **queer•ly** *adv* ▪ a *queerly* shaped cloud ▪ He looked at her *queerly*. – **queer•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]queer *noun, pl* **queers** [*count*] *informal + usually offensive* : a homosexual person

[3]queer *verb* **queers**; **queered**; **queer•ing** [+ *obj*] *informal* : to spoil or ruin (something) ▪ The sudden storm *queered* our plans. ▪ (*US*) Something ***queered the deal***. ▪ (*Brit*) The unexpected delay ***queered his pitch***. [=ruined his plans]

quell /ˈkwɛl/ *verb* **quells**; **quelled**; **quell•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to end or stop (something) usually by using force ▪ Police *quelled* [=*quashed*] the riot.
2 : to calm or reduce (something, such as fear or worry) ▪ The president's remarks *quelled* [=*eased*] employees' fears.

quench /ˈkwɛnʧ/ *verb* **quench•es**; **quenched**; **quench•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to stop (a fire) from burning : to put out (a fire) ▪ Firefighters *quenched* [=*extinguished*] the flames.
quench your thirst : to cause you to stop feeling thirsty ▪ a drink that will *quench your thirst* ▪ He *quenched his thirst* by drinking a bottle of water.

quer•u•lous /ˈkweɚjələs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : complaining in an annoyed way ▪ The child said in a *querulous* [=*whining*] voice that he didn't like carrots. ▪ *querulous* customers
– **quer•u•lous•ly** *adv* – **quer•u•lous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]que•ry /ˈkwiri/ *noun, pl* **que•ries** [*count*] : a question or a request for information about something ▪ I have a *query* about my order. ▪ an Internet *query* ▪ The librarian responded to my *query*.

[2]query *verb* **queries**; **que•ried**; **que•ry•ing** [+ *obj*]

Q

1 *chiefly US* : to ask (someone) a question ▪ The reporter *queried* [=*questioned*] several citizens about the tax hike. ▪ They conducted a survey in which several hundred people were *queried* about their dietary habits.
2 : to ask questions or express doubt about (something) ▪ She *queried* [=*questioned*] the teacher's decision.
3 : to ask (a question) ▪ "What's that?" he *queried*.

que•sa•dil•la /ˌkeɪsəˈdi:jə/ *noun, pl* **quesadillas** [*count*] : a Mexican food which consists of a flat piece of bread (called a tortilla) that is folded around a filling of meat, cheese, or other ingredients and usually fried

[1]quest /ˈkwɛst/ *noun, pl* **quests** [*count*] *formal + literary*
1 : a journey made in search of something ▪ They went on a *quest* for gold.
2 : a long and difficult effort to find or do something ▪ a *quest* for answers ▪ The team's *quest* to win a championship finally came to an end. ▪ He refuses to give up his *quest* to discover the truth.
in quest of : searching for (something) ▪ She is *in quest of* the perfect wine.

[2]quest *verb* **quests**; **quest•ed**; **quest•ing** [*no obj*] *formal + literary* : to go on a journey to find something ▪ They were *questing* for gold.

[1]ques•tion /ˈkwɛstʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*count*] : a sentence, phrase, or word that asks for information or is used to test someone's knowledge ▪ Can I ask you a personal *question*? ▪ Please answer my *question*. ▪ I don't understand the *question*. ▪ Are there any more *questions*? ▪ I have a couple of legal *questions* (for you). ▪ In answer to your *question*, our next meeting will be on Friday. ▪ The essay *questions* on the test were easy/hard. ▪ There are 10 multiple-choice *questions* on the exam. ▪ The exam included several *questions* on/about current events. ▪ The *question* arose as to who would be responsible for caring for our grandmother. ▪ I expected him to ask where I worked, but the *question* never came up. ▪ I am sure to get a raise. The *question* is [=what I want to know is], how much it will be? ▪ The key *question* in solving the mystery is, how did the murderer enter the house? ▪ One *question* still remains: Do we have the funding for this project? ▪ (*formal*) She posed the *question* of [=she asked] whether we could get funding for the project. ▪ Stop avoiding the *question* and answer me! ▪ She hoped to avoid awkward/embarrassing *questions* about her personal life during the interview. ▪ Whether voters will support him remains an ***open question***. [=no one knows yet whether voters will support him] ▪ There are still many ***unanswered questions*** about his past. ▪ It was a ***rhetorical question***. I didn't expect an answer. ▪ "How can we reduce expenses without cutting important programs?" "(That's a) ***good question***." [=I don't know] ▪ The ***big question*** [=the thing everyone would like to know] is, will he be number one in the football draft? ▪ There will be a ***question and answer session*** [=a period of time when people can have their questions answered] following the speech. ▪ (*formal*) The lawyer would like to ***put another question to*** the defendant. [=ask the defendant another question] — see also LEADING QUESTION
2 [*count*] : a matter or problem that is being discussed : a subject or topic ▪ Her paper raises several *questions* [=*issues*] that need to be discussed/addressed. ▪ It is still an ***open question*** whether or not you may go. — often + *of* ▪ The class discussed the *question of* stem cell research. ▪ The *question of* buying or leasing a car is really up to the buyer to decide on.
3 [*noncount*] **a** : doubt or uncertainty about something ▪ There was little *question* of her being able to do the work. ▪ There is considerable *question* about the actual value of the property. — often used in negative statements ▪ There is no *question* but that there will be some protest about his decision. ▪ There was no *question* of/about his loyalty. ▪ There is no *question* that he was one of the greatest players of the game. ▪ There's ***no question about it***—that girl has talent! ▪ ***Without question***, it was his best performance by far. [=it was definitely his best performance ever] ▪ She trusted him *without question*. **b** : a state of doubt or uncertainty ▪ The results of the study have ***come into question***. = The results of the study have been ***called into question***. [=people are expressing doubts about the results] ▪ The fact that he plagiarized ***throws/brings/calls into question*** the authenticity of his earlier writings.
4 [*noncount*] : the possibility or chance *of* something happening or *of* someone doing something — used in negative statements ▪ ***There was no question of*** escape. [=escape was not possible] ▪ *There was no question of* him forgetting about what happened.
a question of — used to say that one thing results from or requires another ▪ "I can't go!" "If it's just *a question of* money [=if money is the only problem], I can let you borrow some." ▪ It's only *a question of* time [=a matter of time] before/until we catch him. ▪ Is success all just *a question of* being in the right place at the right time?
beg the question see BEG
beyond question **1** : completely certain or definite ▪ His genius is *beyond question*. **2** : in a way that is completely certain : without any doubt ▪ The new evidence establishes his innocence *beyond* (all) *question*.
in question **1** — used to indicate the specific thing that is being discussed or referred to ▪ The painting *in question* is by Rembrandt. ▪ What is *in question* is not the candidate's private life but her policies. ▪ Where were you on the Sunday *in question*? **2** : in a state of doubt or uncertainty ▪ His suitability for the job is *in question*. ▪ The results of the study are *in question*.
open to question : not known for sure : UNCERTAIN ▪ Her intentions are *open to question*. ▪ The author's exact meaning is *open to question*.
out of the question : not possible or allowed ▪ Asking my father for money was completely *out of the question*. ▪ Wearing a stained blouse to dinner was *out of the question*.
pop the question see [1]POP

[2]question *verb* **-tions**; **-tioned**; **-tion•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to ask (someone) questions about something ▪ The reporter *questioned* her at length on her life as the First Lady. ▪ The witness was *questioned* by the defense. ▪ Police *questioned* [=*interrogated*] the suspect carefully. — often + *about* ▪ She was *questioned about* her husband's mysterious disappearance.
2 : to have or express doubt about (something) ▪ I could tell that she was *questioning* my decision. ▪ He began to *question* his ability to do the job. ▪ I trusted him and I never *questioned* what he told me. ▪ The lawyer *questioned* the truth of the witness's statement. ▪ He began to *question* whether the things she had said were really true.
– **ques•tion•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ The mayor's first *questioner* at the town meeting asked about the new parking regulations.

ques•tion•able /ˈkwɛstʃənəbəl/ *adj*
1 : not likely to be true or correct : giving reason to doubt or question something ▪ The truth of the statements was highly *questionable*. ▪ a *questionable* conclusion ▪ It is *questionable* whether this is the right decision. [=I question/doubt whether this is the right decision]
2 : likely to be bad : not worthy of trust ▪ The water available in the village is of *questionable* quality. ▪ a man of *questionable* character ▪ They acquired the money through *questionable* means.
3 : not certain : unknown or undecided ▪ The company is facing a *questionable* future.
– **ques•tion•ably** /ˈkwɛstʃənəbli/ *adv* ▪ *questionably* obtained money

[1]questioning *adj* : showing a feeling of doubt or a desire to ask a question in order to get information ▪ She gave him a *questioning* look.
– **ques•tion•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ She looked at him *questioningly*.

[2]questioning *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity or process of asking questions ▪ The police took him in for *questioning*. ▪ the *questioning* of authority

question mark *noun, pl* ~ **marks** [*count*]
1 : the punctuation mark ? that is used after a direct question or to indicate that something (such as a birth date) is uncertain
2 a *chiefly US* : someone or something that causes feelings of doubt or uncertainty ▪ The future of the company remains a *question mark*. [=no one knows what will happen in the company's future] ▪ His leg is still sore and he remains a *question mark* for next week's game. [=it is not certain that he will be able to play in next week's game] ▪ The team's pitching is a big *question mark* this season. **b** ✧ If there is ***a question mark over something***, there is doubt about it. ▪ Her injured elbow puts *a* big *question mark over* her chances in the tournament.

question master *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count*] *Brit* : QUIZMASTER

ques•tion•naire /ˌkwɛstʃəˈneɚ/ *noun, pl* **-naires** [*count*] : a written set of questions that are given to people in order to collect facts or opinions about something ▪ (*US*) Would

Q

you please fill out this *questionnaire*? = (*Brit*) Would you please fill in this *questionnaire*?

[1]queue /ˈkju:/ *noun, pl* **queues** [*count*]
1 *chiefly Brit* : a line of people who are waiting for something ▪ The people formed a *queue* [=(*US*) *line*] at the ticket window. ▪ We were forced to stand/wait in a *queue*. ▪ a bus/taxi *queue*
2 *computers* : a series of instructions that are stored in a computer so that they can be processed later ▪ Three jobs remain in the printer *queue*.
jump the queue *Brit* : to go ahead of the other people in a queue : to go to the front of a queue instead of waiting ▪ He tried to *jump the queue* but they wouldn't let him. — see also QUEUE-JUMPING

[2]queue *verb* **queues; queued; queu•ing** *or* **queue•ing** [*no obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to form or wait in a line ▪ Hundreds of people *queued* [=(*US*) *lined up*] for a chance to meet him. ▪ The crowd was *queuing* at the snack bar. — often + *up* ▪ The crowd was *queuing up* at the snack bar.

queue–jumping *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : the act of going ahead of other people in a queue instead of waiting your turn ▪ Police say that the fight broke out over *queue-jumping*. [=(*US*) *cutting in line*] — see also *jump the queue* at [1]QUEUE

[1]quib•ble /ˈkwɪbəl/ *verb* **quib•bles; quib•bled; quib•bling** [*no obj*] : to argue or complain about small, unimportant things — usually + *about* or *over* ▪ People ignored the main point of the speech and *quibbled about* its length. ▪ Why are you *quibbling over* such a small amount of money?

[2]quibble *noun, pl* **quibbles** [*count*] : a small complaint or criticism usually about something unimportant ▪ Our only *quibble* about the trip was that it rained a lot. ▪ a minor *quibble*

quiche /ˈki:ʃ/ *noun, pl* **quich•es** [*count, noncount*] : a pie made with eggs, milk, cheese, and vegetables or meat

[1]quick /ˈkwɪk/ *adj* **quick•er; -est**
1 : done or happening in a short amount of time ▪ a *quick* look/glance ▪ They had a *quick* drink at the bar. ▪ She took a *quick* shower. ▪ She gave him a *quick* kiss. ▪ You're back already? That was *quick*! ▪ We made a *quick* decision, but it turned out to be a good one. ▪ He got a *quick* reply to his inquiry. ▪ The car made a *quick* [=*sudden*] left turn.
2 : fast in thinking, learning, or understanding ▪ a *quick* mind/learner ▪ *quick* students ▪ His *quick* thinking/wits allowed him to escape trouble. ▪ (*US*) She is a ***quick study*** who learned her job easily. ▪ Her friends admired her ***quick wit***.
3 a : fast in moving or reacting ▪ He walked with *quick* steps. ▪ She has *quick*, agile hands. ▪ Please be *quick*. We can't wait much longer. ▪ He has a ***quick temper***. [=he gets angry very quickly and easily] **b** : tending to do something very quickly or too quickly — followed by *to + verb* ▪ He is always *quick to criticize* other people, but he gets angry if anyone criticizes him. ▪ She was *quick to excuse* her son's behavior.
4 : able to be done, obtained, or achieved easily and in a short amount of time ▪ a *quick* and easy recipe ▪ He made a *quick* profit/buck selling the car. ▪ There is no ***quick fix*** for these problems. [=there is no fast and easy solution for these problems]
be quick on the draw see [2]DRAW
quick off the mark see [1]MARK
the quick and the dead *literary* : living people and dead people
– **quick•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The track coach was impressed with her *quickness*. ▪ He is known for his *quickness* of wit. ▪ The child amazes me with his *quickness* to learn.

[2]quick *adv* **quicker; -est** *informal* : in a fast or quick manner : QUICKLY ▪ a scheme to get rich *quick* ▪ "Come *quick*!" she shouted. ▪ I got used to living with a roommate pretty *quick*. ▪ I can't run any *quicker*. ▪ The new student learned (the) *quickest*. ▪ *Quick*! [=come/move quickly] The train is leaving. ▪ They came ***quick as a flash***. [=very quickly] — often used in combination ▪ *quick*-growing birches ▪ a *quick*-thinking rescuer

[3]quick *noun*
cut (someone) to the quick : to make (someone) very upset ▪ Her harsh words *cut him to the quick*. [=he was deeply hurt by her harsh words]
the quick : the very sensitive area of flesh under a fingernail or toenail ▪ He had bitten his nails to *the quick*.

quick•en /ˈkwɪkən/ *verb* **-ens; -ened; -en•ing**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to make (something) faster ▪ She *quickened* [=*hastened*] her steps. ▪ We *quickened* the pace. [=we started to walk faster] ▪ Stimulants can *quicken* the heart rate. **b** [*no obj*] : to become faster ▪ His pulse *quickened* at the thought of seeing her again. ▪ a *quickening* tempo
2 *formal + literary* **a** [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a feeling) stronger or more active ▪ The approach of the deadline *quickened* our sense of urgency. **b** [*no obj*] : to become stronger or more active ▪ The drama *quickened* when police arrived at the scene.

quick–fire *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly Brit* : done or coming very quickly one after another : RAPID-FIRE ▪ *quick-fire* responses/questions/jokes

quick•ie /ˈkwɪki/ *noun, pl* **-ies** [*count*] *informal*
1 : something that is done very quickly ▪ "Do you have any other questions?" "Just a *quickie*." ▪ I would like to have a meeting. It'll be a *quickie*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *quickie* divorce/marriage
2 : an act of sexual intercourse that is done in a very short amount of time

quick•lime /ˈkwɪkˌlaɪm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : [2]LIME

quick•ly /ˈkwɪkli/ *adv* [*more ~; most ~*] : in a fast or quick manner ▪ They *quickly* moved away when they saw the oncoming car. ▪ The investigators must act *quickly*. ▪ Please get here as *quickly* as possible. ▪ We ate too/very *quickly*. ▪ They *quickly* settled the dispute.

quick•sand /ˈkwɪkˌsænd/ *noun, pl* **-sands**
1 [*noncount*] : deep, wet sand into which heavy objects sink easily
2 : a situation that is dangerous and difficult to escape from [*noncount*] the *quicksand* of depression [*plural*] freed from the *quicksands* of war

[1]quick•sil•ver /ˈkwɪkˌsɪlvɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *old-fashioned + literary* : MERCURY 1a

[2]quicksilver *adj, always used before a noun, literary* : changing quickly and often ▪ his *quicksilver* [=*mercurial*] temperament

quick–tem•pered /ˈkwɪkˈtɛmpɚd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : becoming angry quickly and easily : having a quick temper ▪ a *quick-tempered* coach

quick–wit•ted /ˈkwɪkˈwɪtəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having or showing the ability to think and understand things quickly ▪ a *quick-witted* opponent/defendant ▪ *quick-witted* humor ▪ a *quick-witted* reply — opposite SLOW-WITTED

quid /ˈkwɪd/ *noun, pl* **quid** *also* **quids** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : one pound in money ▪ We lost a few *quid* on the horses. ▪ The ticket costs five *quid*.
quids in *Brit, informal* ✧ If you are *quids in*, you have made a good profit. ▪ I was *quids in* by the time I left the horse races.

quid pro quo /ˌkwɪdˌproʊˈkwoʊ/ *noun, pl* **quid pro quos** [*count*] : something that is given to you or done for you in return for something you have given to or done for someone else ▪ If he helps us, he'll expect a *quid pro quo*. [=he'll expect us to do something for him]

qui•es•cent /kwaɪˈɛsn̩t/ *adj*
1 *formal* : not active : QUIET ▪ a *quiescent* state
2 *medical* : not now developing or causing symptoms ▪ *quiescent* disease ▪ a *quiescent* virus
– **qui•es•cence** /kwaɪˈɛsn̩s/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ long periods of *quiescence*

[1]qui•et /ˈkwajət/ *adj* **qui•et•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 : making very little noise ▪ a *quiet* engine ▪ the *quiet* hum of the refrigerator ▪ He spoke in a very *quiet* voice. ▪ She was ***as quiet as a mouse***. [=very quiet]
2 a : not talking ▪ Surprisingly, the class was *quiet*. ▪ "Be *quiet*!" she scolded. ▪ Can't you be *quiet* for one minute? [=can't you stop talking?] ▪ She suddenly turned/became/went *quiet*. [=she suddenly stopped talking] **b** : tending not to talk very much ▪ He's a very *quiet* person. ▪ She has a *quiet* disposition/temperament.
3 : not having much activity or movement ▪ a *quiet* [=*calm*] sea ▪ During the morning, business was *quiet*. ▪ Some days at the store are *quieter* than others. ▪ a *quiet* town/village/neighborhood ▪ a *quiet* stretch of road ▪ He led a *quiet* life.
4 : not disturbed by noise or people ▪ We enjoyed a *quiet* [=*peaceful*] dinner for two. ▪ I was looking forward to a *quiet* cup of tea. ▪ I decided to do a little *quiet* reading.
5 : not shown or done in an obvious way ▪ She worked with *quiet* determination. ▪ There is a *quiet* confidence about him. ▪ He was filled with *quiet* desperation/rage. ▪ A *quiet* revolution was underway.
keep quiet **1** : to not say anything or make any noise ▪ Please *keep quiet* during the movie. ▪ He thought about telling the police what he knew, but he decided to *keep quiet*.

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[=he decided not to say anything] **2** ***keep quiet about (something)*** *or* ***keep (something) quiet*** : to not say anything about (something) ▪ She *kept quiet about* her plans to change jobs. ▪ She *kept* her plans *quiet*. **3** ***keep (someone) quiet*** **a** : to prevent (someone) from speaking or to prevent (someone or something) from making noise ▪ She gave the dog a bone to *keep him quiet*. **b** : to prevent (someone) from revealing information about something ▪ They paid money to the witness to *keep him quiet*. ▪ What'll it take to *keep you quiet*?

– **qui·et·ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ He spoke/moved *quietly*. ▪ She was *quietly* reading in her room. ▪ He is *quietly* confident that he will win. ▪ She *quietly* retired from the sport. – **qui·et·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *quietness* of the forest/neighborhood ▪ His *quietness* bothered her.

[2]quiet *verb* **-ets**; **-et·ed**; **-et·ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to make (someone or something) quieter, calmer, or less intense ▪ The announcer was trying to *quiet* [=(*Brit*) *quieten*] the crowd. ▪ She tried to *quiet* [=*calm, soothe*] the crying baby. ▪ Her comments have done nothing to *quiet* [=*lessen*] the controversy. ▪ Unfortunately, his efforts did little to *quiet* [=*dispel*] our doubts. — often + *down* ▪ The announcer was trying to *quiet down* [=(*Brit*) *quieten down*] the crowd.

quiet down [*phrasal verb*] *chiefly US* : to become quiet or quieter : to become calmer or less noisy ▪ The children started to *quiet down* [=(*Brit*) *quieten down*] after dinner. ▪ He told the crowd to *quiet down*. ▪ Things are *quieting down* in town. [=the town is becoming less busy]

[3]quiet *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being quiet or calm ▪ the *quiet* of a wooded trail ▪ Can I have some *quiet* here? I'm trying to study. ▪ I need a little ***peace and quiet***

on the quiet : in a secret or quiet way : without people knowing ▪ The deal was made *on the quiet*.

qui·et·en /'kwajətən/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en·ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : [2]QUIET ▪ trying to *quieten* (down) the crowd

quieten down [*phrasal verb*] *Brit* : to become quiet or quieter ▪ The children *quietened down* after dinner.

qui·etude /'kwajə,tu:d, *Brit* 'kwajə,tju:d/ *noun* [*noncount*] *literary* : the state of being quiet or calm : QUIETNESS ▪ the *quietude* [=*calm*] of the forest

quiff /'kwɪf/ *noun, pl* **quiffs** [*count*] *Brit* : hair at the front of a person's head that is brushed upward; *also* : POMPADOUR

quill /'kwɪl/ *noun, pl* **quills** [*count*]

1 a : the hollow central part of a feather **b** : a large, stiff feather from the wing or tail of a bird

2 : a pen that is made from a feather — called also *quill pen*

3 : one of the hollow, sharp parts on the back of a porcupine

quilt /'kwɪlt/ *noun, pl* **quilts** [*count*] : a bed cover with stitched designs that is made of two layers of cloth filled with wool, cotton, or soft feathers

quilt·ed /'kwɪltəd/ *adj* : having two layers of stitched cloth filled with wool, cotton, or soft feathers ▪ a *quilted* jacket/coat

quilt·er /'kwɪltɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who makes quilts

quilt·ing /'kwɪltɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the activity or process of making a quilt ▪ Her hobbies include knitting and *quilting*.

2 : the material or stitching that is used in making quilts ▪ diamond *quilting*

quin /'kwɪn/ *noun, pl* **quins** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : QUINTUPLET

quince /'kwɪns/ *noun, pl* **quinc·es**

1 [*count, noncount*] : the yellow fruit of an Asian tree that is used for making jam, jelly, etc.

2 [*count*] : the tree that produces quince ▪ a flowering *quince*

qui·nine /'kwaɪ,naɪn, *Brit* 'kwɪ,ni:n/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a drug that is made from the bark of a tree and used especially to treat malaria

quint /'kwɪnt/ *noun, pl* **quints** [*count*] *US, informal* : QUINTUPLET

quin·tes·sence /kwɪn'tɛsns/ *noun*

the quintessence *formal* **1** : the most important part of something ▪ *The quintessence* of music is the melody. **2** : the perfect example of something ▪ He was *the quintessence* of calm. [=he was perfectly calm]

– **quint·es·sen·tial** /,kwɪntə'sɛnʃəl/ *adj* ▪ He was the *quintessential* cowboy. [=he was the perfect example of a cowboy] ▪ She's the *quintessential* New Yorker. – **quint·es·sen·tial·ly** *adv* ▪ The humor in the movie is *quintessentially* British.

quin·tet /kwɪn'tɛt/ *noun, pl* **-tets** [*count*]

1 : a group of five singers or musicians who perform together ▪ a famous brass/jazz *quintet*

2 : a piece of music for five singers or musicians ▪ a piano/string *quintet*

[1]quin·tu·ple /kwɪn'tʌpəl, *Brit* 'kwɪntjʊpl̩/ *verb* **-tu·ples**; **-tupled**; **-tu·pling**

1 [*no obj*] : to become five times bigger in value or number ▪ The town's population has *quintupled* in the past 50 years.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to become five times bigger ▪ We *quintupled* our earnings. ▪ The company has *quintupled* the number of its employees.

[2]quintuple *adj*

1 : five times bigger in size or amount ▪ Share prices are *quintuple* what they were a few days ago.

2 *always used before a noun* : having five parts or including five people or things ▪ a *quintuple* homicide/murder [=a murder of five people]

quin·tu·plet /kwɪn'tʌplət, *Brit* 'kwɪntjʊplət/ *noun, pl* **-plets** [*count*] : one of five babies that are born at the same time to the same mother — usually plural ▪ She had (a set of) *quintuplets*. [=she gave birth to five babies] — compare QUADRUPLET, SEXTUPLET, TRIPLET, TWIN

[1]quip /'kwɪp/ *noun, pl* **quips** [*count*] : a clever remark ▪ witty/amusing *quips* ▪ They ***traded quips*** over a beer.

[2]quip *verb* **quips**; **quipped**; **quip·ping** [+ *obj*] : to make (a clever remark)

quirk /'kwɚk/ *noun, pl* **quirks** [*count*]

1 : an unusual habit or way of behaving ▪ Everyone has their little *quirks*.

2 : something strange that happens by chance ▪ Their meeting was a (strange) ***quirk of fate/nature***.

quirky /'kwɚki/ *adj* **-i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : unusual especially in an interesting or appealing way ▪ *quirky* ideas/behavior ▪ He has a *quirky* sense of humor. ▪ a *quirky* new sitcom

quis·ling /'kwɪzlɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-lings** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a person who helps an enemy that has taken control of his or her country : TRAITOR — often used before another noun ▪ a *quisling* regime/government

quit /'kwɪt/ *verb* **quits**; **quit** *also* **quit·ted**; **quit·ting**

1 *informal* : to leave (a job, school, career, etc.) [+ *obj*] He *quit* his job. ▪ She *quit* college after one semester. ▪ She decided to *quit* show business. ▪ He *quit* teaching after five years. [*no obj*] Many workers are *quitting* because of poor pay. ▪ She hates her job and she's thinking about *quitting*. ▪ I *quit*!

2 *chiefly US, informal* : to stop doing (an action or activity) [+ *obj*] She *quit* smoking/drinking years ago. ▪ I wish you would *quit* bothering her. ▪ He angrily told her to ***quit it*** [=to stop doing what she was doing] [*no obj*] We're going to *quit* for the day. It's too hot to keep working.

3 [*no obj*] *informal* : to stop working ▪ The engine suddenly *quit*. ▪ The car *quit* [=*broke down*] a few miles down the road.

4 *formal* : to leave (the place where you live) [+ *obj*] They *quit* the city for a quiet life in the country. ▪ The landlord gave the tenants ***notice to quit*** the premises. [=the landlord formally told them that they had to leave] [*no obj*] The landlord gave the tenants *notice to quit*.

quite /'kwaɪt/ *adv*

1 a : to a very noticeable degree or extent : VERY ✧ *Quite* is a more forceful word than *fairly* but it is a less forceful word than *extremely*. It is used more often in British English than in U.S. English, but it is not an unusual or rare word in U.S. English. ▪ She did *quite* well. ▪ He is *quite* ill/rich/busy. ▪ The room is *quite* large/small. ▪ They were *quite* surprised. ▪ Blue jays are *quite* common in this area. ▪ We go out to dinner *quite* frequently. ▪ The entertainment was *quite* good. ▪ We live *quite* near the school. ▪ *Quite* frankly, we felt it was not our responsibility. ▪ *Quite* simply, we do not have the resources. ▪ She sings *quite* wonderfully. **b** — used to make a statement more forceful ▪ I *quite* liked/enjoyed the music. ▪ "We're sorry for the trouble." "That's ***quite all right***." ▪ The work has value in itself, ***quite apart from*** the good effects it produces. ▪ I haven't seen her for ***quite some time***. [=a long period of time] ▪ I decided I had heard ***quite enough***. ▪ It was ***quite something*** [=a major event] for a small-town boy to be interviewed for the national news. — often used with *a, an*, or *the* before a noun ▪ She is *quite a* beauty. [=she's very beautiful] ▪ The news was *quite a* shock. [=the news was very shocking] ▪ My promotion was *quite a* surprise. ▪ We had *quite a* lot of food at the dinner party. ▪ It was *quite an* eventful week. ▪ We were in line for *quite a* while. ▪ She has made *quite a* career for herself. [=she has had a very successful ca-

reer] ▪ The award is *quite an* honor. [=is a very impressive honor]

2 : completely or entirely ▪ "Are you *quite* finished?" "Not *quite*." ▪ We *quite* agree. ▪ I am *quite* capable of doing it myself, thank you. ▪ They assured me that I was *quite* mistaken. ▪ Something wasn't *quite* right. ▪ We hadn't *quite* made up our minds. ▪ She's *quite* right, you know. ▪ I *quite* forgot your birthday.

3 : exactly or precisely ▪ No one realized *quite* what was happening. ▪ *Quite* why he left is unclear. ▪ That is not *quite* what I said.

4 *Brit* — used to express agreement ▪ "We need to let children be children." "*Quite*." ▪ "There is little violence in his films." "***Quite so***." ▪ "They have no one but themselves to blame." "***Quite right***."

quite a bit see [1]BIT

quite a few see [1]FEW

quite the contrary see [1]CONTRARY

quits /ˈkwɪts/ *adj, chiefly Brit, informal* : having nothing owed by either side ▪ Here's the money I owed you. Now, we're *quits*. [=*even*]

call it quits *informal* : to quit or end something (such as a job, relationship, or activity) ▪ She decided to *call it quits* after many years in office. ▪ After eight years of marriage, she and her husband are *calling it quits*. ▪ I'm ready to *call it quits*.

double or quits see [3]DOUBLE

quit·ter /ˈkwɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *informal* + *disapproving* : a person who easily gives up or stops doing something : a person who quits ▪ Don't be a *quitter*. I know you can do it.

[1]quiv·er /ˈkwɪvɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er·ing** [*no obj*] : to shake because of fear, cold, nervousness, etc. : TREMBLE ▪ Her lips *quivered* when she heard the bad news. — often + *with* ▪ He was *quivering with* excitement/rage.

[2]quiver *noun, pl* **-vers** [*count*]

1 : a shaking sound, movement, or feeling that is caused by fear or other strong emotions — usually singular ▪ I could hear a *quiver* [=*quaver*] in her voice. — often + *of* ▪ He felt a *quiver of* excitement/anticipation.

2 : a case used for carrying arrows

quix·ot·ic /kwɪkˈsɑːtɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : hopeful or romantic in a way that is not practical ▪ a *quixotic* solution/pursuit ▪ They had *quixotic* dreams/visions about the future.

[1]quiz /ˈkwɪz/ *noun, pl* **quiz·zes** [*count*]

1 *US* : a short spoken or written test that is often taken without preparation ▪ The teacher gave us a *quiz* on the material we studied yesterday. — see also POP QUIZ

2 : a set of questions about a particular subject that people try to answer as a game or competition ▪ a trivia/health *quiz*

[2]quiz *verb* **quizzes**; **quizzed**; **quiz·zing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to ask (someone) questions about something — usually + *on* or *about* ▪ They *quizzed* him *on* his knowledge of old jazz tunes. ▪ He is being *quizzed* by investigators *about* his possible involvement in the crime.

2 *US* : to give (someone) a quiz — usually + *on* ▪ The teacher *quizzed* us *on* the material we studied yesterday.

quiz·mas·ter /ˈkwɪzˌmæstɚ, *Brit* ˈkwɪzˌmɑːstə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : a person who asks the questions for people to answer on a quiz show — called also (*Brit*) *question master*

quiz show *noun, pl* ~ **shows** [*count*] : a radio or television program during which people compete with each other by trying to answer questions ▪ a popular TV *quiz show* ▪ a *quiz show* contestant/host

quiz·zi·cal /ˈkwɪzɪkəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing that you do not understand something or that you find something strange or amusing ▪ He gave me a *quizzical* look. ▪ There was a *quizzical* expression on his face. ▪ She raised a *quizzical* eyebrow when she saw what he was wearing.

– **quiz·zi·cal·ly** /ˈkwɪzɪkli/ *adv* ▪ He looked at me *quizzically*.

quoit /ˈkwɔɪt/ *noun, pl* **quoits**

1 ***quoits*** [*noncount*] : a game in which players try to throw rings over a small post that is standing upright in the ground

2 [*count*] : a ring that is used in quoits

Quon·set /ˈkwɑːnsət/ *trademark* — used for a type of metal shelter that has a curved roof

quo·rum /ˈkwɔrəm/ *noun* [*singular*] : the smallest number of people who must be present at a meeting in order for decisions to be made ▪ We need five people to make a *quorum*.

quo·ta /ˈkwoʊtə/ *noun, pl* **-tas** [*count*]

1 : an official limit on the number or amount of people or things that are allowed ▪ import/export *quotas* ▪ The agency imposes strict fishing/hunting *quotas*. ▪ The company has imposed *quotas* on hiring. ▪ He lost his driver's license because he exceeded the *quota* of traffic violations.

2 : a specific amount or number that is expected to be achieved ▪ The department set new sales *quotas* in January. ▪ They filled/met their *quota* for new members. [=they got the number of new members that they were trying to get]

quot·able /ˈkwoʊtəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : deserving to be quoted : interesting or clever enough to be quoted ▪ a *quotable* phrase/author

quo·ta·tion /kwoʊˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : something that a person says or writes that is repeated or used by someone else in another piece of writing or a speech ▪ literary/illustrative *quotations* [=*quotes*] ▪ He gathered *quotations* from the trial transcript to prove his point. ▪ a well-known *quotation* attributed to Abraham Lincoln ▪ a book of humorous *quotations*

2 [*noncount*] : the act of using quotations in a piece of writing or a speech ▪ She relied heavily on *quotation* in her essays, which made them less original.

3 [*count*] : a written statement of how much money a particular job will cost to do ▪ The builder gave us several price *quotations* [=*quotes*] for the new housing complex.

4 [*count*] *finance* : a statement of the current value of stocks, bonds, or goods ▪ foreign stock *quotations* [=*quotes*]

quotation mark *noun, pl* ~ **marks** [*count*] : one of a pair of punctuation marks " " or ' ' that are used to show the beginning and the end of a quotation, to show that something is a title, to show that a word or phrase is being used in a special way, etc. — usually plural ▪ There were *quotations marks* around the phrase. = The phrase was ***in quotation marks***. ▪ Titles of newspaper articles should be placed/put *in quotation marks*. — called also (*Brit*) *inverted comma*

[1]quote /ˈkwoʊt/ *verb* **quotes**; **quot·ed**; **quot·ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to repeat (something written or said by another person) exactly — often + *from* ▪ She *quoted* a passage *from* the book in her article. **b** [+ *obj*] : to write or say the exact words of (someone) ▪ He began his speech by *quoting* Shakespeare. ▪ Can I ***quote you on that***? [=can I tell other people that you said that?] ▪ He was ***quoted as saying*** that there would be further delays. [=it was reported that he said that there would be further delays] ▪ The reporter *quoted* the police chief *as saying* that an investigation would be launched soon. **c** : to write or say a line or short section from (a piece of writing or a speech) [+ *obj*] He *quotes* the Bible frequently. [*no obj*] — + *from* ▪ He *quotes from* the Bible frequently. **d** — used in speech to show that you are exactly repeating someone else's words. ▪ When I asked him if he'd be seeing her again, he said, *quote*, "Not if I can help it." ▪ He said, and I *quote*, "Not if I can help it." — often followed by *unquote* ▪ She said it was *quote*, "time for a change," *unquote*. ▪ He said he's been living under, ***quote, unquote***, "intense pressure."

2 [+ *obj*] : to mention (something) as an example to support an idea or statement ▪ She said this kind of occurrence is common, and she *quoted* [=*cited*] several instances of almost identical behavior.

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to tell someone the price at which something can be bought or done — often + *for* ▪ The sales associate *quoted* (us) an unreasonably high price *for* the car. **b** *finance* : to state the current price of (something, such as a stock) — usually used as *(be) quoted* ▪ Shares for the stock are *being quoted* at $68. ▪ a list of companies that *are quoted* on the stock exchange [=companies whose stocks are sold on the stock exchange]

[2]quote *noun, pl* **quotes** [*count*]

1 : QUOTATION ▪ Each chapter of the book began with an inspirational *quote*. ▪ She included *quotes* from the poem in her essay. ▪ The article included *quotes* from the mayor and several councilors. ▪ The price *quotes* exceeded our expectations. ▪ I checked the stock *quotes* online.

2 : QUOTATION MARK ▪ The phrase was ***in quotes***. [=there were quotation marks around it] ▪ Titles of newspaper articles should be placed/put *in quotes*.

quoth /ˈkwoʊθ/ *verb, old-fashioned* + *literary* — used to mean "said" in phrases like *quoth I, quoth he*, etc. ▪ "What a fool," *quoth* he. [="what a fool," he said] ▪ " . . . *Quoth* the raven, 'Nevermore.'" —Edgar Allan Poe, "The Raven" (1845)

quo·tid·i·an /kwoʊˈtɪdijən/ *adj, formal* + *literary*

1 : ordinary or very common ▪ a *quotidian* existence/life

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2 : done each day ▪ *quotidian* [=*everyday*] routines

quo•tient /ˈkwoʊʃənt/ *noun, pl* **-tients** [*count*]
1 *mathematics* : the number that results when one number is divided by another
2 : the degree to which a specific quality or characteristic exists ▪ an actress whose likability *quotient* is high [=an actress who is very likable] — see also INTELLIGENCE QUOTIENT

Quran *or* **Qur'an** *variant spellings of* KORAN

qv *abbr* which see — used to direct a reader to another page where more information can be found ✧ *Qv* comes from the Latin phrase "quod vide."

QWER•TY /ˈkwərti/ *adj, of a keyboard* : having the letters q, w, e, r, t, and y arranged in a row in the top row of letter keys ▪ Most computers come equipped with a monitor and a full *QWERTY* keyboard.

R

[1]r *or* **R** /ˈɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **r's** *or* **rs** *or* **R's** *or* **Rs** : the 18th letter of the English alphabet [*count*] There are two *r's* in "tomorrow." [*noncount*] "River" begins and ends with *r*. — see also THREE R'S
roll your r's see [1]ROLL

[2]r *abbr* **1** radius **2** *or* ***R*** right ▪ L or *R*

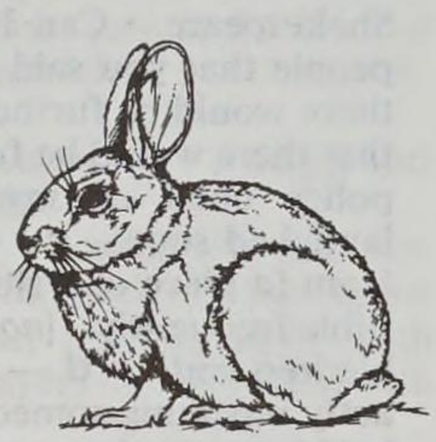
[1]R — used as a special mark to indicate that people over the age of 17 or 18 may see a particular movie but that younger people may only see the movie in a movie theater with a parent or guardian ▪ The movie is rated *R*. — compare G, NC-17, PG, PG-13, X; see also R-RATED

[2]R *abbr* **1** registered trademark **2** Republican ▪ Sen. Jane Smith *R*-PA **3** ***R.*** river ▪ *R.* Trent

rab•bi /ˈræˌbaɪ/ *noun, pl* **-bis** [*count*] : a person who is trained to make decisions about what is lawful in Judaism, to perform Jewish ceremonies, or to lead a Jewish congregation ▪ He is a *rabbi*. ▪ *Rabbi* Jane Smith

rab•bin•ic /rəˈbɪnɪk/ *or* **rab•bin•i•cal** /rəˈbɪnɪkəl/ *adj, always used before a noun* : of or relating to rabbis, their writings, or their teachings ▪ *rabbinic* commentaries/texts ▪ *rabbinical* traditions

[1]rab•bit /ˈræbət/ *noun, pl* **rab•bits** *or* **rabbit**
1 [*count*] : a small animal that usually lives in holes in the ground and has long ears, soft fur, and back legs that are longer than its front legs ▪ We keep *rabbits* as pets. ▪ a *rabbit* hutch ▪ a *rabbit* hole
2 [*noncount*] : the fur or meat of a rabbit ▪ a stew made with *rabbit* = a *rabbit* stew ▪ a *rabbit* coat


rabbit

[2]rabbit *verb* **-bits**; **-bit•ed**; **-bit•ing**
rabbit on [*phrasal verb*] *Brit, informal* : to talk for too long about something that is not important or interesting — often + *about* ▪ He *rabbited on about* all his problems.

rabbit punch *noun, pl* ~ **punches** [*count*] : a quick punch to the back of the neck or the kidneys that is illegal in boxing

rabbit warren *noun, pl* ~ **-rens** [*count*]
1 : a series of underground tunnels where rabbits live
2 : a building or place with many connected rooms, passages, etc., where you can get lost very easily ▪ The Pentagon is a *rabbit warren* of corridors.

rab•ble /ˈræbəl/ *noun, disapproving*
1 [*singular*] : a large group of loud people who could become violent : MOB ▪ an angry/unruly *rabble*
2 ***the rabble*** : ordinary or common people who do not have a lot of money, power, or social status — often used in a humorous or exaggerated way to suggest the attitudes of wealthy and powerful people ▪ celebrities who live in beautiful homes far away from *the rabble*

rab•ble–rous•er /ˈræbəlˌraʊzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *disapproving* : a person who makes a group of people angry, excited, or violent (such as by giving speeches) especially in order to achieve a political or social goal
– **rab•ble–rous•ing** /ˈræbəlˌraʊzɪŋ/ *adj* ▪ a *rabble-rousing* speech/politician – **rabble–rousing** *noun* [*noncount*]

ra•bid /ˈræbəd/ *adj*
1 : affected with rabies ▪ *rabid* dogs
2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or expressing a very extreme opinion about or interest in something ▪ a politician with *rabid* supporters ▪ Her husband is a *rabid* baseball fan.
– **ra•bid•ly** *adv* ▪ Photographers *rabidly* pursued her wherever she went.

ra•bies /ˈreɪbiz/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a very serious and often fatal disease that affects animals (such as dogs) and that can be passed on to people if an infected animal bites them

rac•coon /rækˈuːn/ *noun, pl* **raccoon** *or* **rac•coons**
1 [*count*] : a small North American animal with grayish-brown fur that has black fur around its eyes and black rings around its tail
2 [*noncount*] : the fur of a raccoon ▪ a *raccoon* coat


raccoon

[1]race /ˈreɪs/ *noun, pl* **rac•es**
1 a [*count*] : a competition between people, animals, vehicles, etc., to see which one is fastest ▪ a bicycle/boat/car/yacht *race* — see also DRAG RACE, FOOTRACE, HORSE RACE, RAT RACE, SACK RACE **b** ***the races*** : an event at which there is a series of horse races ▪ Let's go to *the races* this weekend.
2 [*count*] : a contest or competition in which different people or teams try to win something or to do something first ▪ the *race* for governor ▪ a baseball pennant *race* ▪ the *race* to find a cure for the disease
3 [*singular*] : a situation in which someone has to do something very quickly because there is not much time ▪ It was a ***race against time*** to disarm the bomb. ▪ It was a ***race against the clock*** to finish the job on time.
– compare [3]RACE

[2]race *verb* **races**; **raced**; **rac•ing**
1 a [*no obj*] : to compete in a race ▪ Eight horses will *race* for the cup. ▪ That horse will never *race* again. **b** [+ *obj*] : to compete in a race against (someone) ▪ She's going to *race* the champion. ▪ They *raced* each other home. ▪ I'll *race* you to see who gets there first.
2 [+ *obj*] : to drive or ride (something) in a race ▪ She *races* cars/horses for a living.
3 [*no obj*] : to go, move, or function at a very fast speed ▪ The people *raced* [=(more commonly) *ran*] for safety. ▪ The flood *raced* through the valley. ▪ His heart was *racing*. [=was beating very fast] ▪ Her mind was *racing*. [=she had many thoughts going quickly through her mind] ▪ The truck's engine was *racing*. ▪ The dog *raced* ahead of me.
4 [+ *obj*] : to cause (the engine of a vehicle) to go very fast ▪ The drivers *raced* [=*revved*] their engines while waiting at the starting line.
5 [*no obj*] : to try to do something very quickly because there is not much time ▪ She is ***racing against the clock*** to be sure the assignment is handed in on time. ▪ Researchers are ***racing (against time)*** to find a cure.

[3]race *noun, pl* **races**
1 : one of the groups that people can be divided into based on certain physical qualities (such as skin color) [*count*] It is their hope that the *races* can live in harmony. [*noncount*] The company does not discriminate on grounds of *race*, age, sex, or religion. — often used before another noun ▪ Politicians are trying to improve *race* relations. ▪ *race* discrimination — see also HUMAN RACE
2 [*count*] : a group of people who share the same history, language, culture, etc. ▪ the English *race* ▪ She is the descen-

dant of a noble *race*. ▪ a mythical *race* of giants
3 [*count*] : a group of related or similar animals or plants ▪ a distinct *race* of birds
– compare [1]RACE

race–bait·ing /ˈreɪsˌbeɪtɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US, disapproving* : the unfair use of statements about race to try to influence the actions or attitudes of a particular group of people ▪ a politician who is being accused of *race-baiting*

race car *noun, pl* ~ **cars** [*count*] *US* : a very fast car that is used in professional auto racing — called also *racing car*; see picture at CAR

race course (*US*) *or Brit* **race·course** /ˈreɪsˌkoɚs/ *noun, pl* ~ **cours·es** [*count*] : a course or track that is used for racing; *especially, chiefly Brit* : a grass track that is used for horse racing

race·go·er /ˈreɪsˌgowɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a person who goes to a race

race·horse /ˈreɪsˌhoɚs/ *noun, pl* **-hors·es** [*count*] : a horse that is bred and trained for racing

rac·er /ˈreɪsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a person or animal that races ▪ He is a stock car *racer*. ▪ His horse will be a great *racer*.
2 : a car, boat, etc., that is used in racing

race riot *noun, pl* ~ **-ots** [*count*] : a violent fight between people of different races : a riot that is caused by racial anger, hatred, etc.

race·track /ˈreɪsˌtræk/ *noun, pl* **-tracks** [*count*] : a track or course that is used for racing ▪ a bicycle *racetrack*; *especially, US* : a track that is used for horse racing

race·way /ˈreɪsˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a course or track that is used for racing : RACETRACK

ra·cial /ˈreɪʃəl/ *adj*
1 : relating to or based on race ▪ *racial* stereotypes/prejudices ▪ What is your *racial* identity? ▪ a *racial* minority
2 *always used before a noun* : existing or happening between people of different races ▪ striving for *racial* equality/harmony ▪ There was *racial* tension on campus. ▪ *racial* segregation
– **ra·cial·ly** *adv* ▪ a *racially* mixed population

ra·cial·ism /ˈreɪʃəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit, old-fashioned* : RACISM
– **ra·cial·ist** /ˈreɪʃəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] – **racialist** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *racialist* [=*racist*] thinking

racing *noun* [*noncount*] : the sport or profession of racing horses, cars, etc. ▪ auto/yacht *racing* — often used before another noun ▪ his *racing* career ▪ *racing* fans

racing car *noun, pl* ~ **cars** [*count*] : RACE CAR

rac·ism /ˈreɪˌsɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving*
1 : poor treatment of or violence against people because of their race ▪ Have you experienced *racism*? ▪ a protest against *racism*
2 : the belief that some races of people are better than others ▪ the *racism* that was the basis of apartheid
– **rac·ist** /ˈreɪsɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] ▪ *racists* and bigots – **racist** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ He was accused of making a *racist* remark. ▪ *racist* attitudes/practices

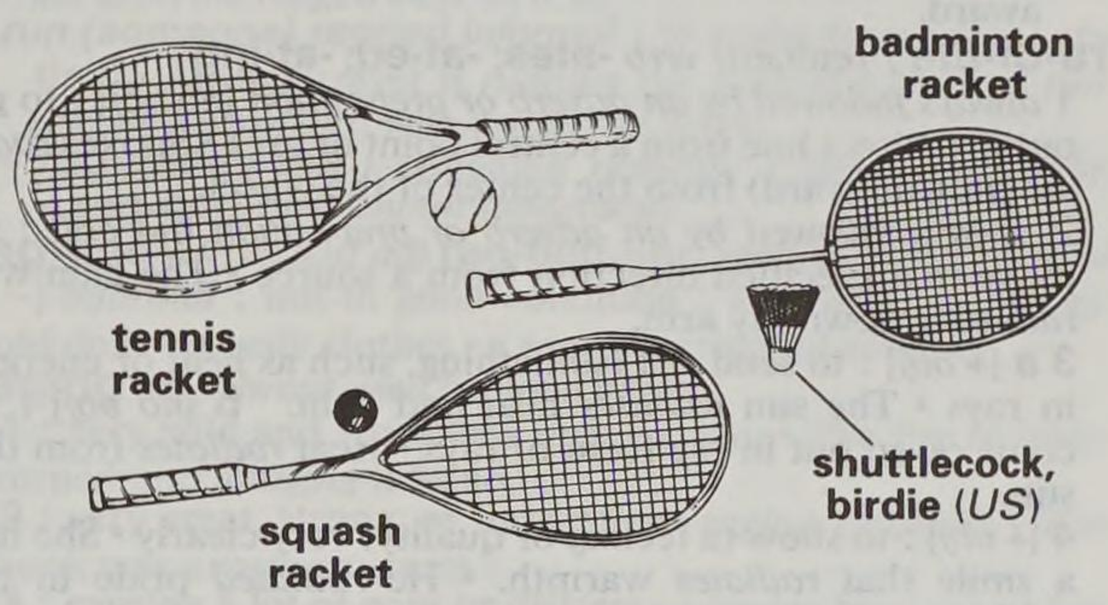
[1]rack /ˈræk/ *noun, pl* **racks**
1 [*count*] : a frame or stand that has shelves, hooks, slots, etc., in which or on which you place things ▪ a bike/hat/luggage/magazine/wine *rack* ▪ The store has *racks* of dresses. ▪ Place the pie on the middle *rack* in the oven. ▪ During the store's sales, the clothes were ***flying off the rack***. [=people were buying the clothes very quickly] — see also DISH RACK, ROOF RACK
2 ***the rack*** : a machine used in the past to hurt people by stretching their bodies ▪ The prisoners were tortured on *the rack*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The interviewer put me on *the rack* and asked some really tough questions.
3 [*count*] *technical* : a bar with teeth that fit into a gear or a wheel in a machine ▪ a car with ***rack and pinion*** steering
4 [*count*] : a pair of antlers ▪ a deer with a huge *rack*
5 [*count*] *US, informal* : [1]BED 1 ▪ soldiers heading back to the *rack* after a long day
6 [*count*] *US* **a** : a triangular frame that is used to group the balls together in a billiard game **b** : a group of billiard balls that have been set up with a rack ▪ a tight/loose *rack*
off the rack *US* : in a store where clothes are sold in different sizes that are not made to fit a particular person ▪ He bought that suit *off the rack*. [=(*Brit*) *off the peg*] — see also OFF-THE-RACK
on the rack *Brit, informal* : in a very bad or difficult situation ▪ They had their opponents *on the rack* in the first half.
– **compare** [3]RACK, [4]RACK

[2]rack *verb* **racks**; **racked**; **rack·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to cause (someone or something) to suffer pain or damage — usually used as *(be) racked* ▪ He *was racked* with/by jealousy [=he was very jealous] when he saw his ex-wife with another man. ▪ a body *racked* by disease ▪ The team has *been racked* by dissension. [=the team has experienced a lot of dissension] ▪ The country *was racked* by civil war.
2 *US* : to put (balls) in a rack for a game of billiards ▪ *Rack* the balls (up) and we'll play some pool.
rack up [*phrasal verb*] ***rack up (something)*** *informal* : to achieve or get (something) as time passes : ACCUMULATE ▪ I wanted to *rack up* as many points as possible. ▪ The company has *racked up* huge losses/sales.
rack your brain/brains : to think very hard in order to try to remember something, solve a problem, etc. ▪ I've been *racking my brain*, but I can't remember his name.

[3]rack *noun, pl* **racks** [*count, noncount*] : a cut of meat from a lamb or pig that includes some of the ribs ▪ We had (a) ***rack of lamb*** for dinner. — compare [1]RACK, [4]RACK

[4]rack *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of being destroyed or ruined ▪ The old house has ***gone to rack and ruin***. [=has become ruined] — compare [1]RACK, [3]RACK

[1]rack·et *or* **rac·quet** /ˈrækət/ *noun, pl* **rackets** *or* **racquets** [*count*] : a piece of sports equipment that is used to hit a ball or other object in games like tennis, badminton, squash, etc. ▪ a tennis *racket* — compare [2]RACKET



[2]racket *noun, pl* **-ets**
1 [*singular*] : a loud, unpleasant noise ▪ The kids have been making a terrible *racket*. ▪ What's all the *racket*?
2 [*count*] : a business that makes money through illegal activities ▪ He was a member of a criminal *racket*. ▪ He ran protection *rackets* for the mob.
3 [*singular*] *US, informal* **a** : an easy way to make money ▪ Is that all you do for a living? What a *racket*. **b** : a job or business ▪ Acting has got to be a tough *racket* to succeed in.
– compare [1]RACKET

rack·e·teer /ˌrækəˈtiɚ/ *noun, pl* **-teers** [*count*] : a person who makes money through illegal activities

rack·e·teer·ing /ˌrækəˈtirɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or crime of making money through illegal activities ▪ He was arrested and charged with *racketeering*.

ra·con·teur /ˌræˌkɑːnˈtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-teurs** [*count*] *formal* : someone who is good at telling stories

rac·quet·ball /ˈrækətˌbɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-balls**
1 [*noncount*] : a game played on a court with four walls by two or four players who use rackets to hit a soft ball against the walls ▪ They were playing (a game of) *racquetball*.
2 [*count*] : the ball that is used in racquetball

racy /ˈreɪsi/ *adj* **rac·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : exciting, lively, or amusing often in a way that is slightly shocking ▪ a *racy* [=*risqué*] novel/movie ▪ *racy* humor
– **rac·i·ly** /ˈreɪsəli/ *adv* ▪ a *racily* explicit movie – **rac·i·ness** /ˈreɪsinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

rad /ˈræd/ *adj* **rad·der**; **rad·dest** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *US slang* : very appealing or good ▪ The party was totally *rad*. [=*awesome, cool*]

ra·dar /ˈreɪˌdɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-dars** : a device that sends out radio waves for finding out the position and speed of a moving object (such as an airplane) [*count*] a powerful *radar* [*noncount*] The approaching planes were detected by *radar*. — often used figuratively in informal U.S. English ▪ A career in politics wasn't even ***on my radar (screen)*** at that point. [=I wasn't thinking at all about a career in politics] ▪ an actor who has ***fallen off the radar*** [=who has stopped being noticed or talked about] ▪ He tried to stay ***under the radar*** [=*unnoticed*] as he went about his business.

radar gun *noun, pl* ~ **guns** [*count*] : a small device that

uses radar to measure the speed of a moving object (such as a car or a ball)

[1]ra•di•al /'reɪdijəl/ *adj* : arranged or having parts arranged in straight lines coming out from the center of a circle ▪ the *radial* form of a starfish
– **ra•di•al•ly** *adv* ▪ The streets extend *radially* from the city's center.

[2]radial *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] : a type of strong tire in which cords underneath the rubber run across the tire's surface — called also *radial tire*

ra•di•ance /'reɪdijəns/ *noun*
1 : a quality of brightness and happiness that can be seen on a person's face [*singular*] She had a youthful *radiance* about her. [*noncount*] Her face glowed with *radiance*.
2 [*singular, noncount*] : a warm, soft light that shines from something ▪ the *radiance* of the rising sun

ra•di•ant /'reɪdijənt/ *adj*
1 [*more ~; most ~*] : having or showing an attractive quality of happiness, love, health, etc. ▪ a *radiant* smile ▪ She had a *radiant* inner glow. ▪ She looked *radiant* at her wedding.
2 [*more ~; most ~*] : bright and shining ▪ the *radiant* sun ▪ *radiant* blue skies
3 *always used before a noun, technical* : sent out from something in rays or waves that you cannot see ▪ *radiant* heat ▪ *radiant* energy
– **ra•di•ant•ly** *adv* ▪ She smiled *radiantly* as she accepted the award.

ra•di•ate /'reɪdi,eɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing**
1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to go out in a direct line from a central point or area ▪ Spokes *radiate* (out/outward) from the center of the wheel.
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move in a specified direction from a source ▪ The pain was *radiating* down my arm.
3 a [+ *obj*] : to send out (something, such as heat or energy) in rays ▪ The sun *radiates* heat and light. **b** [*no obj*] : to come or go out in the form of rays ▪ Heat *radiates* from the sun.
4 [+ *obj*] : to show (a feeling or quality) very clearly ▪ She has a smile that *radiates* warmth. ▪ He *radiated* pride in his achievements.

ra•di•a•tion /,reɪdi'eɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a type of dangerous and powerful energy that is produced by radioactive substances and nuclear reactions ▪ She was exposed to high levels of *radiation*.
2 *medical* : the use of controlled amounts of radiation for the treatment of diseases (such as cancer) ▪ He goes in for *radiation* next week. — called also *radiation therapy, radiotherapy*
3 a : energy that comes from a source in the form of waves or rays you cannot see ▪ ultraviolet *radiation* **b** *technical* : the process of giving off energy in the form of waves or rays you cannot see ▪ the sun's *radiation* of heat

radiation sickness *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : an illness that results from exposure to too much radiation

ra•di•a•tor /'reɪdi,eɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]
1 : a large, metal device that is next to the wall in a room and that becomes hot and provides heat for the room when hot water passes through it
2 : a device that is used to keep the engine of a vehicle from getting too hot — see picture at CAR

[1]rad•i•cal /'rædɪkəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 a : very new and different from what is traditional or ordinary ▪ The computer has introduced *radical* innovations. ▪ *radical* ideas about education **b** : very basic and important ▪ There are some *radical* differences between the two proposals. ▪ The new president has made some *radical* changes to the company. ▪ *radical* reforms
2 : having extreme political or social views that are not shared by most people ▪ *radical* liberals/conservatives ▪ a *radical* wing of extremists
3 *US slang, somewhat old-fashioned* : very appealing or good ▪ The party was totally *radical*! [=*cool*]
– **rad•i•cal•ly** /'rædɪkli/ *adv* ▪ She has proposed a *radically* different approach to the problem. ▪ The hurricane *radically* changed the landscape. ▪ *radically* new technology
– **rad•i•cal•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]radical *noun, pl* **-cals** [*count*] : a person who favors extreme changes in government : a person who has radical political opinions ▪ He was a *radical* when he was young, but now he's much more moderate.

rad•i•cal•ism /'rædɪkə,lɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the opinions and behavior of people who favor extreme changes especially in government : radical political ideas and behavior ▪ political *radicalism*

rad•i•cal•ize *also Brit* **rad•i•cal•ise** /'rædɪkə,laɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to become more radical especially in politics ▪ The war has *radicalized* an entire generation of young people.

ra•dic•chio /ræ'dɪkijoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-chios** [*count, noncount*] : a plant which has reddish or green leaves that have a bitter taste and that are eaten in salads

radii *plural of* RADIUS

[1]ra•dio /'reɪdi,oʊ/ *noun, pl* **-di•os**
1 [*noncount*] : the system or process that is used for sending and receiving signals through the air without using wires ▪ The news was sent/received by/over *radio*. — often used before another noun ▪ *radio* communications/signals
2 [*noncount*] : programs that are broadcast by radio ▪ I listen to the *radio* all the time. ▪ I heard the news/song ***on the radio***. — often used before another noun ▪ *radio* programs/shows/stations — see also TALK RADIO
3 [*count*] **a** : a device that is used to receive the signals that are broadcast by radio ▪ There's a problem with the car's *radio*. ▪ a portable/transistor *radio* ▪ The *radio* was playing very loudly. ▪ Turn up/down/on/off the *radio*. **b** : a device that is used to send and receive messages by radio ▪ two-way *radios* ▪ The pilot's *radio* wasn't working.
4 [*noncount*] : the business that makes and broadcasts radio programs ▪ He became the most popular talk show host in *radio*. ▪ She is a powerful force in *radio*.

[2]radio *verb* **-dios**; **-di•oed**; **-dio•ing** : to send a message to someone by radio [*no obj*] The police *radioed* for backup. ▪ The stranded sailors were *radioing* for help. ▪ The pilot *radioed* in to the control tower. [+ *obj*] The police *radioed* a report back to the station. ▪ They *radioed* the Coast Guard for help.

ra•dio•ac•tive /,reɪdijoʊ'æktɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having or producing a powerful and dangerous form of energy (called radiation) ▪ Uranium and plutonium are *radioactive*. ▪ *radioactive* material/waste
– **ra•dio•ac•tive•ly** *adv* – **ra•dio•ac•tiv•i•ty** /,reɪdijowæk'tɪvəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *radioactivity* of certain elements

ra•dio•car•bon dating /,reɪdijoʊ'kɑɚbən-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : CARBON DATING

radio–controlled *adj* : controlled by radio signals sent from somewhere else ▪ a *radio-controlled* toy car

ra•di•og•ra•phy /,reɪdi'ɑ:grəfi/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : the process of taking a photograph of the inside of a person's body by using X-rays
– **ra•di•og•ra•pher** /,reɪdi'ɑ:grəfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-phers** [*count*] *medical*

ra•di•ol•o•gist /,reɪdi'ɑ:lədʒɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*] *medical* : a doctor who is trained in radiology

ra•di•ol•o•gy /,reɪdi'ɑ:lədʒi/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a branch of medicine that uses some forms of radiation (such as X-rays) to diagnose and treat diseases

radio telescope *noun, pl* ~ **-scopes** [*count*] *technical* : a piece of equipment that receives radio waves from space and that is used for finding stars and other objects

ra•dio•ther•a•py /,reɪdioʊ'θerəpi/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : RADIATION 2
– **ra•dio•ther•a•pist** /,reɪdioʊ'θerəpɪst/ *noun, pl* **-pists** [*count*]

radio wave *noun, pl* ~ **waves** [*count*] : an electromagnetic wave that is used for sending signals through the air without using wires

rad•ish /'rædɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **-ish•es** [*count*] : a small, round vegetable that is red or white, is eaten raw in salads, and has a sharp spicy taste; *also* : the plant that produces this vegetable — see color picture on page C4; see also HORSERADISH

ra•di•um /'reɪdijəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a radioactive element that is used medically in cancer treatments

ra•di•us /'reɪdijəs/ *noun, pl* **ra•dii** /'reɪdi,aɪ/ [*count*]
1 *technical* : a straight line from the center of a circle or sphere to any point on the outer edge ▪ Measure the *radius* of the circle.; *also* : the length of this line ▪ a *radius* of 10 inches — see picture at GEOMETRY; compare DIAMETER
2 : an area that goes outward in all directions from a particular place ▪ The new museum is expected to draw people from a wide *radius*. ▪ More than 100,000 students live *within* a 10-mile *radius* of the university. [=within 10 miles of the

university] ▪ There are three restaurants *within* a one-block *radius* of our apartment.

3 *medical* : the bone in the lower part of your arm on the same side as your thumb — see picture at HUMAN

ra·don /'reɪˌdɑːn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a radioactive element which is a gas that is used medically in cancer treatments

RAF *abbr* Royal Air Force

raf·fia /'ræfijə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : material that looks like string, is made from palm leaves, and is used to make baskets, hats, etc.

raff·ish /'ræfɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not completely acceptable or respectable but interesting and attractive ▪ *raffish* charm ▪ *raffish* behavior ▪ He's a *raffish* character.
– **raff·ish·ly** *adv* – **raff·ish·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]raf·fle /'ræfəl/ *noun, pl* **raf·fles** [*count*] : a contest that a group or organization uses to earn money and that involves people buying numbered tickets in exchange for a chance to win a prize ▪ We're having a *raffle* to raise money for new playground equipment. ▪ We are selling ***raffle tickets***.

[2]raffle *verb* **raf·fles**; **raf·fled**; **raf·fling** [+ *obj*] : to give (something) as a prize in a raffle — usually + *off* ▪ Our church will *raffle off* turkeys this Thanksgiving.

[1]raft /'ræft, *Brit* 'rɑːft/ *noun, pl* **rafts** [*count*]
1 : a flat structure that is used for floating or sailing on water
2 : a plastic or rubber boat that you have to fill with air in order to use — see also LIFE RAFT
– compare [2]RAFT

[2]raft *noun, pl* **rafts** [*count*] : a large amount or number or people or things ▪ a *raft* of political supporters — compare [1]RAFT

[1]raf·ter /'ræftɚ, *Brit* 'rɑːftə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : one of the large, long pieces of wood that support a roof — usually plural ▪ a room with beautiful exposed *rafters* — compare [2]RAFTER

[2]rafter *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : a person who makes or travels in a raft ▪ whitewater *rafters* — compare [1]RAFTER

raft·ing /'ræftɪŋ, *Brit* 'rɑːftɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of traveling down a river on a raft ▪ whitewater *rafting* — often used before another noun ▪ a *rafting* trip ▪ *rafting* equipment

[1]rag /'ræg/ *noun, pl* **rags**
1 [*count*] : a piece of cloth that is old and no longer in good condition : a scrap of cloth ▪ She used a *rag* to mop up the spill. ▪ I tore the old towel into *rags*. — see also DO-RAG
2 ***rags*** [*plural*] **a** *informal* : CLOTHES ▪ expensive French *rags* — see also GLAD RAGS **b** : clothing that is in poor condition ▪ He threw away a bunch of old *rags*. ▪ a homeless person wearing *rags* = a homeless person (dressed) ***in rags***
3 [*count*] *informal* : a newspaper of poor quality ▪ He's a writer for our local *rag*.
4 [*count*] : a piece of ragtime music ▪ a piano *rag*
a red rag to a bull see [1]RED
chew the rag see [1]CHEW
from rags to riches : from being poor to being wealthy : from a state of having very little money to a state of having a lot of money ▪ She went *from rags to riches* overnight.

[2]rag *verb* **rags**; **rag·ged**; **rag·ging** *informal* : to laugh at and make jokes about (someone) [+ *obj*] The other kids *ragged* [=*teased, razzed*] him for having a crush on the teacher. [*no obj*] (*US*) — + *on* ▪ The other kids were always *ragging on* me because I wasn't good at sports.

rag·a·muf·fin /'rægəˌmʌfən/ *noun, pl* **-fins** [*count*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : a child who is dressed in rags and is usually dirty and poor

rag·bag /'rægˌbæg/ *noun, pl* **-bags** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a collection of very different things ▪ a *ragbag* of ideas

rag doll *noun, pl* ~ **dolls** [*count*] : a soft doll made of cloth

[1]rage /'reɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **rag·es**
1 a [*noncount*] : a strong feeling of anger that is difficult to control ▪ Her note to him was full of *rage*. ▪ He was shaking with *rage*. ▪ a fit of *rage* — see also ROAD RAGE ***synonyms*** see [1]ANGER **b** [*count*] : a sudden expression of violent anger ▪ She was seized by a murderous *rage*. ▪ His *rages* rarely last more than a few minutes. ▪ He ***flew into a rage***. [=he suddenly became extremely angry]
2 [*singular*] **a** : something that is suddenly very popular ▪ Karaoke is ***(all) the rage*** these days. [=karaoke is very popular] **b** : a strong desire by many people to have or do something — + *for* ▪ I don't understand the current *rage for* flavored coffee. [=I don't understand why flavored coffee is so popular]

[2]rage *verb* **rages**; **raged**; **rag·ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to talk in an extremely angry way ▪ She *raged* about the injustice of their decision. ▪ Protesters and activists have *raged* against the company [=have angrily criticized the company] for years. : to shout loudly and angrily ▪ The manager *raged* at the umpire.
2 : to happen or continue in a destructive, violent, or intense way ▪ A storm was *raging* outside, but we were warm and comfortable indoors. ▪ The fire *raged* for hours. — often + *on* ▪ The debate *rages on* in Congress.

rag·ged /'rægəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having an edge or surface that is not straight or even ▪ a *ragged* outline ▪ *ragged* [=(more commonly) *jagged*] cliffs
2 a : in bad condition especially because of being torn ▪ a *ragged* dress ▪ a boy in *ragged* jeans ▪ the notebook's *ragged* [=*tattered*] pages **b** : wearing clothes that are torn and in poor condition ▪ a *ragged* orphan
3 : tired from effort or stress ▪ You look a little *ragged*—did you have a rough week?
4 : not as good as possible : having good parts and bad parts ▪ a *ragged* performance
5 : harsh and not regular : not smooth or even ▪ The patient's breathing is *ragged*. ▪ a *ragged* cough/breath
on the ragged edge *US, informal* : very close to failure ▪ We are running *on the ragged edge* financially. ▪ Our budget is *on the ragged edge* as it is.
run (someone) ragged *informal* : to make (someone) very tired ▪ All this travel is *running* me *ragged*! ▪ He was *run ragged* [=*worn out*] with/by all the travel.
– **rag·ged·ly** *adv* ▪ coughing *raggedly* ▪ dressed *raggedly*
– **rag·ged·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

rag·gedy /'rægədi/ *adj* **rag·ged·i·er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : not in good condition : RAGGED ▪ a *raggedy* old doll ▪ *raggedy* clothes ▪ a *raggedy* group of soldiers

raging *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : very wild and violent ▪ a *raging* storm ▪ The fire quickly turned into a *raging* inferno.
2 : very great, strong, or impressive ▪ *raging* ambition ▪ The book was a *raging* success.
3 : causing a lot of pain or distress ▪ a *raging* headache ▪ her *raging* anguish

rag·lan /'ræglən/ *adj, always used before a noun* : attached at a line that goes from your neck to the area under your arm ▪ a sweater with *raglan* sleeves; *also* : having sleeves like this ▪ a *raglan* sweater/shirt

ra·gout /ræ'guː/ *noun, pl* **-gouts** [*count, noncount*] : a stew of meat, vegetables, and spices

rag·tag /'rægˌtæg/ *adj, always used before a noun, informal* : made up of different people or things and not organized or put together well ▪ a *ragtag* group of musicians

rag·time /'rægˌtaɪm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of lively music that is often played on the piano and that was very popular in the U.S. in the early part of the 20th century

rag·top /'rægˌtɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-tops** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal + somewhat old-fashioned* : a car with a roof that can be folded down : CONVERTIBLE

rag trade *noun*
the rag trade *chiefly Brit, informal* : the business of designing, making, and selling clothes : the fashion industry

rag·weed /'rægˌwiːd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : any one of a group of North American plants that release a lot of pollen into the air and that can cause allergic reactions in some people

rah–rah /'rɑːˌrɑː/ *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly US, informal* : showing a lot of enthusiasm usually in a way that is annoying ▪ We were getting sick of his *rah-rah* attitude about the school. ▪ *rah-rah* cheerleaders

[1]raid /'reɪd/ *noun, pl* **raids** [*count*]
1 : a surprise attack on an enemy by soldiers or other military forces ▪ They launched/mounted a *raid* against the enemy. ▪ The building was destroyed in a ***bombing raid*** [=a surprise attack in which bombs are used] — see also AIR RAID
2 : an occurrence in which police suddenly enter a place in a forceful way to find criminals, illegal drugs, etc. ▪ Weapons were also seized during the drug *raid*. ▪ They caught five smugglers in the *raid*.
3 *chiefly Brit* : an act of going into a place (such as a bank) in order to steal something : HEIST ▪ a bank *raid*

[2]raid *verb* **raids**; **raid·ed**; **raid·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to attack (a place or group) in a sudden and unexpected way ▪ The village was *raided* often by neighboring tribes.
2 a : to enter (a place) suddenly in a forceful way in order to look for someone or something ▪ Police *raided* the house and

found drugs. ▪ Federal agents *raided* the warehouse, seizing stolen property and arresting five smugglers. **b :** to enter (a place) in order to steal or take something ▪ Two armed men *raided* [=(more commonly) *robbed*] the bank on Tuesday. ▪ The boys *raided* the fridge [=took food from the refrigerator] when they got home from soccer practice. ▪ She *raided* her sister's closet to find something to wear to the party.

– **raiding** *adj* ▪ The village needs protection from *raiding* tribes. ▪ a ***raiding party*** [=a group of people who attack a place or group]

raid•er /'reɪdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who suddenly and unexpectedly attacks a place or group ▪ The village needs protection from enemy *raiders*.

2 : a person who enters a place in order to steal or take something ▪ *Raiders* had emptied the tomb of treasure.

3 : a person who tries to take control of a business by buying a lot of its stock ▪ He made his fortune as a ***corporate raider***.

[1]rail /'reɪl/ *noun, pl* **rails**

1 [*count*] **a :** a bar that goes from one post or support to another and that is used to form a barrier ▪ She leaned over the *rail* of the ship. ▪ We sat on the fence *rail* and watched the cows. — see picture at HOUSE; see also GUARDRAIL, HANDRAIL **b :** a bar used to hang something from ▪ He hung the curtains on the *rail*.

2 a [*count*] : one of the bars of steel that form a train's track — usually plural ▪ The train went off the *rails*. = (*chiefly Brit*) The train jumped the *rails*. — see also THIRD RAIL **b** [*noncount*] : [1]RAILROAD ▪ transportation by *rail* ▪ ***commuter rail*** [=part of a railroad made especially for people who work in a city but live outside it] — often used before another noun ▪ *rail* travel ▪ ***passenger rail*** service [=trains that take passengers rather than cargo] between the two cities — see also MONORAIL

go off the rails *informal* : to lose control and start to behave in a way that is not normal or acceptable ▪ He was a promising student but he *went off the rails* after he started taking drugs. ▪ The government has *gone* (completely) *off the rails*.

[2]rail *verb* **rails; railed; rail•ing** [+ *obj*] : to use rails to create a barrier around or at the edge of (something) — usually + *off* ▪ They've *railed off* [=(more commonly) *fenced off*] the garden. — compare [3]RAIL

– **railed** *adj* ▪ a *railed* balcony/platform

[3]rail *verb* **rail; railed; railing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to complain angrily about something ▪ old men *railing* at/against the government ▪ The workers *railed* about the unfair treatment they'd received. — compare [2]RAIL

rail•card /'reɪlˌkɑɚd/ *noun, pl* **-cards** [*count*] *Brit* : a card that you can use to buy railroad tickets at a price that is lower than the usual price ▪ a student *railcard*

rail•ing /'reɪlɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : a barrier that is made of rails supported by posts ▪ He leaned on the deck's *railing* and watched the sun set. — see picture at HOUSE

rail•lery /'reɪlərɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : friendly joking about or with somebody ▪ affectionate *raillery*

rail•man /'reɪlmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** [*count*] *Brit* : RAILWAYMAN

[1]rail•road /'reɪlˌroʊd/ *noun, pl* **-roads** [*count*] *US*

1 : a system of tracks on which trains travel ▪ a transcontinental *railroad* [=(*chiefly Brit*) *railway*] — often used before another noun ▪ a *railroad* station ▪ *railroad* cars/workers/travel

2 : a company that owns and operates trains ▪ an employee of the *railroad* [=(*chiefly Brit*) *railway*]

[2]railroad *verb* **-roads; -road•ed; -road•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to force (something) to be officially approved or accepted without much discussion or thought ▪ a controversial law that is being ***railroaded through*** Congress ▪ a bill that was ***railroaded into*** law

2 *US* : to convict (someone) of a crime unfairly ▪ They claim she was *railroaded*.

3 : to force (someone) into doing something quickly or without enough information — usually + *into* ▪ He *railroaded* her *into* signing the contract. ▪ She's trying to *railroad* us *into* buying the house.

– **rail•road•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* ▪ He worked as a *railroader* [=a person who works for a railroad company] all his life. – **rail•road•ing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the history of *railroading* [=of trains, railroads, the people who work on them, etc.]

railroad crossing *noun, pl* ~ **-ings** [*count*] *US* : a place where a road crosses railroad tracks — called also (*Brit*) *level crossing*

rail•way /'reɪlˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : [1]RAILROAD

rail•way•man /'reɪlˌweɪmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** [*count*] *Brit* : a man who works for a railroad company

rai•ment /'reɪmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] *literary* : CLOTHING ▪ gorgeous/glamorous *raiment*

[1]rain /'reɪn/ *noun, pl* **rains**

1 : water that falls in drops from clouds in the sky [*noncount*] The weatherman forecasts *rain* for this afternoon. ▪ We could hear the sound of (the) *rain* on the roof. ▪ Everyone went inside when the *rain* began to fall. ▪ He was standing outside in the ***pouring rain***. [=rain falling in large drops and with a lot of force] ▪ Take an umbrella with you. It ***looks like rain***. [=the sky looks the way it does when there is going to be rain] [*count*] spring/summer *rains* ▪ What the garden needs is a good, soaking *rain*. ▪ A ***light/heavy rain*** began to fall. ▪ There has been some flooding due to the recent *heavy rains*. — see also ACID RAIN

2 [*noncount*] : weather in which there is a lot of rain : rainy weather ▪ We've had a week of *rain*.

3 *rains* [*plural*] : large amounts of rain that fall at a particular time of year ▪ The *rains* came and flooded the valley.

4 [*singular*] : a large amount *of* something falling from above ▪ a *rain of* ash/ashes

(as) right as rain see [1]RIGHT

rain or shine *or* ***come rain, come shine*** *or* ***come rain or come shine*** — used to say that something will happen even it rains ▪ The party will be on Tuesday, *rain or shine*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ I'll always love you, *come rain or come shine*. [=I will love you no matter what happens]

– **rain•less** *adj* ▪ a *rainless* week

[2]rain *verb* **rains; rained; rain•ing**

1 [*no obj*] — used with *it* to say that rain is falling ▪ Take an umbrella with you. *It's raining*. [=rain is falling from the sky] ▪ The weatherman said *it* will *rain* later this afternoon. ▪ *It rained* all day. ▪ *It's raining* (pretty) hard/heavily. [=there is a lot of rain falling] ▪ *It's raining* lightly. [=there is a small amount or rain falling]

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to fall from above in large amounts ▪ Ashes *rained* (down) from the volcano. ▪ Sparks from the fireworks *rained* on the field.

3 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to fall in large amounts ▪ The volcano *rained* ashes on the city. ▪ The boxers ***rained blows/punches*** on each other. [=the boxers hit each other many times]

be rained out (*US*) *or Brit* ***be rained off*** : to be canceled because of rain ▪ Today's game *was rained out* and will be played tomorrow instead.

rain cats and dogs *informal* : to rain very hard

rain on someone's parade *US, informal* : to spoil someone's pleasure ▪ I don't mean to *rain on your parade*, but I have some bad news.

when it rains, it pours (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* ***it never rains but it pours*** *informal* — used to say that when something bad happens other bad things usually happen at the same time ▪ The team not only lost the game but three of its best players were injured. *When it rains, it pours.*

[1]rain•bow /'reɪnˌboʊ/ *noun, pl* **-bows** [*count*] : a curved line of different colors that sometimes appears in the sky when the sun shines through rain

[2]rainbow *adj, always used before a noun* : of, relating to, or including people of different races, cultures, etc. ▪ a *rainbow* coalition

rain check *noun, pl* ~ **checks** [*count*] *US*

1 : a ticket given to people so that they can go to another event (such as a baseball game) if the one they were watching or planning to go to is canceled or stopped because of rain

2 : a promise to allow someone to buy or do something in the future because it is not possible to buy or do it now ▪ The store offered *rain checks* when the sale items had all sold. ▪ She asked if she could ***have/take a rain check*** on the invitation for dinner. [=she said she wasn't able to come to dinner and asked if she could be invited again at a future time] ▪ "Would you like to go to lunch with me?" "I'm afraid I can't today. Can I *take a rain check*?" [=can I go to lunch with you another day?]

rain•coat /'reɪnˌkoʊt/ *noun, pl* **-coats** [*count*] : a coat that you wear when it rains in order to stay dry — see color picture on page C15

rain date *noun, pl* ~ **dates** [*count*] *US* : a date for some-

thing to happen if it cannot happen on its original date because of rain ▪ The bike trip is scheduled for May 18th, with a *rain date* of May 25th.

rain•drop /ˈreɪnˌdrɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-drops** [*count*] : a single drop of rain

rain•fall /ˈreɪnˌfɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-falls** : the amount of rain that falls on a particular area [*count*] This area has an average annual *rainfall* of 12 inches. ▪ areas with heavy *rainfalls* [*noncount*] an increase in annual *rainfall*

rain forest *noun, pl* ~ **-ests** [*count, noncount*] : a tropical forest that receives a lot of rain and that has very tall trees ▪ the Amazon *rain forest* — called also *tropical rain forest*

rain•proof /ˈreɪnˌpruːf/ *adj* : able to keep rain out : not allowing rain to come through ▪ a *rainproof* jacket ▪ The tent is *rainproof*.

rain•storm /ˈreɪnˌstoɚm/ *noun, pl* **-storms** [*count*] : a storm that produces rain

rain•wa•ter /ˈreɪnˌwɑːtɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : water that falls as rain ▪ a bucket filled with *rainwater*

rain•wear /ˈreɪnˌweɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : clothing that you wear when it rains in order to stay dry

rainy /ˈreɪni/ *adj* **rain•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : having a lot of rain ▪ It's been *rainy* all day today. [=rain has been falling all day] ▪ *rainy* weather

for a rainy day *informal* : for a time in the future when something will be needed ▪ He set a little money aside *for a rainy day*. [=he saved a little money so that he would have it if he needed it in the future] ▪ I have some money that I'm saving *for a rainy day*.

[1]raise /ˈreɪz/ *verb* **rais•es**; **raised**; **rais•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to lift or move (something or someone) to a higher position ▪ *Raise* your hand if you know the answer. ▪ *Raise* your arms above your head. ▪ He *raised* his head and looked around. ▪ She *raised* her eyes from her book and stared at him. ▪ He *raised* the cup to his lips and drank. ▪ I *raised* the lid and peeked inside. ▪ Let's *raise* the windows and get some fresh air in here. ▪ We *raised* the flag to the top of the pole.

b : to lift or move (something or someone) to a standing or more upright position ▪ They *raised* [=*erected, put up*] a flagpole in the quadrangle. ▪ I carefully *raised* her to a sitting position. ▪ She *raised* herself onto her knees. — often + *up* ▪ He slowly *raised* himself *up* off the floor. ▪ The men *raised up* the barn's walls with pulleys. — opposite LOWER

2 a : to increase the amount or level of (something) ▪ Our landlord is *raising* the rent. ▪ The store is *raising* its prices. ▪ The governor wants to *raise* the minimum wage. ▪ He matched the bet and then *raised* it. ▪ The college is *raising* its standards for admission. ▪ Exercise *raises* your body temperature. ▪ The ad campaign is intended to *raise* awareness of the importance of a healthy diet. ▪ Exposure to secondhand smoke *raises* the risk of lung cancer. ▪ The captain tried to *raise* the spirits of his crew. [=the captain tried to cheer them up]

b : to increase the quality of (something) ▪ She needs to *raise* her game in the play-offs. [=she needs to play better in the play-offs]

3 : to collect (money) from people for a particular cause ▪ The organization is *raising* money to help the hurricane victims. — usually + *for* ▪ The students are *raising* money *for* their school.

4 : to form (something, such as an army) by gathering a group of people together ▪ The rebels were able to ***raise an army*** quickly.

5 a : to mention (something) for people to think or talk about ▪ The issue of money was never *raised*. ▪ I'm sorry that I have to *raise* this subject, but we can't ignore it any longer.

b : to cause people to think about or be aware of (something) ▪ The book *raises* many questions about our biological origins. ▪ The discovery ***raises the possibility*** of a cure for the disease. [=the discovery makes it possible that a cure for the disease will be found]

6 : to cause (something) to happen or exist : to produce (something) ▪ The news *raised* hopes for peace. ▪ The news *raised* fears of war. ▪ Her comment *raised* a few smiles/laughs. ▪ He was so tired he could barely *raise* a smile. [=he could barely smile] ▪ The laws were passed without *raising* much opposition. ▪ A passerby saw the intruders and *raised* [=*sounded*] the alarm. ▪ The audience *raised* a cheer [=the audience cheered] at the end of the speech. ▪ Some people are ***raising a ruckus/fuss/stink*** [=are complaining or objecting very angrily] about the proposed tax.

7 *chiefly US* : to take care of and teach (a child) : to bring up or rear (a child) ▪ We have *raised* two wonderful girls. ▪ They have *raised* their children to be well-mannered. ▪ She was *raised* by her grandparents. ▪ He was *raised* (as) a Baptist. = He was *raised* Baptist. ▪ My dad was *raised* on a farm. ▪ Some kids are *raised* on (a diet of) junk food. ▪ I was ***born and raised*** here. ▪ This is a wonderful place to ***raise a family***.

8 : to keep and take care of (animals or crops) ▪ He *raises* [=*breeds*] chickens on his farm. ▪ They're *raising* [=*growing*] corn this year.

9 : to cause (a dead person) to live again : RESURRECT ▪ He claimed that he could *raise* people from the dead. = He claimed that he could ***raise the dead***. ▪ That noise is loud enough to *raise the dead*.

10 *formal* : to stop or remove (something that is preventing or blocking an activity) often for only a short period of time ▪ They *raised* the siege/embargo/blockade. ▪ The city has temporarily *raised* [=*lifted*] its ban on smoking in bars.

11 : to build (a monument, statue, etc.) : ERECT ▪ The city *raised* a monument in his honor.

12 *mathematics* : to multiply (a number) by itself a specified number of times ▪ *Raise* two to the fourth power. ▪ Two *raised* to the fourth power is 16.

13 : to get (someone) to speak with you on a radio : to contact (someone) by radio ▪ We tried to *raise* him on the radio, but we couldn't get through.

14 : to bet more than (a previous player in a card game) ▪ I'll match that bet and *raise* you five. [=I'll increase your bet by 5]

raise a glass see [1]GLASS

raise an/your eyebrow, raise eyebrows see EYEBROW

raise Cain *US, old-fashioned* **1** : to behave wildly and make a lot of noise ▪ They were always getting drunk and *raising Cain*. **2** : to complain in a loud or angry way ▪ The townsfolk *raised Cain* [=*raised hell*] about the tax increase.

raise hell see HELL

raise its ugly head see [1]HEAD

raise the bar see [1]BAR

raise the roof see [1]ROOF

raise your voice : to speak loudly especially because you are angry ▪ Don't you *raise your voice* at me! ▪ The baby is sleeping, so try not to *raise your voice*. ▪ Many people *raised their voices* [=*spoke out*] in protest. = Many ***voices were raised*** in protest.

[2]raise *noun, pl* **raises** [*count*] *US* : an increase in the amount of your pay ▪ I asked my boss for a *raise*. [=(*Brit*) *rise*] ▪ a *raise* in salary = a ***pay raise***

raised *adj* : higher than the surrounding area or surface ▪ a *raised* platform ▪ a *raised* flower bed ▪ a plaque with *raised* lettering

raised ranch *noun, pl* ~ **ranches** [*count*] *US* : a house that has two floors with its front entry located between the floors

rai•sin /ˈreɪzn̩/ *noun, pl* **-sins** [*count*] : a dried grape used for food — see also GOLDEN RAISIN

rai•son d'être /ˌreɪˌzoʊnˈdɛtrə/ *noun, pl* **rai•sons d'être** /ˌreɪˌzoʊnzˈdɛtrə/ [*count*] *formal* : the thing that is most important to someone or something : the reason for which a person or organization exists ▪ Art is his *raison d'être*.

ra•ja *or* **ra•jah** /ˈrɑːʤə/ *noun, pl* **-jas** *or* **-jahs** [*count*] : a king or prince in India

[1]rake /ˈreɪk/ *noun, pl* **rakes** [*count*] : a tool that has a series of metal, wooden, or plastic pieces at the end of a long handle and that is used to gather leaves, break apart soil, make ground smooth, etc. ▪ a leaf *rake* — compare [3]RAKE, [4]RAKE

[2]rake *verb* **rakes**; **raked**; **rak•ing**

1 : to use a rake to gather leaves, break apart soil, make ground smooth, etc. [+ *obj*] *rake* (up) leaves ▪ I *raked* the gravel smooth. ▪ *Rake* (out) the soil until it's level. ▪ *rake* the lawn [=use a rake to remove leaves, sticks, etc., from the lawn] [*no obj*] We *raked* all afternoon.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to move (your fingers or something similar) through or along something ▪ He *raked* his fingers through his hair. ▪ The cat *raked* its claws along/down the post.

3 [+ *obj*] : to shoot many bullets along (something) ▪ Two men *raked* the car with gunfire.

4 [*no obj*] *Brit, informal* : to search through something by using your hand ▪ He *raked* [=*rifled*] through the drawers, trying to find the letter. ▪ She *raked* around in her handbag.

rake in [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1** ***rake (something) in*** *or* ***rake in (something)*** : to earn or receive (a large amount of money) ▪ The movie *raked in* over $300 million. **2** ***rake it in***

R

: to earn a lot of money ▪ The owners of that restaurant must be really *raking it in*.

rake over [*phrasal verb*] ***rake over (something)*** *chiefly Brit, informal* : to continue to think or talk about (something that happened in the past) ▪ Don't spend so much time *raking over* the past.

rake (someone) over the coals see COAL

rake up [*phrasal verb*] ***rake (something) up*** *or* ***rake up (something)*** *informal* : to talk about (something unpleasant that happened in the past) ▪ There's no need to *rake* those old controversies *up* again. ▪ She didn't like to *rake up* [=*dredge up*] bad memories.

[3]rake *noun* [*singular*] : an upward or downward slant : SLOPE ▪ the slight/steep *rake* of the stage ▪ the forward *rake* of the barge — compare [1]RAKE, [4]RAKE

[4]rake *noun, pl* **rakes** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a man who leads an immoral life and is mainly interested in pleasure ▪ a selfish *rake* — compare [1]RAKE, [3]RAKE

rake–off /'reɪkˌɑ:f/ *noun, pl* **-offs** [*count*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : a share of a profit that is usually earned illegally ▪ The bookmaker took a 20 percent *rake-off*.

rak·ish /'reɪkɪʃ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 *somewhat old-fashioned* : having an unusual quality that is attractive and stylish ▪ a *rakish* smile ▪ He wore his hat at a ***rakish angle***. [=tipped to one side in a way that is attractive]

2 *old-fashioned, of a man* : immoral and devoted to pleasure ▪ a *rakish* [=*dissolute*] aristocrat

– **rak·ish·ly** *adv* ▪ He smiled *rakishly*.

[1]ral·ly /'ræli/ *noun, pl* **-lies** [*count*]

1 : a public meeting to support or oppose someone or something ▪ a political *rally* ▪ Supporters held a *rally* for the candidate. ▪ Protesters staged an antiwar *rally*. ▪ a ***youth rally*** [=a public meeting for teenagers and young adults] — see also PEP RALLY

2 *finance* : an increase in price or value after a decrease in price or value ▪ Stock prices are up after the dollar's *rally* yesterday.

3 *sports* : an occurrence in which a team or player that has been behind or playing badly begins to play well ▪ The team's late-game *rally* [=*comeback*] helped them win the game.

4 *sports* : a continuous series of hits back and forth between players in tennis or a similar game ▪ She ended the *rally* with a hard overhand shot to the far corner.

5 : a car race that is usually held on public roads ▪ a road *rally* ▪ a professional *rally* driver

[2]rally *verb* **-lies; -lied; -ly·ing**

1 a [*no obj*] : to meet publicly to support or oppose something : to come together for a rally ▪ His supporters will *rally* tomorrow morning outside the capitol. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (people) to join together to publicly support or oppose something ▪ The group is trying to *rally* voters for the election. ▪ The shootings *rallied* protesters who say the city neglects poorer neighborhoods.

2 [*no obj*] : to publicly support or oppose something or someone as a group ▪ Many people in the community have *rallied* to the mayor's side. [=have publicly shown support for the mayor] ▪ Parents ***rallied for/behind*** [=publicly showed support for] the new dress code guidelines. ▪ Students ***rallied against*** [=publicly showed opposition to] the new dress code guidelines.; *also* : to join together as a group to do something ▪ Concerned people around the country have *rallied* (together) to help raise money for the victims.

3 [+ *obj*] : to cause (a group of people) to have new energy and enthusiasm in a difficult time or situation ▪ The coach *rallied* his players for the second half of the game. ▪ As the deadline approached, it was clear that we needed to ***rally the troops***. [=to urge everyone to work harder]

4 [*no obj*] : to improve suddenly after a period of weakness, failure, etc. ▪ We were trailing for most of the game, but we *rallied* in the fourth quarter and ended up winning. ▪ Stocks *rallied* [=increased in price or value] at the close of trading today. ▪ The patient briefly *rallied* [=got healthier] but then became much worse and died a few days later.

rally around *or chiefly Brit* ***rally round*** [*phrasal verb*] ***rally around/round (someone or something)*** : to join together to support (someone or something) in a difficult time or situation ▪ We *rallied around* our neighbors when their house burned down. ▪ When the town library lost its funding, the community *rallied around* it.

rallying cry *noun, pl* **~ cries** [*count*] : a word or phrase that is used to make people join together to support an idea, cause, etc. ▪ the *rallying cry* of a political movement ▪ "We believe!" became the *rallying cry* of the fans.

rallying point *noun, pl* **~ points** [*count*] : someone or something that makes people join together to support a person, cause, etc. ▪ His promise to improve education has become a *rallying point* for his supporters.

[1]ram /'ræm/ *noun, pl* **rams** [*count*]

1 : an adult male sheep — compare EWE, [1]LAMB

2 a : a piece of machinery that is used to hit or lift something else ▪ a hydraulic *ram* **b** : BATTERING RAM

[2]ram *verb* **rams; rammed; ram·ming**

1 a : to forcefully hit something [+ *obj*] His car/boat *rammed* mine. ▪ They deliberately *rammed* my car from behind. [*no obj*] They *rammed* [=*crashed*] into my car from behind. ▪ The car slid and *rammed* against the wall. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to forcefully hit something ▪ He deliberately *rammed* his car into mine. ▪ She *rammed* her fist against the wall in anger.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to push (something) into a position or place with force ▪ She *rammed* the cork into the barrel. ▪ He opened the chute and *rammed* the clothes down. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The law was *rammed* [=*pushed*] through Congress.

ram (something) down someone's throat see THROAT

ram (something) home : to make (something) very clear and obvious in a forceful way ▪ He tried to *ram home* the importance of meeting the deadline. ▪ She hoped that the pictures and examples would *ram* her point *home*.

RAM /'ræm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *computers* : the part of a computer in which information is stored temporarily when a program is being used ▪ My computer is slow because it needs more *RAM*. — called also *random-access memory*; compare ROM

Ram·a·dan /'rɑ:məˌdɑ:n, *Brit* 'ræməˌdæn/ *noun, pl* **-dans** [*count, noncount*] : the ninth month of the Islamic year when Muslims do not eat or drink anything between sunrise and sunset

[1]ram·ble /'ræmbəl/ *verb* **ram·bles; ram·bled; ram·bling** [*no obj*]

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to walk or go from one place to another place without a specific goal, purpose, or direction ▪ He often *rambled* [=*roamed*] around/about the countryside in an old truck. ▪ She *rambled* [=*wandered*] along the riverbank. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The trail *rambles* [=*meanders*] *through* the woods for miles.

2 : to go from one subject to another without any clear purpose or direction ▪ She *rambled* for several minutes before introducing the main speaker. ▪ He's funny, but he tends to *ramble*. — often + *on* ▪ The novel's first chapter *rambles on* for about 100 pages.

[2]ramble *noun, pl* **rambles** [*count*]

1 *chiefly Brit* : a long walk for pleasure ▪ We went for a *ramble* along the beach. ▪ He encountered many interesting people in his *rambles* in the country.

2 : a long speech or piece of writing that goes from one subject to another without any clear purpose or direction ▪ The first chapter is a 100-page *ramble*. ▪ We had to listen to another one of his long *rambles* about politics and religion.

ram·bler /'ræmblɚ/ *noun, pl* **-blers** [*count*]

1 *chiefly Brit* : a person who goes on long walks for pleasure

2 : a plant that grows up and over fences, walls, etc. ▪ These roses are *ramblers*, so they will eventually cover the fence.

[1]ram·bling /'ræmbəlɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 *of a building* : big and having many rooms that are arranged in an irregular shape ▪ a *rambling* old farmhouse

2 : not having a specific goal, purpose, or direction ▪ a *rambling* car ride ▪ a *rambling* lecture

3 *of a plant* : growing up and over fences, walls, etc., in an irregular way ▪ *rambling* roses

[2]rambling *noun, pl* **-blings**

1 [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : the activity of walking for pleasure : HIKING ▪ She enjoys *rambling*, swimming, and biking. ▪ Would you like to ***go rambling***?

2 *ramblings* [*plural*] : spoken or written words that go from one subject to another without any clear purpose or direction ▪ We ignored her drunken *ramblings*.

ram·bunc·tious /ræm'bʌŋkʃəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *US* : uncontrolled in a way that is playful or full of energy ▪ a class full of *rambunctious* [=*boisterous*, *(Brit) rumbustious*] children ▪ a *rambunctious* crowd/audience

ram·e·kin /'ræməkən/ *noun, pl* **-kins** [*count*] : a small, usually round bowl that has steep sides and that is used for cooking and serving food for one person

R

ra•men /ˈrɑːmən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : very thin, long noodles used in Asian cooking • a bowl of *ramen*

ram•i•fi•ca•tion /ˌræməfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *formal* : something that is the result of an action, decision, etc. — usually plural • They discussed the possible *ramifications* [=*consequences*] of the new treaty. • The government's actions in this case could have major political *ramifications*.

[1]ramp /ˈræmp/ *noun, pl* **ramps** [*count*]
1 *US* : a usually sloping road that connects a road to a highway • an exit/entrance *ramp* — called also (*Brit*) *slip road*; see also OFF-RAMP, ON-RAMP
2 : a piece of equipment with a slope that is used to join two surfaces that are at different levels or heights • The loading dock has a *ramp*. • a ***wheelchair ramp*** [=a ramp for someone in a wheelchair to use instead of stairs to enter into a building]

[2]ramp *verb* **ramps**; **ramped**; **ramp•ing**
ramp up [*phrasal verb*] ***ramp up*** *or* ***ramp up (something)*** *or* ***ramp (something) up*** : to increase or to cause (something) to increase in speed, size, etc. • Work started slowly, but now we're *ramping up* to full speed. • The company has been *ramping up* production. • The work is going too slowly. We need to ***ramp it up*** a bit.

[1]ram•page /ˈræmˌpeɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-pag•es** [*count*] : an occurrence of wild and usually destructive behavior • a murderous *rampage* • (*chiefly US*) Rioters were/went ***on a rampage***, looting shops and setting fires. = (*chiefly Brit*) Rioters were/went ***on the rampage***.

[2]rampage *verb* **-pages**; **-paged**; **-pag•ing** [*no obj*] : to act or move in a wild and usually destructive way • Rioters *rampaged* through the streets of the city. • *rampaging* soccer fans

ram•pant /ˈræmpənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *usually disapproving* — used to describe something that is very common or that is spreading very quickly and in a way that is difficult to control • There is evidence of *rampant* corruption in the local government. • *rampant* crime/disease • Rumors of her engagement were *rampant*. = Rumors of her engagement ***ran rampant***. [=there were many rumors that she was engaged to be married]
2 : growing quickly and in a way that is difficult to control • a weed that's *rampant* in this area
– **ram•pant•ly** *adv*

ram•part /ˈræmˌpɑɚt/ *noun, pl* **-parts** [*count*] : a tall, thick stone or dirt wall that is built around a castle, town, etc., to protect it from attacks — usually plural • The city's *ramparts* crumbled long ago.

ram–raiding *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : the crime of driving a car or truck into a store window in order to steal the things that are in the store

ram•rod /ˈræmˌrɑːd/ *noun, pl* **-rods** [*count*] : a metal bar that is used to push explosive material down into the barrel of some old-fashioned guns
straight as a ramrod *or* ***ramrod straight*** : in a very straight and stiff way — used especially to describe the way someone stands or sits • The guard stood *straight as a ramrod*. • He sat in the saddle, *ramrod straight*.

ram•shack•le /ˈræmˌʃækəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : in a very bad condition and needing to be repaired • a *ramshackle* [=*dilapidated*] old house • a *ramshackle* [=*rundown*] neighborhood
2 : not carefully made or put together • The movie's *ramshackle* plot is confusing and not believable.

ran *past tense of* [1]RUN

[1]ranch /ˈræntʃ, *Brit* ˈrɑːntʃ/ *noun, pl* **ranch•es** [*count*]
1 : a large farm especially in the U.S. where animals (such as cattle, horses, and sheep) are raised — see also DUDE RANCH
2 *chiefly US* : a farm for a special crop or kind of animal • an almond *ranch* • a cattle/mink *ranch*
3 *US* : RANCH HOUSE 2 — see also RAISED RANCH

[2]ranch *verb* **ranches**; **ranched**; **ranch•ing**
1 : to live or work on a ranch [*no obj*] My grandfather started *ranching* here 150 years ago. [+ *obj*] The family has *ranched* 10,000 acres here for the past 150 years.
2 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to raise (an animal) on a ranch • The family has been *ranching* cattle here for 150 years.

ranch dressing *noun, pl* ~ **-ings** [*count, noncount*] *US* : a creamy salad dressing

ranch•er /ˈrænʧɚ, *Brit* ˈrɑːnʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who lives or works on a ranch • a cattle *rancher*

ranch house *noun, pl* ~ **houses** [*count*]
1 : the main house on a ranch
2 *US* : a house that has a single story and a roof that is not very steep

ranching *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of raising animals on a ranch • cattle *ranching* • The land is highly suitable for *ranching*.

ran•cid /ˈrænsəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *of food* : having a strong and unpleasant smell or taste from no longer being fresh • *rancid* butter • Some foods become/go/turn *rancid* quickly.
2 *chiefly US* : full of anger and bitterness • The argument turned *rancid*.

ran•cor (*US*) *or Brit* **ran•cour** /ˈræŋkɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : an angry feeling of hatred or dislike for someone who has treated you unfairly • She answered her accusers calmly and without *rancor*. • In the end, the debate created a degree of *rancor* among the committee members.
– **ran•cor•ous** (*US*) *or Brit* **ran•cour•ous** /ˈræŋkərəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • a *rancorous* debate

rand /ˈrænd/ *noun, pl* **rand** [*count*] : the basic unit of money in the Republic of South Africa

R & B *abbr* rhythm and blues • an *R & B* band = a band that plays *R & B*

R & D *abbr* research and development • She works for a computer firm doing *R & D*. • She works in the *R & D* department.

ran•dom /ˈrændəm/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : chosen, done, etc., without a particular plan or pattern • a *random* sequence of letters • A *random* sample/sampling/selection of doctors from around the country were selected for the study. • We tasted the wines in *random* order and then rated each. • a *random* collection of buttons • *random* drug testing • She collects *random* photographs that she finds in antique shops. • Pick a *random* word on the page. • The computer program generates a list of *random* numbers.
at random : in a way that does not follow a particular plan or pattern • Our names were chosen/selected/picked *at random* from the list. • People drifted in and out of the gallery *at random* all evening.
– **ran•dom•ly** *adv* • The ropes had been cut *randomly* to different lengths. • We were each asked to *randomly* pick a word on the page. – **ran•dom•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

random–access memory *noun* [*noncount*] : RAM

ran•dom•ize *also Brit* **ran•dom•ise** /ˈrændəˌmaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to arrange or choose (something) in a random way or order : to make (something) random • The numbers have been *randomized*. • a *randomized* selection/sequence • A *randomized* study of patients treated with the drug showed it to be effective.

R & R *abbr* rest and recreation; rest and recuperation; rest and relaxation • We rented a cottage in the country to get a little *R & R*.

randy /ˈrændi/ *adj* **rand•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly Brit, informal* : sexually excited • a *randy* [=*horny*] bachelor • She was feeling a little *randy*.

rang *past tense of* [3]RING

[1]range /ˈreɪnʤ/ *noun, pl* **rang•es**
1 [*count*] : a group or collection of different things or people that are usually similar in some way — usually singular; usually + *of* • We'll be covering a *range of* topics in this class. • The rugs are available in a *range of* colors. • The new computer system should solve a whole *range of* problems.
2 [*count*] : a series of numbers that includes the highest and lowest possible amounts — usually singular • What's the salary *range* for the job? [=what are the highest and lowest salaries that people are paid for the job?] • The car is out of our price *range*. [=it is too expensive] • Bicycles come in every price *range*. • The game is designed for children in the 7 to 13 age *range*. • His blood pressure is in the normal *range*. • Tickets cost in the $200 *range*. [=tickets cost approximately $200]
3 [*count*] : the total amount of ability, knowledge, experience, etc., that a person has — usually singular • an actor with an impressive *range* [=an impressive ability to act many roles] • The technical vocabulary is a little outside my *range* (of expertise).
4 [*count*] : all of the notes that a particular person can sing or that a particular musical instrument can make — usually singular • The song is out of my vocal *range*. • The singer's *range* has gotten broader over the years.
5 a : a specified distance [*noncount*] The photograph was taken at close/short *range*. [=taken from a close distance] • You can see the whole playing field at long *range*. [=from far away] [*count*] Both photographs were shot at close *ranges*.

R

b : the distance over which someone or something can see, hear, or reach someone or something else [*noncount*] We were within the siren's *range*. = We were within *range* of the siren. [=we could hear the siren] ▪ I can't get the radio station west of the mountains because I'm out of *range* there. ▪ She told the children not to wander out of *range* of her voice/vision. ▪ The troops were within *range* of the enemy's artillery. [*count*] a missile with a 400-mile *range* = a missile with a *range* of 400 miles ▪ The antenna gives the radio a *range* of about 20 miles. **c** [*count*] : the distance that an airplane or other vehicle can travel before it needs more fuel ▪ The airplane has a 1,200-mile *range*. = The airplane has a *range* of 1,200 miles.

6 [*count*] : a series of mountains or hills in a line ▪ the northern and southern mountain *ranges* — sometimes used in the names of mountain ranges ▪ the Cascade *Range*

7 *US* : open land that farm animals (such as cows and sheep) use for grazing and roaming : RANGELAND [*noncount*] the areas of open *range* in Wyoming [*count*] The book identifies plants that grow on the western *ranges*.

8 [*noncount*] : the ability to move around ▪ He wears loose clothing to give his arms and legs free *range* of motion.

9 [*count*] : the area in which an animal or plant naturally lives ▪ The grizzly bear's *range* is largely limited to the northwestern parts of North America.

10 [*count*] **a :** a place where people can practice shooting guns ▪ a firing/shooting/rifle *range* **b :** a place where weapons are tested ▪ a missile *range* **c :** a place where people can practice hitting golf balls : DRIVING RANGE

11 [*count*] *US* : a large piece of kitchen equipment that consists of an oven and a stove ▪ a gas/electric *range* [=(*Brit*) *cooker*] — see picture at KITCHEN

12 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a group of related products that are sold by one company ▪ The company has a wide product *range*. ▪ a full *range* [=*line*] of electrical supplies

²range *verb* **ranges; ranged; rang·ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to include everything between specified limits ▪ The selection of food *ranged* from mild to very spicy. ▪ The game is designed for children whose ages *range* between 7 and 13. = The game is designed for children *ranging* in age from 7 to 13. ▪ The rugs *range* in size/price/color. [=there is a variety of rugs in different sizes/prices/colors] ▪ Items on the menu *range* from American fare like hamburgers and hot dogs to Italian pasta dishes.

2 [*no obj*] : to live or grow in a particular area ▪ Grizzly bears *range* over a much smaller area than they once did. ▪ The plant once *ranged* across the island.

3 [*no obj*] : to move around an area ▪ The tribe *ranged* [=*roamed*] far and wide in search of good land. ▪ The farmers let the horses *range* [=*rove*] freely. — often used figuratively ▪ The essay *ranges* widely over a variety of topics.

4 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to arrange (people or things) in a particular place or area ▪ The children *ranged* themselves around the teacher's chair to listen to the story. — usually used as *(be) ranged* ▪ Chairs *were ranged* along the edge of the garden. ▪ Soldiers *were ranged* along the palace walls.

5 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to join with other people who support or oppose someone or something ▪ They have ***ranged themselves*** in opposition to the proposed new law. — often used as *(be) ranged* ▪ Several groups *are ranged* against the proposed new law. [=several groups have joined together to fight/oppose the proposed new law]

range·land /ˈreɪnʤˌlænd/ *noun, pl* **-lands** [*count, noncount*] *US* : open land that farm animals (such as cows and sheep) use for grazing and roaming

rang·er /ˈreɪnʤɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 a : a person in charge of managing and protecting part of a public forest ▪ She's now a *ranger* at a national forest in Montana. — called also *forest ranger* **b :** a person in charge of managing and protecting part of a national park ▪ We were fortunate enough to get a tour from a *ranger* when we visited Yellowstone National Park. — called also *park ranger*

2 : a soldier in the U.S. Army who has special training especially in fighting at close range

3 *Ranger* *Brit* : a girl between the ages of 14 and 19 who is a member of the Girl Guides organization — called also *Ranger Guide*

rangy /ˈreɪnʤi/ *adj* **rang·i·er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 *of a person* : tall and thin ▪ a *rangy* teenager

2 *of an animal* : having a long body and long legs ▪ *rangy* cattle

3 *of a plant* : tall and having few leaves ▪ a *rangy* shrub ▪ the plant's *rangy* stems

¹rank /ˈræŋk/ *noun, pl* **ranks**

1 a : a position in a society, organization, group, etc. [*noncount*] people of high *rank* and profession ▪ She's not concerned about *rank* or wealth. ▪ Unlike in chess, all the game pieces in checkers are of equal *rank*. [=*value*] [*count*] officers with the *rank* of captain ▪ He rose to the *rank* of partner in the law firm. ▪ He longed to join the upper social *ranks*. ▪ military *ranks* such as private, corporal, and sergeant ▪ He moved up/rose through the *ranks* to become vice president of the company. ▪ a photographer in the ***front rank*** [=an excellent photographer] ▪ a writer of the ***first rank*** [=an excellent writer] **b** [*noncount*] : a high position in a society, organization, group, etc. — usually used after *of* ▪ Expensive cars are sometimes seen as a badge *of rank*. ▪ The guest lecturer is a novelist *of rank* [=of high regard; of esteem] who has won many prestigious awards.

2 *ranks* [*plural*] **a :** the people or things that belong to a particular organization or group ▪ A company spokesperson announced that the company will be decreasing its *ranks* by 200. [=laying off 200 employees] ▪ The organization's *ranks* have doubled in the past two years. ▪ The restaurant has made it to the city's ***front ranks***. [=the restaurant is one of the best in the city] — often + *of* ▪ More older adults are choosing to join the *ranks of* college students. ▪ the growing/swelling *ranks of* vegetarians **b :** the people in the army, navy, air force, etc., who are not officers ▪ The flu swept through the *ranks*, infecting almost every soldier. ▪ Several men were selected from the *ranks*.

3 [*count*] : a row of people or things ▪ The troops stood in *ranks*. ▪ Twelve soldiers stood in the front *rank*. — compare ⁵FILE

4 [*count*] *Brit* : TAXI STAND

break ranks *also* ***break rank*** **1 :** to step out of a line ▪ The soldier was disciplined for *breaking ranks*. **2 :** to no longer agree with or support a person or group — often + *with* ▪ The senator decided to *break ranks with* others in his party and support the proposal. ▪ One scientist has *broken ranks with* her colleagues and questioned the research.

close ranks : to join together to support or protect someone or something that is in trouble ▪ The police officers *closed ranks* when their captain was being investigated for misconduct. ▪ The family *closed ranks* to protect one of their own.

pull rank : to use your high position in a society, organization, group, etc., to order someone to do something or to get special treatment or privileges ▪ He's their boss, but he doesn't like to *pull rank* (on them) if he can avoid it.

²rank *verb, not used in progressive tenses* **ranks; ranked; rank·ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to place (someone or something) in a particular position among a group of people or things that are being judged according to quality, ability, size, etc. ▪ A magazine recently *ranked* the school as one of the best in the country. — often used as *(be) ranked* ▪ The museum *is ranked* among the best in the U.S. ▪ The young gymnast *is ranked* fifth in the world. — see also OUTRANK **b** [*no obj*] : to have a particular position in a group of people or things that are being judged according to quality, ability, size, etc. ▪ The city currently *ranks* as the world's largest. ▪ Our professor *ranks* with/among the best in her field. [=is one of the best in her field] ▪ This kind of mistake *ranks* right up there with [=is as bad as] forgetting your mother's birthday. ▪ Students who *rank* in the top third of their class have a better chance of being accepted to the college of their choice.

2 [+ *obj*] : to arrange (people or things) in a line or row — usually used as *(be) ranked* ▪ The books *were* neatly *ranked* in rows.

³rank *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] : having a strong, unpleasant smell ▪ the *rank* [=*foul*] smell of the alley ▪ a *rank* odor

2 a [*more ~; most ~*] : very bad and obvious ▪ His *rank* [=*flagrant*] dishonesty makes it impossible to trust him. ▪ *rank* [=*glaring*] hypocrisy **b** *always used before a noun* : complete or total ▪ You can't expect a *rank* beginner like her to know all the rules of the game.

3 *of plants* : growing too quickly and over too much land ▪ *rank* weeds

rank and file *noun*

the rank and file **1 :** the people in the army, navy, air force, etc., who are not officers **2 :** the members of a group or organization who are not leaders ▪ *The rank and file* is/are unhappy with the chairman's decision. ▪ *the rank and file* of the union

– **rank–and–file** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *rank-and-file* members

[1]rank•ing /ˈræŋkɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly US* : having a high position or the highest position in a group or organization ▪ a *ranking* news analyst ▪ Who is the *ranking* officer here? ▪ the country's *ranking* law school — see also HIGH-RANKING, LOW-RANKING, TOP-RANKING

[2]ranking *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 *rank•ings* [*plural*] : a list of people or things that are ordered according to their quality, ability, size, etc. ▪ She is currently fifth in the world gymnastics *rankings*. [=she is ranked as the fifth best gymnast in the world] ▪ He is number two in the class *rankings*.

2 [*count*] : the position of a person or thing in the rankings ▪ The new coach led the team to a No. 1 *ranking*.

ran•kle /ˈræŋkəl/ *verb* **ran•kles**; **ran•kled**; **ran•kling** : to cause (someone) to feel angry or irritated especially for a long time [+ *obj*] The joke about her family *rankled* her. [*no obj*] The fact that he never repaid the money still *rankles* (with her) years later.

ran•sack /ˈrænˌsæk/ *verb* **-sacks**; **-sacked**; **-sack•ing** [+ *obj*] : to search (a place) for something in a way that causes disorder or damage ▪ Robbers *ransacked* the apartment looking for money. ▪ The room had been *ransacked*.

[1]ran•som /ˈrænsəm/ *noun, pl* **-soms** : money that is paid in order to free someone who has been captured or kidnapped [*count*] The kidnappers demanded a *ransom* of one million dollars. [*noncount*] The family is willing to pay *ransom* for his release. ▪ The *ransom* note explained the terms under which she would be released. ▪ *ransom* money/payment ▪ (*chiefly US*) A group of men is holding the ship's crew ***for ransom*** = (*Brit*) A group of men is holding the ship's crew ***to ransom*** — sometimes used figuratively ▪ (*Brit*) The boy used his bad temper to hold his mother *to ransom*, forcing her to buy him sweets. — see also KING'S RANSOM

[2]ransom *verb* **-soms**; **-somed**; **-som•ing** [+ *obj*] : to pay money in order to free (a person who has been captured or kidnapped) ▪ He was held captive for a week before he was *ransomed* and returned to his family.

rant /ˈrænt/ *verb* **rants**; **rant•ed**; **rant•ing** : to talk loudly and in a way that shows anger : to complain in a way that is unreasonable [*no obj*] "You can ***rant and rave*** all you want," she said, "but it's not going to change things." — often + *about* ▪ He always *rants about* the evils of the film industry. — often + *on* ▪ She *ranted on* for hours *about* the smoking ban. [+ *obj*] He *ranted* that they were out to get him.

– **rant** *noun, pl* **rants** [*count*] ▪ We had to listen to his *rant* about the evils of the film industry.

rant•ings /ˈræntɪŋz/ *noun* [*plural*] : loud and angry comments that continue for a long time ▪ the *rantings* of a crazy person

[1]rap /ˈræp/ *noun, pl* **raps**

1 [*count*] : a quick hit or knock ▪ I was startled by a sharp *rap* on/against/at the window/door. ▪ He gave me a *rap* on the knee.

2 [*count*] *US, informal* : a statement by police or the government saying that someone has committed a crime — usually singular ▪ She faces a murder *rap* [=*charge*] for the death of her boyfriend. — see also BEAT THE RAP (below)

3 *the rap* *informal* : the blame or punishment for something ▪ He ***took the rap*** for his brother in order to protect him.

4 [*count*] *US, informal* : a complaint *against* someone or something : something that someone or something is criticized for — usually singular ▪ The main *rap against* him is that he isn't totally honest about what he knows.

a rap on/over/across the knuckles *informal* : criticism or punishment that is given in a gentle way for something that you did wrong ▪ I received *a rap on the knuckles* for missing the meeting.

beat the rap *US, informal* : to avoid being sent to jail for a crime ▪ He was arrested for assault, but he *beat the rap*.

bum rap *informal* **1** *US* : an unfair claim that someone has committed a crime or done something wrong ▪ The defendant was sent to jail on a *bum rap*. **2** *chiefly US* : a criticism or bad opinion that is not deserved or fair ▪ The teenagers say they've all ***gotten a bum rap*** because one person damaged some property. ▪ She thinks motorboats *get a bum rap* from environmentalists. ▪ He was ***given a bum rap*** by reviewers.

– compare [3]RAP

[2]rap *verb* **raps**; **rapped**; **rap•ping**

1 : to quickly hit or knock (something) several or many times [+ *obj*] The teacher *rapped* the desk with her knuckles. ▪ The boy teased the dog by *rapping* a stick on the fence. [*no obj*] Someone was *rapping* on the door.

2 [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to say (something) quickly and forcefully — usually + *out* ▪ The officer *rapped out* [=*barked out*] a command.

3 [+ *obj*] : to criticize (someone or something) publicly ▪ The report *raps* the organization for failing to develop a plan.

rap someone on/over/across the knuckles *or* ***rap someone's knuckles*** : to criticize or punish someone in a gentle way for doing something wrong ▪ The boss *rapped me over/on the knuckles* for missing the meeting.

– compare [4]RAP

[3]rap *noun, pl* **raps**

1 [*noncount*] : a type of music that has words that are spoken with the rhythm instead of being sung ▪ He listens mostly to *rap*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *rap* album/artist/group/song ▪ *rap* music

2 [*count*] : a rap song ▪ He performed a *rap*.

– compare [1]RAP

[4]rap *verb* **raps**; **rapped**; **rapping** [*no obj*]

1 : to perform rap music or a rap song ▪ The band has been *rapping* at local clubs. ▪ He *raps* in the band.

2 *informal* : to talk in a free and informal way ▪ I enjoyed *rapping* with him about sports.

– compare [2]RAP

ra•pa•cious /rəˈpeɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : always wanting more money, possessions, etc. : wanting more than is needed or deserved ▪ a *rapacious* thief ▪ a *rapacious* [=*greedy*] businessman

– **ra•pa•cious•ly** *adv* – **ra•pa•cious•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] – **ra•pac•i•ty** /rəˈpæsəti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]rape /ˈreɪp/ *verb* **rapes**; **raped**; **rap•ing** [+ *obj*] : to force (someone) to have sex with you by using violence or the threat of violence ▪ He is accused of *raping* the girl. ▪ She was *raped* by a fellow student.

[2]rape *noun, pl* **rapes**

1 : the crime of forcing someone to have sex with you by using violence or the threat of violence [*noncount*] He has been charged with (committing) *rape*. [*count*] There has been a decrease in the number of reported *rapes*. ▪ a *rape* trial [=the trial of someone who has been accused of rape] ▪ *rape* victims — see also DATE RAPE, GANG RAPE, STATUTORY RAPE

2 [*noncount*] *literary* : the act of ruining or destroying something — usually + *of* ▪ the *rape of* the land ▪ the *rape of* privacy

– compare [3]RAPE

[3]rape *noun* [*noncount*] : a plant that is grown as food for farm animals and as a source of oil ▪ *rape* oil — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *oilseed rape, rapeseed* — compare [2]RAPE

rape•seed /ˈreɪpˌsi:d/ *noun, pl* **-seeds**

1 [*noncount*] : [3]RAPE

2 [*count*] : the seed of the rape plant

rap•id /ˈræpəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : happening in a short amount of time : happening quickly ▪ a *rapid* [=*quick*] change in temperature ▪ There's been *rapid* growth in the number of new businesses in the town. ▪ Scientists are concerned about the *rapid* disappearance of the island's coral reefs.

2 : having a fast rate ▪ a *rapid* heartbeat ▪ *rapid* breathing

3 : moving quickly ▪ She carefully guided the boat through the *rapid* water.

– **ra•pid•i•ty** /rəˈpɪdəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Doctors were amazed by the *rapidity* [=*speed*] of his recovery. – **rap•id•ly** *adv* ▪ the *rapidly* [=*quickly*] changing temperature ▪ He was breathing *rapidly*. ▪ Her heart beat *rapidly*.

rapid eye movement sleep *noun* [*noncount*] : REM SLEEP

rap•id–fire /ˌræpədˈfajɚ/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : coming quickly one after another ▪ The comedian's *rapid-fire* jokes kept the audience laughing. ▪ *rapid-fire* changes

2 *of a weapon* : able to quickly shoot bullets one after another ▪ a *rapid-fire* rifle

rap•ids /ˈræpədz/ *noun* [*plural*] : a part of a river where the water flows very fast usually over rocks

shoot the rapids see [1]SHOOT

rapid transit *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : the system that is used in cities for quickly bringing people to and from places on trains, buses, etc. ▪ We'll use *rapid transit* to get from the airport to the hotel.

R

[1]ra•pi•er /'reɪpijɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a straight sword that has a narrow blade with sharp edges

[2]rapier *adj, always used before a noun* : extremely sharp ▪ his *rapier* wit

rap•ist /'reɪpɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a person who rapes someone : a person who commits rape ▪ a convicted *rapist*

rap•pel /rə'pɛl/ *verb* **-pels**; **-pelled**; **-pel•ling** [*no obj*] *US* : to move down a steep cliff, rock, etc., by pushing your feet against its surface and sliding down a rope ▪ They *rappelled* [=(*chiefly Brit*) *abseiled*] down the rock's face.

rap•per /'ræpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] : a person who performs rap music or speaks the words of a rap song

rap•port /ræ'poɚ/ *noun, formal* : a friendly relationship [*singular*] He quickly developed a good *rapport* with the other teachers. [*noncount*] She works hard to build *rapport* with her patients. ▪ There is a lack of *rapport* between the members of the group.

rap•por•teur /ˌræˌpoɚ'tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-teurs** [*count*] : a person whose job is to do research and present official reports on a particular subject ▪ He was selected to be the UN's *rapporteur* on nuclear energy.

rap•proche•ment /ˌræˌproʊʃ'mɑ:nt, *Brit* ræ'prɒʃmɒŋ/ *noun, formal* : the development of friendlier relations between countries or groups of people who have been enemies [*singular*] Officials hope that these talks will lead to a *rapprochement* with the rebels. [*noncount*] The possibility of *rapprochement* between the two countries seems unlikely.

rap session *noun, pl* ~ **-sions** [*count*] *US, informal* : a meeting at which a group of people talk informally about a particular subject ▪ a *rap session* for teenagers about/on drunk driving

rap sheet *noun, pl* ~ **sheets** [*count*] *US, informal* : a list kept by the police of all the times a person has been arrested ▪ He has a long *rap sheet*. [=he has been arrested many times] — called also (*Brit*) *charge sheet*

rapt /'ræpt/ *adj, literary + formal* : showing complete interest in something ▪ The students listened with *rapt* attention. ▪ *rapt* audiences ▪ The children sat *rapt* as the puppets danced. – **rapt•ly** *adv* ▪ The students listened *raptly*.

rap•tor /'ræptɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] *technical*
1 : a bird (such as an eagle or hawk) that kills and eats other animals for food : BIRD OF PREY
2 : a small or medium-sized dinosaur that ate other animals

rap•ture /'ræptʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** *literary + formal* : a state or feeling of great happiness, pleasure, or love [*noncount*] We listened with *rapture* as the orchestra played. ▪ a smile of *rapture* ▪ He listened to the wind in the trees, his eyes closed ***in rapture***. [*count*] — usually plural ▪ This dessert will send people who like chocolate ***into raptures***. [=this dessert will be loved by people who like chocolate] ▪ Critics ***went into raptures*** over her performance.

rap•tur•ous /'ræptʃərəs/ *adj* : showing extreme pleasure, love, or enthusiasm for someone or something ▪ The novel has received *rapturous* [=*ecstatic*] reviews. ▪ *rapturous* applause ▪ a *rapturous* description of the landscape – **rap•tur•ous•ly** *adv*

[1]rare /'reɚ/ *adj* **rar•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : not common or usual : not often done, seen, or happening ▪ She has the *rare* [=*uncommon*] ability to make people feel comfortable even in difficult situations. ▪ These colors are *rare* [=*infrequent*] among birds of North America. ▪ a *rare* disease ▪ It is still *rare* [=*unusual*] for a woman to hold an executive position in some industries. ▪ He had the *rare* opportunity of meeting the President. ▪ Only in *rare* instances is surgery necessary to treat the condition. ▪ He eats meat only on *rare* occasions.
2 : having only a few of its kind in existence ▪ a collection of *rare* books ▪ a list of *rare* and endangered species ▪ a *rare* [=*scarce*] gem
3 *technical, of air* : not having much oxygen : RAREFIED ▪ It's difficult to breathe in the *rare* air at these heights.
– compare [2]RARE
– **rare•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The gem's *rareness* [=*rarity, scarcity*] makes it very expensive.

[2]rare *adj, of meat* : cooked for only a short time so that the inside is still red ▪ *rare* roast beef ▪ I like my steak *rare*. — compare MEDIUM, WELL-DONE — compare [1]RARE – **rare** *adv* ▪ "How would you like your steak cooked/done?" "*Rare*, please."

rare bird *noun, pl* ~ **birds** [*count*] : an unusual or uncommon person or thing ▪ The little diner is a *rare bird* in a city full of expensive restaurants.

rare•bit /'reɚbət/ *noun, pl* **-bits** [*count, noncount*] : WELSH RAREBIT

rar•e•fied /'rerəˌfaɪd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *often disapproving* : understood by only a small group of people : only for people who know about a particular thing ▪ She has never been comfortable in the *rarefied* [=*esoteric*] world of art dealers.
2 *technical, of air* : not having much oxygen because of being high up in the atmosphere ▪ It's difficult to breathe in the *rarefied* air near the mountain's peak.

rare•ly /'reɚli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not very often ▪ She *rarely* talks about her past. ▪ These machines only need to be fixed very *rarely*. = These machines *rarely* need to be fixed. ▪ The temperature *rarely* [=*seldom*] drops below freezing here. ▪ *Rarely* do we see this kind of weather in our area. ▪ ***Only rarely*** is surgery necessary to treat this condition.
rarely ever see EVER
rarely if ever see EVER

rar•ing /'rerən/ *adj, informal* : ready and excited to start *to do* something : very eager ▪ The kids are *raring* to get to work on the tree house. ▪ She's been ***raring to go*** since dawn.

rar•i•ty /'rerəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**
1 [*count*] : a person or thing that is not common or usual : a person or thing that is not seen or does not happen often ▪ In most sports, athletes over the age of 50 are *rarities*. ▪ Snow is a *rarity* in this part of the world.
2 [*count*] : something that is valuable because there are few of its kind ▪ He is selling most of his collection, keeping only the real *rarities*.
3 [*noncount*] : the quality of being rare ▪ The *rarity* of the disease makes it difficult to diagnose.

ras•cal /'ræskəl, *Brit* 'rɑ:skəl/ *noun, pl* **-cals** [*count*]
1 *informal + humorous* : a person and especially a young person who causes trouble or does things that annoy people ▪ Which one of you *rascals* woke me up?
2 *old-fashioned* : a cruel or dishonest man ▪ a lying *rascal*
– **ras•cal•ly** *adj, old-fashioned* ▪ *rascally* kids ▪ a *rascally* man

[1]rash /'ræʃ/ *noun, pl* **rash•es**
1 : a group of red spots on the skin that is caused by an illness or a reaction to something [*count*] The baby has a skin *rash*. ▪ The doctor said she developed the *rash* because of the medicine. ▪ an itchy *rash* ▪ I ***break out in a rash*** if I eat shellfish. [*noncount*] Symptoms of the disease include *rash* and fever. — see also DIAPER RASH, HEAT RASH
2 [*singular*] : a series *of* usually unpleasant things or events that happen in a short period of time ▪ There has been a *rash of* robberies in the city this summer. ▪ a *rash of* fires

[2]rash *adj*
1 : done or made quickly and without thought about what will happen as a result ▪ He later regretted having made such a *rash* [=*hasty*] promise. ▪ Their *rash* actions resulted in a serious accident that could have killed someone. ▪ a *rash* statement ▪ Please don't do anything *rash*. [=*foolish*]
2 *not used before a noun* : doing something quickly and without thinking carefully about what will happen as a result ▪ Don't be *rash* about this decision. Take your time. ▪ It was *rash* of you to make that promise.
– **rash•ly** *adv* ▪ He had promised *rashly* to take care of the farm for her. – **rash•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

rash•er /'ræʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a thin piece of bacon or ham ▪ We were served eggs, a few *rashers* (of bacon), and coffee.

[1]rasp /'ræsp, *Brit* 'rɑ:sp/ *verb* **rasps**; **rasped**; **rasp•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to speak in a way that sounds rough or harsh ▪ "Let go of my arm," she *rasped*.
2 [*no obj*] : to make a rough, harsh sound ▪ The metal boxes *rasped* as they were dragged across the floor.
3 [+ *obj*] : to rub (something) with a rough object or substance ▪ I used a rock to *rasp* (away) the rough parts of the stick.
– **rasping** *adj* ▪ a *rasping* [=*rough, harsh*] voice

[2]rasp *noun, pl* **rasps**
1 [*count*] : a metal tool that has sharp points and that is used to make rough surfaces smooth
2 [*singular*] : a rough, harsh sound — often + *of* ▪ He heard the *rasp of* metal boxes being dragged across the floor.

rasp•ber•ry /'ræzˌberi, *Brit* 'rɑ:zbri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*]
1 : a soft, red berry that is sweet and juicy ▪ ice cream with *raspberries* ▪ *raspberry* jam — see color picture on page C5
2 *informal* : a rude sound made by pushing your tongue outside your lips and blowing air out of your mouth ▪ One of the

children made/blew a *raspberry* at him. — called also (*US*) *Bronx cheer*

raspy /ˈræspi, *Brit* ˈrɑːspi/ *adj* **rasp•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : having a rough, harsh sound • Her voice was *raspy* from yelling so much.

Ras•ta /ˈrɑːstə, *Brit* ˈræstə/ *noun, pl* **-tas** [*count*] *informal* : RASTAFARIAN

Ras•ta•far•i•an /ˌrɑːstəˈfɑrijən, *Brit* ˌræstəˈfɛriən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] : a member of a religious movement among black Jamaicans which teaches that black people will eventually return to Africa and which worships Haile Selassie, the former Emperor of Ethiopia ✧ Rastafarians usually wear dreadlocks and do not eat meat.

– **Ras•ta•far•i•an•ism** /ˌrɑːstəˈfɑrijəˌnɪzəm, *Brit* ˌræstəˈfɛriəˌnɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]rat /ˈræt/ *noun, pl* **rats** [*count*]

1 : a small animal that has a pointed nose and a long, thin tail • a dirty old building infested by *rats* and mice • a ***lab/laboratory rat*** [=a rat that is used by scientists for experiments] • He came in from the rain looking like a ***drowned rat***. [=looking very wet and miserable] — see picture at RODENT

2 *informal* **a** : a person who is not loyal or who cannot be trusted • I can't believe that *rat* turned us in to the police! **b** : a person who is bad or cruel • No one understands why she's with a *rat* like him.

3 *US, informal* : a person who spends a lot of time in a specified place • a mall *rat* • Every night he goes to work out with the other gym *rats*.

smell a rat *informal* : to think or suspect that something is wrong about a situation • She *smelled a rat* when her husband came home with lipstick on his collar.

– see also PACK RAT, RUGRAT

[2]rat *verb* **rats**; **rat•ted**; **rat•ting** *informal* : to tell someone in authority (such as the police) about something wrong that someone has done : to betray someone [*no obj*] The teacher knows what we did, which means that somebody *ratted*. — often + *on* • I am trying to find out who *ratted on* me. [+ *obj*] (*US*) — + *out* • Someone *ratted* him *out* to the police. • They accused him of *ratting out* his own brother.

rat–arsed /ˈræt-ˌɑəst/ *adj, not used before a noun, Brit slang* : very drunk

rat–a–tat /ˈrætəˌtæt/ *or* **rat–a–tat–tat** /ˌrætəˌtætˈtæt/ *noun* [*singular*] : a quick series of knocking, tapping, or cracking sounds • the *rat-a-tat* of gunfire

ra•ta•tou•ille /ˌræˌtæˈtwiː/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a thick stew that is made of vegetables (such as eggplant, tomatoes, and squash) and sometimes meat

[1]ratch•et /ˈrætʃət/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*] : a device made up of a wheel or bar with many teeth along its edge in between which a piece fits so that the wheel or bar can move only in one direction

[2]ratchet *verb* **-ets**; **-et•ed**; **-et•ing** [+ *obj*] : to increase or decrease (something) especially by a series of small steps or amounts — usually + *up* or *down* • Banks are *ratcheting up* interest rates. • A little salt will *ratchet up* the flavor. • The company *ratcheted down* costs by using cheaper materials.

[1]rate /ˈreɪt/ *noun, pl* **rates** [*count*]

1 : the speed at which something happens over a particular period of time • The cold weather meant a slower growing *rate* for many crops. • At the *rate* we're moving, it will be morning before we arrive. • People work at different *rates*. • Gun violence is increasing at an alarming *rate*. • Snow was falling at a *rate* of three inches per hour. • There has been a fall in the *rate* of inflation.

2 : the number of times something happens or is done during a particular period of time • There is a high success *rate* for this surgery. [=this surgery is often/usually successful] • Economists are concerned about the city's rising unemployment *rate*. [=the increasing number of people who are unemployed] • Crime *rates* have declined in recent years. • The nurse will check your ***heart/pulse rate***. [=the number of times your heart beats in a minute] — see also BIRTHRATE, DEATH RATE

3 : an amount that is paid : a price or amount to be paid that is set according to a scale or standard • The hotel's *rates* start at $65/night. [=the least expensive rooms at the hotel cost $65 for one night's stay and other rooms cost more than $65] • What's the interest *rate* on the loan? • tax *rates* • Regular admission to the theater is $12, the student *rate* is $8, and the *rate* for senior citizens is $6. — see also EXCHANGE RATE, PRIME RATE

at any rate — used to indicate that something is true or certain regardless of what else has happened or been said • This restaurant has the best food—or *at any rate*, the best pasta dishes—in the city. • *At any rate* [=*in any case*], cooking with fresh ingredients makes everything taste better. • It is possible that she was nervous. *At any rate*, her singing was still good.

at a rate of knots *Brit, informal* : very fast or quickly • We were bowling along the motorway *at a rate of knots*.

at this/that rate : if things continue to happen in the same way they have been happening • *At this rate*, the town's farmland will be gone within 20 years.

going rate : the average or usual price that is charged for something • What's the *going rate* for a new computer? • You can hire a babysitter for a *going rate* of $10/hour.

[2]rate *verb* **rates**; **rat•ed**; **rat•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to make a judgment about the quality, ability, or value of (someone or something) • On a scale of 1 to 5, I'd *rate* the book at/a 4. • Judges *rated* each song according to a number of criteria. — often used as *(be) rated* • The school *is rated* above average. • the highest *rated* [=*ranking*] radio show — see also OVERRATE, UNDERRATE **b** [*no obj*] : to be judged as having a particular level of quality, ability, or value • The car *rates* as one of the best on the market. [=the car is one of the best on the market] • The movie *rates* among the worst ever. • The shoes *rate* high as far as comfort goes, but they're not very stylish.

2 [+ *obj*] : to consider something or someone to be (something) • The boat is just large enough to be *rated* a ship. • Based on recent polls, the policy should be *rated* a failure.

3 [+ *obj*] : to officially state that a movie, video game, etc., is appropriate for a specific audience — usually used as *(be) rated* • The movie *is rated* G for general audiences.

4 [+ *obj*] : to state the normal power or limit of (a machine, engine, etc.) — usually used as *(be) rated* • The submarine *is rated* to withstand tons of pressure. — usually + *at* • The engine *is rated at* 500 horsepower. • an outlet *rated at* 15 amps

5 [+ *obj*] : to deserve (something) because of being important, good, etc. • The new museum *rates* a visit. [=the new museum is worth visiting] • I don't understand why the ceremony didn't even *rate* [=*merit*] a mention in the newspaper. [=I don't understand why the ceremony wasn't mentioned in the newspaper]

6 [*no obj*] *US, informal* : to be liked by someone and get special treatment or privileges — usually + *with* • He really *rates with* the boss. [=the boss really likes him]

7 [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : to think of (someone or something) as being good or of a high quality : LIKE • I don't *rate* their chances (of winning). • They didn't *rate* him as a player.

rate of exchange *noun, pl* **rates of exchange** [*count*] : EXCHANGE RATE

rath•er /ˈræðɚ, *Brit* ˈrɑːðə/ *adv*

1 : to some degree or extent • Yesterday was a *rather* [=*fairly*] hot day. • That sounded *rather* [=quite a bit] like thunder. • a *rather* [=*quite*] common flower • It's getting *rather* [=*pretty*] late. We'd better get to bed. • The movie is a comedy, but *rather* a dull one. • a *rather* [=*somewhat*] serious condition • I think the children watch *rather* too much television. • It *rather* annoyed me that he was late picking me up. — often used to make a statement less forceful • He has been spending *rather* a lot of money lately. • She *rather* likes chocolate. • To tell you the truth, I *rather* think you are wrong. • You're driving *rather* fast, don't you think?

2 a — used to introduce a statement that indicates what is true after you have said what is not true • I don't like chocolate—*rather*, I love chocolate. • What matters is not how often you call, ***but rather*** what you say. • It wasn't red *but rather* a shade of bright orange. **b** — used to introduce a statement that corrects what you have just said • We can take the car, ***or rather***, the van. • My father, *or rather*, my stepfather, will be visiting soon.

3 *Brit, old-fashioned* — used to express agreement • "Wasn't the show fantastic?" "*Rather*!"

rather than **1** : in place of (something or someone) : instead of (something or someone) • He writes at a table *rather than* a desk. • Why do one thing *rather than* another? • *Rather than* using dried herbs, he picked fresh ones from the garden. : and not • She reacted by laughing *rather than* by getting upset. • He was happy *rather than* sad. **2** — used to say what is not chosen or done because something else is chosen or done instead • *Rather than* continue the argument, she walked away. • I chose to sing *rather than* play an instrument.

would rather — used to indicate what you want or prefer to

R

do, have, etc. ▪ She *would rather* drive than take the train. ▪ I *would rather* you didn't tell them. [=I would prefer it if you didn't tell them] ▪ We'*d rather* go somewhere warm. [=we'd prefer to go somewhere warm] ▪ "If you'*d rather*, we can go outside." "No, thanks—I'*d rather* not." ▪ Which beach *would* you *rather* [=would you like to] go to?

rat•i•fy /'rætəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (a treaty, agreement, etc.) official by signing it or voting for it ▪ A number of countries have refused to *ratify* the treaty.

– **rat•i•fi•ca•tion** /ˌrætəfə'keɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *ratification* of the treaty

rating *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*count*] : a measurement of how good, difficult, efficient, etc., something or someone is ▪ The President's approval *rating* is lower than it was a month ago. [=fewer people approve of the President this month] ▪ The school has an above-average academic *rating*. ▪ The article compares the fuel-economy *ratings* of various cars. — see also CREDIT RATING

2 ***the ratings*** : numbers that show how many people watch or listen to a particular television or radio program ▪ "How is the show doing in *the ratings*?" "It's down in *the ratings* [=few people are watching it]. I think it'll be canceled."

3 [*count*] : a symbol that is officially given to a movie, video game, etc., to tell people what audience it is appropriate for ▪ Both movies received G *ratings*. [=both movies are rated G; both movies are appropriate for people of all ages]

4 [*count*] : a statement about the normal power or limit of a machine, engine, etc. ▪ a 15 amp *rating* ▪ The car has a horsepower *rating* of 500.

5 [*count*] *Brit* : someone in the navy who is not an officer

ra•tio /'reɪʃiˌoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-tios** [*count*] : the relationship that exists between the size, number, or amount of two things and that is often represented by two numbers ▪ The college has a 12:1 *ratio* between students and teachers. = The college's student-to-teacher *ratio* is 12 to 1. [=for every 12 students, there is one teacher] ▪ What is the length-to-width *ratio*? — often + *of* ▪ The *ratio of* students to teachers is 12 to 1. ▪ Women outnumbered men by a *ratio of* three to two. [=for every three women, there were two men] ▪ The office has a high *ratio of* males to females. [=there are many more males that work at the office than females] — see also ASPECT RATIO

[1]ra•tion /'ræʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 a [*count*] : a particular amount of food that is given to one person or animal for one day ▪ The soldiers were given their *rations* for the day. ▪ The horse was fed its *ration* of oats. ▪ The prisoners were kept ***on short rations***. [=were given very little to eat each day] **b** ***rations*** [*plural*] : food or supplies ▪ The campers were getting low on *rations*. [=had used most of their food]

2 [*count*] : a particular amount of something (such as gasoline or food) that the government allows you to have when there is not enough of it ▪ a gas *ration* ▪ weekly sugar and butter *rations*

[2]ration *verb* **-tions**; **-tioned**; **-tion•ing** [+ *obj*] : to control the amount of (something, such as gasoline or food) that people are allowed to have especially when there is not enough of it ▪ During the war, the government *rationed* gasoline. — often used as *(be) rationed* ▪ Gasoline *was rationed* during the war.

– **rationing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The drought has forced the government to institute water *rationing*.

ra•tio•nal /'ræʃənl/ *adj*

1 : based on facts or reason and not on emotions or feelings ▪ a *rational* decision/choice ▪ I'm sure there is a *rational* [=*sensible, reasonable*] explanation for his decision.

2 : having the ability to reason or think about things clearly ▪ No *rational* [=*sane*] person would behave like that. ▪ Humans are *rational* beings. [=are able to use reason when thinking about something] — opposite IRRATIONAL

– **ra•tio•nal•i•ty** /ˌræʃə'nælәti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* ▪ The *rationality* of that statement is questionable. – **ra•tio•nal•ly** *adv* ▪ Think about the problem *rationally*. ▪ She stayed calm and acted *rationally*. [=*sensibly*]

ra•tio•nale /ˌræʃə'næl/ *noun, pl* **-nales** [*count*] *somewhat formal* : the reason or explanation for something — usually singular ▪ That was a strange decision. What was their *rationale*? — often + *for, behind*, or *of* ▪ What was her *rationale for* leaving school? ▪ He explained the *rationale behind* his early retirement. ▪ I don't understand the *rationale of* his decision.

ra•tio•nal•ism /'ræʃənəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *philosophy* : the belief that reason and experience and not emotions or religious beliefs should be the basis for your actions, opinions, etc.

– **ra•tio•nal•ist** /'ræʃənəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] – **rationalist** *or* **ra•tio•nal•is•tic** /ˌræʃənə'lɪstɪk/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *rationalist* philosophy/thinker

ra•tio•nal•ize *also Brit* **ra•tio•nal•ise** /'ræʃənəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing**

1 : to think about or describe something (such as bad behavior) in a way that explains it and makes it seem proper, more attractive, etc. [+ *obj*] She tried to *rationalize* her grandson's strange behavior by blaming it on the boy's father. ▪ He couldn't *rationalize* buying such an expensive car. [*no obj*] She knows she shouldn't have done it—she's just trying to *rationalize*.

2 [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to find ways to make (something, such as an industry, a company, etc.) waste less time, effort, and money ▪ Management is thinking of ways to *rationalize* our system of production.

– **ra•tio•nal•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **ra•tio•nal•i•sa•tion** /ˌræʃənələ'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌræʃənəˌlaɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ Listening to his *rationalizations* [=*excuses*] makes me angry.

rat race *noun*

the rat race : the unpleasant life of people who have jobs that require them to work very hard in order to compete with others for money, power, status, etc. ▪ She is quitting *the rat race* to spend time with her family. ▪ He wants to get out of *the rat race*.

rat run *noun, pl* ~ **runs** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a small street that connects larger roads and that drivers use to get more quickly to the place they are going

rats /'ræts/ *interj, informal* — used to express disappointment or annoyance ▪ *Rats*! I lost again. ▪ *Rats*! I left my pocketbook in the car.

rat•tan /ræ'tæn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a plant with very long, strong stems that are woven together to make baskets, furniture, etc. ▪ baskets made of *rattan* — often used before another noun ▪ a *rattan* [=*wicker*] chair

[1]rat•tle /'rætl/ *verb* **rat•tles**; **rat•tled**; **rat•tling**

1 a [*no obj*] : to hit against something repeatedly and make a quick series of short, loud sounds ▪ The window *rattled* as the truck drove by. ▪ The coins *rattled* in the box. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to move or shake and make a series of noises : to cause (something) to rattle ▪ She *rattled* the jar with the coins in it. = She *rattled* the coins in the jar.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to make quick, short, loud sounds while moving ▪ The old truck *rattled* down the street. ▪ The train *rattled* by.

3 [+ *obj*] : to upset or disturb (someone) ▪ The question *rattled* [=*unnerved*] the speaker. — often used as *(be) rattled* ▪ I *was rattled* by his questions. ▪ He's an experienced performer who *is* not easily *rattled*.

rattle around [*phrasal verb*] ***rattle around or rattle around (something)*** *informal* : to live or spend time in a place that is very big ▪ Her husband died last year, and now she's just *rattling around* in that huge house by herself. ▪ *rattle around* the house ▪ We *rattled around* Europe last summer. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ An old song has been *rattling around* in my head all day.

rattle off [*phrasal verb*] ***rattle (something) off or rattle off (something)*** *informal* : to say (something) quickly or easily from memory ▪ The teacher *rattled off* the answers. ▪ She *rattled off* the names of all 50 states.

rattle on [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to talk for a long time about things that are not interesting or important — often + *about* ▪ Grandpa would *rattle on* [=*go on*] *about* his childhood for hours. ▪ She ***rattled on and on about*** the party. [=she talked for a long time about the party]

rattle someone's cage see CAGE

rattle through [*phrasal verb*] ***rattle through (something)*** *Brit* : to do (something) quickly ▪ We *rattled through* the meeting.

– see also SABER-RATTLING

[2]rattle *noun, pl* **rattles** [*count*]

1 : a series of short, loud sounds — usually singular ▪ We heard a *rattle* from inside the box. ▪ the *rattle* of machine guns

2 : a baby's toy that makes a series of short sounds when it is shaken

3 : the group of hard, loose pieces (called scales) that cover the end of a rattlesnake's tail

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rat•tler /ˈrætl̩ɚ/ *noun, pl* **rat•tlers** [*count*] *informal* : RATTLESNAKE

rat•tle•snake /ˈrætl̩ˌsneɪk/ *noun, pl* **-snakes** [*count*] : a poisonous American snake with a group of hard, loose pieces (called scales) at the end of its tail that it shakes to make a noise

rat•tle•trap /ˈrætl̩ˌtræp/ *noun, pl* **-traps** [*count*] *US, informal* : something (such as a car) that is old, noisy, and not in good condition ▪ Are you still driving that old *rattletrap*? — often used before another noun ▪ a *rattletrap* car/bus

rattling /ˈrætlɪŋ/ *adv, Brit, informal + old-fashioned* : very or extremely ▪ a *rattling* good story

rat•ty /ˈræti/ *adj* **rat•ti•er**; **-est** *informal*
1 *US* : in very bad condition ▪ a *ratty* [=*shabby*] old sweater ▪ *ratty* [=*unkempt*] hair ▪ Those shoes are getting pretty *ratty*.
2 *Brit* : easily angered or annoyed ▪ She gets *ratty* [=(*chiefly US*) *cranky*] if she doesn't get enough sleep.

rau•cous /ˈrɑːkəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : loud and unpleasant to listen to ▪ *raucous* shouts/laughter
2 : behaving in a very rough and noisy way ▪ a *raucous* crowd
– **rau•cous•ly** *adv* – **rau•cous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

raunch /ˈrɑːnʧ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal + sometimes disapproving* : something that deals with or relates to sex in usually a shocking or offensive way ▪ a movie full of *raunch*

raun•chy /ˈrɑːnʧi/ *adj* **raun•chi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal*
1 : dealing with or suggesting sex in a way that is somewhat shocking ▪ a *raunchy* [=*dirty*] magazine/movie/joke
2 *US, disapproving* : very dirty, smelly, etc. ▪ *raunchy* old sneakers ▪ a *raunchy* smell
– **raun•chi•ness** /ˈrɑːnʧinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

rav•age /ˈrævɪʤ/ *verb* **rav•ag•es**; **rav•aged**; **rav•ag•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to damage or harm (something) very badly ▪ The enemy *ravaged* [=*plundered*] the village. — often used as *(be) ravaged* ▪ The village *was ravaged* [=*devastated*] by the plague. ▪ The forest *was ravaged* by fire. ▪ the *ravaged* people/city/land

rav•ages /ˈrævɪʤəz/ *noun* [*plural*] *literary* : destruction or damage — usually + *of* ▪ the *ravages of* war/disease — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Her face showed ***the ravages of time***. [=her face looked old, wrinkled, etc.]

[1]rave /ˈreɪv/ *verb* **raves**; **raved**; **rav•ing**
1 : to talk or write about someone or something in an excited or enthusiastic way [*no obj*] — usually + *about* or *over* ▪ Critics *raved about* the new play. ▪ Customers *rave over* the restaurant's pizza. [+ *obj*] "It's his best performance yet," *raved* one movie critic.
2 [*no obj*] : to talk loudly in an angry or wild way ▪ The guy on the corner was *raving* like a madman. ▪ The coach ***ranted and raved*** at the referee.

[2]rave *noun, pl* **raves** [*count*]
1 : a statement of enthusiastic praise or approval ▪ Her review of the movie was a *rave*. — often plural in U.S. English ▪ The movie got *raves* from the critics. [=the critics praised the movie very enthusiastically] — often used in the phrase ***rave review*** ▪ The movie got *rave reviews* from the critics. [=was highly praised by the critics] ▪ My kids give my cooking *rave reviews*.
2 : a large party that lasts all night in which people dance to electronic dance music

rav•el /ˈrævəl/ *verb* **-els**; *US* **-eled** *or chiefly Brit* **-elled**; *US* **-el•ing** *or chiefly Brit* **-el•ling** [*no obj*] *formal + literary* : to become divided into separate threads : UNRAVEL ▪ The fabric will *ravel*.
– **raveled** (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **ravelled** *adj* ▪ a *ravelled* edge ▪ a *raveled* sleeve

[1]ra•ven /ˈreɪvən/ *noun, pl* **-vens** [*count*] : a bird that has shiny black feathers and looks like a crow but is larger

[2]raven *adj, always used before a noun, literary* : shiny and black ▪ *raven* hair

rav•en•ing /ˈrævənɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun, literary* : hungry and eager to kill ▪ *ravening* wolves — often used figuratively ▪ the *ravening* paparazzi

rav•en•ous /ˈrævənəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very hungry ▪ By the time dinner was ready, we were *ravenous*. ▪ a *ravenous* wolf ▪ After hiking all day, I had a ***ravenous appetite***. [=I was extremely hungry] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She was *ravenous* for public attention.
– **rav•en•ous•ly** *adv* ▪ I felt *ravenously* hungry. ▪ The birds were feeding *ravenously* after their long flight.

rav•er /ˈreɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : someone who goes to a rave
2 *Brit* : someone who goes to many parties

ra•vine /rəˈviːn/ *noun, pl* **-vines** [*count*] : a small, deep, narrow valley

[1]raving *adj, always used before a noun, informal*
1 : talking or acting in a crazy way ▪ a *raving* lunatic
2 : very great — used to make a description more forceful ▪ She's cute, but she's no *raving* beauty. ▪ a *raving* success

[2]raving *adv, informal* : completely or fully ▪ That guy is ***(stark) raving mad***. [=that guy is completely insane]

rav•ings /ˈreɪvɪŋz/ *noun* [*plural*] : statements that have no meaning or that sound crazy ▪ Don't listen to her *ravings*. ▪ the *ravings* of a madman

rav•i•o•li /ˌrævɪˈoʊli/ *noun, pl* **ravioli** *also* **rav•i•o•lis** [*count, noncount*] : pasta that is shaped like a square and is filled with meat, cheese, or vegetables ▪ a plate of *ravioli* ▪ These *ravioli* are delicious. — see picture at PASTA

rav•ish /ˈrævɪʃ/ *verb* **-ish•es**; **-ished**; **-ish•ing** [+ *obj*] *literary*
1 : to fill (someone) with pleasure, joy, or happiness — usually used as *(be) ravished* ▪ She *was ravished* by the country's beauty. ▪ He *was ravished* by her charm.
2 : to force (a woman) to have sex with you by using violence or the threat of violence : RAPE

rav•ish•ing /ˈrævɪʃɪŋ/ *adj* : very beautiful ▪ She looked *ravishing*. [=*stunning*] ▪ She is a *ravishing* beauty. ▪ a *ravishing* view of the ocean
– **rav•ish•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ She is *ravishingly* beautiful.

[1]raw /ˈrɑː/ *adj* **raw•er**; **raw•est**
1 : not cooked ▪ *raw* meat/vegetables ▪ You can eat carrots *raw*. = You can eat *raw* carrots.
2 a : in a natural state : not treated or prepared ▪ *raw* silk/steel ▪ *raw* sewage ▪ Fold the *raw* [=*unfinished*] edge of the fabric under. — see also RAW MATERIAL **b** : not yet organized or changed in any way ▪ He entered the *raw* data into a spreadsheet.
3 : very sore : damaged and painful from harsh conditions, rubbing, etc. ▪ hands *raw* from windburn ▪ The shoes rubbed my heels *raw*. ▪ His throat was *raw* from the cold air. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The article touched/struck/hit a ***raw nerve***. [=the article hurt or upset the people who read it]
4 : powerful and not controlled ▪ I was impressed by the *raw* energy of his performance. ▪ The town was destroyed by the *raw* power of the tornado. ▪ *raw* emotion/anger
5 : having no experience or training ▪ *raw* [=*green*] recruits/soldiers ▪ The team has a lot of *raw* talent. [=the team has a lot of talented but inexperienced players]
6 : wet and cold ▪ a *raw* winter day
7 *US* : rude or offensive ▪ *raw* language
– **raw•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]raw *noun*
in the raw **1** : in a natural or unfinished state ▪ The sculpture is still *in the raw*. ▪ a firsthand look at poverty *in the raw* **2** : not wearing clothes : NAKED ▪ He sleeps *in the raw*. [=*in the nude*]

raw bar *noun, pl* ~ **bars** [*count*] *US* : an area in a restaurant where uncooked shellfish is served

raw•boned /ˈrɑːˌboʊnd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US* : thin with bones that show under the skin ▪ He was tall and *raw-boned*.

raw deal *noun, pl* ~ **deals** [*count*] : an unfair way of treating someone — usually singular ▪ We're getting a *raw deal* [=are being treated unfairly] with the new tax laws.

raw•hide /ˈrɑːˌhaɪd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the skin of a cow before it has been prepared or made into leather

raw material *noun, pl* ~ **-als** [*count, noncount*] : the basic material that can be used to make or create something ▪ Wheat and rye are the *raw materials* for a flour mill. ▪ His experiences during the war were the *raw material* for the story.

[1]ray /ˈreɪ/ *noun, pl* **rays** [*count*]
1 a : one of the lines of light that you can see coming from an object ▪ A *ray* of sunlight shone on her face. ▪ We were blinded by the sun's *rays*. ▪ *Rays* of light reflected off the mirror. ✧ In informal English, if you ***catch some rays***, ***catch a few rays***, ***soak up a few rays***, etc., you sit or lie in the sun. ▪ I'm going to the beach to *catch some rays*. [=to sunbathe] **b** *technical* : a thin beam of energy (such as heat or light) that moves in the form of waves ▪ harmful ultraviolet *rays* — see also CATHODE-RAY TUBE, DEATH RAY, GAMMA RAY, X-RAY
2 : a very small amount *of* something ▪ I saw a tiny *ray of* rec-

ognition in his eyes. ▪ We're finally starting to see a ***ray of hope*** [=a reason to start being hopeful] ▪ The announcement is/brings a *ray of hope* to all of us who have been fighting this disease.

ray of sunshine : someone or something that makes a person happier or a place more cheerful ▪ Their baby girl was their own little *ray of sunshine*. ▪ He was a *ray of sunshine* to his patients.

– compare [2]RAY

[2]ray *noun, pl* **rays** [*count*] : a fish with a flat body and a long, narrow tail — see color picture on page C8; see also STINGRAY — compare [1]RAY

ray•on /ˈreɪˌɑːn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a smooth fiber that is used in making clothing ▪ The shirt is made of *rayon*. ▪ a *rayon* shirt

raze /ˈreɪz/ *verb* **raz•es**; **razed**; **raz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to destroy (something, such as a building) completely : DEMOLISH — often used as *(be) razed* ▪ The old factory *was razed* to make room for a parking lot.

ra•zor /ˈreɪzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-zors** [*count*] : a tool or device with a sharp edge that is used to shave or cut hair from the face, body, or head ▪ an electric *razor* ▪ a disposable/safety *razor* — see picture at GROOMING

razor's edge *or* ***razor edge*** — used in various phrases to refer to a dangerous position or a position in which two different things are carefully balanced ▪ He's a thrill-seeker who likes living ***on the razor's edge***. ▪ The country's future is ***balanced on a razor's edge***. ▪ He ***walks a/the razor edge*** [=*walks a/the fine line*] between humor and bad taste in his comedy.

razor blade *noun, pl* **~ blades** [*count*] : a small, thin, sharp piece of metal that is used in a razor — see picture at GROOMING

razor–sharp *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : very sharp ▪ Sharks have *razor-sharp* teeth.

2 : showing a lot of intelligence or the ability to think quickly ▪ She was *razor-sharp* in the debate. ▪ He has a *razor-sharp* wit/mind.

razor–thin *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly US* : very small or thin ▪ *razor-thin* models ▪ He won by a *razor-thin* margin. ▪ It was a *razor-thin* victory. [=a victory that was won by a very small margin or amount]

razor wire *noun* [*noncount*] : strong wire that has many sharp metal pieces on it and is put around an area to keep people out or in

razz /ˈræz/ *verb* **razz•es**; **razzed**; **razz•ing** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to make playful or unkind comments about (someone) : TEASE ▪ We *razzed* the other team's pitcher. ▪ Quit *razzing* me!

raz•zle–daz•zle /ˌræzəlˈdæzəl/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : noisy and exciting activity meant to attract attention ▪ The kids enjoyed the *razzle-dazzle* of the circus.

2 *American football* : an action, movement, etc., that is done to confuse an opponent ▪ The team used a little *razzle-dazzle* to score the winning touchdown.

– **razzle–dazzle** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *razzle-dazzle* dance routine ▪ some *razzle-dazzle* piano work

razz•ma•tazz /ˌræzməˈtæz/ *also chiefly Brit* **razz•a•ma•tazz** /ˌræzəməˈtæz/ *noun* [*noncount*] : noisy and exciting activity meant to attract attention ▪ show-business *razzmatazz*

RBI /ˌɑɚbiˈaɪ/ *noun, pl* **RBIs** *or* **RBI** [*count*] *baseball* : a run that is scored as a result of a specific batter's hit, walk, etc. ✧ *RBI* is an abbreviation of "run batted in." ▪ A runner scored from third base on his long fly out, so he'll get (credited with) an *RBI* on that play. ▪ He leads the league in *RBIs*.

RC *abbr* Roman Catholic

Rd *or* **Rd.** *abbr* road ▪ 14 Wisteria *Rd*.

RD *abbr, US* rural delivery ✧ The U.S. Postal Service chooses official routes for the delivery of mail in rural areas, where houses are fairly far apart. ▪ John Smith lives on *RD* 2. [=on the rural mail-delivery route numbered 2 in his town] ▪ John Smith, *RD* 2, Box 237

-rd — used in writing after the number 3 for the word *third* ▪ my 3*rd* [=*third*] try ▪ I placed 43*rd* in the class.

RDA *abbr, US* recommended daily allowance; recommended dietary allowance ▪ 50 percent of the U.S. *RDA* of iron

[1]re /ˈreɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *music* : the second note of a musical scale ▪ do, *re*, mi, fa, sol, la, ti

[2]re /ˈreɪ, ˈriː/ *prep, formal* : on the subject of : regarding or concerning — used in business and legal writing and e-mail before a word or phrase that states the subject you will be discussing ▪ *re* your letter of last month ▪ *Re*: Changes in procedure

RE *abbr, Brit* religious education ▪ He teaches *RE* at the local school.

re- /ri/ *prefix*

1 : again ▪ *re*fill [=fill again] ▪ *re*do [=do over; do again]

2 : back to an original place, condition, etc. ▪ *re*call [=call something back]

[1]reach /ˈriːʧ/ *verb* **reach•es**; **reached**; **reach•ing**

1 a : to be able to touch, pick up, or grab (something) by moving or stretching [+ *obj*] She couldn't *reach* the apple. She was too short. ▪ He couldn't *reach* the apple, even with a stick. ▪ Can you *reach* me that pencil? = Can you *reach* that pencil for me? [=can you pick up that pencil and give it to me?] [*no obj*] It's no good. I can't *reach*. [=I can't touch what I'm trying to touch] **b** : to move or stretch (your hand, arm, etc.) when you are trying to touch or grab something [+ *obj*] — + *out, into, up*, etc. ▪ I *reached* my hand *out* (to her). = I *reached out* my hand (to her). ▪ She *reached* her hand *into* her purse to get her wallet. [*no obj*] She can't *reach* that far. — usually + *out, into, up*, etc. ▪ I *reached up* to pull the cord. ▪ She *reached into* her purse. ▪ He was *reaching out* to grab the railing when he fell.

2 [+ *obj*] : to arrive at (a place that you have been traveling to) ▪ We *reached* California after driving for two days. ▪ The rescue team *reached* the stranded hikers this morning. [=the rescue team arrived this morning at the place where the hikers were stranded] — often used figuratively ▪ He *reached* [=*got to*] the play-offs but was eliminated in the first round.

3 — used to say that something is big or long enough to touch a certain place or point [+ *obj*] Their land *reaches* the river. ▪ The phone cord doesn't *reach* the table. = The phone cord isn't long enough to *reach* the table. ▪ When she is sitting, her feet don't *reach* the ground. [=her feet don't touch the ground because her legs are short] [*no obj*] Skirts must *reach* (down) below the knees. ▪ Their land *reaches* to the river. ▪ The phone cord doesn't *reach*.

4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to grow, develop, or increase to (a particular amount, size, etc.) ▪ You are an adult when you *reach* [=*become*] 18. ▪ The lottery is expected to *reach* $50 million. ▪ The temperature could *reach* 100°F this afternoon. ▪ These plants can *reach* (up to) 6 feet tall. ▪ The winds could *reach* 60 mph. **b** : to come to (a particular situation or condition) ▪ The situation has *reached* [=*gotten to, arrived at*] a critical point. ▪ We've *reached* a crisis in the negotiations. **c** : to succeed in achieving (something) after making an effort over a period of time ▪ The school has *reached* their goal of raising $10,000. ▪ They are still trying to ***reach an agreement***. ▪ Have you ***reached a decision***? ▪ Has the jury ***reached a verdict***?

5 *not used in the progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] **a** : to be seen or heard by (someone) ▪ Your letter *reached* me yesterday. [=I received your letter yesterday] ▪ The news just *reached* us. [=we just heard the news] ▪ The news won't *reach* his parents until tomorrow. ▪ She left a message for her boss, but it didn't *reach* him. **b** : to call or write to (someone) : to communicate with (someone) ▪ I tried to *reach* [=*contact*] you by phone. ▪ You can *reach* me by e-mail.

6 [+ *obj*] : to get the attention or interest of (someone) ▪ The company is using TV commercials to *reach* a bigger audience. ▪ Her music *reaches* young people.

7 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to make (someone) understand or accept something ▪ I don't think I'm *reaching* my son.

reach for [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***reach for (someone or something)*** : to move your hand in order to get or touch (someone or something) ▪ She *reached for* the salt and pepper. ▪ He *reached* into his pocket *for* a dime. ▪ She *reached* inside the bag *for* a pen. ▪ The frog jumped as she *reached for* it. **2** ***reach for (something)*** : to try hard to achieve or succeed at (something) ▪ Success won't come to you, you have to *reach for* it. — see also *reach for the moon* at [1]MOON, *reach for the stars* at [1]STAR

reach out [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to make an effort to do something for other people ▪ The church is *reaching out* to help the poor. **2** ***reach out to (someone)*** **a** : to offer help or support to (someone) ▪ The students are *reaching out to* the homeless. ▪ a community *reaching out to* refugees **b** : to try to get the attention and interest of (someone) ▪ He's *reaching out to* young voters.

– **reach•able** /ˈriːʧəbəl/ *adj* ▪ The island is only *reachable* by boat. ▪ a *reachable* goal ▪ She is always *reachable* by cell phone. ▪ Some children are just not *reachable*. [=some children refuse to accept what their parents, teachers, etc., tell them]

R

[2]reach *noun, pl* **reaches**

1 : the distance that you can stretch your arm to touch, pick up, or grab something [*singular*] The toy was ***within/in her reach***. [=she was able to touch/reach the toy] ▪ Keep chemicals ***out of the reach of*** [=*away from*] children. ▪ The ball was just ***out of her reach***. [=she was not quite able to touch or grab the ball] ▪ The ball was ***beyond her reach***. [=the ball was too far away for her to grab] ▪ The boxer has a ***long reach***. [=can reach a long way; has long arms] [*noncount*] He kept a dictionary ***within reach***. [=*nearby*] ▪ The child tried to grab anything ***in reach***. [=anything that was close enough to touch] ▪ The ball was just ***out of reach***.

2 : the ability or power of someone or something to do, achieve, or control something [*singular*] Victory was ***within their reach***. [=they were close to victory] ▪ Buying a new car is ***beyond our reach*** right now. [=we do not have enough money to buy a new car right now] ▪ His illness was ***beyond the reach of*** medicine. [=medicine could not cure his illness] [*noncount*] Victory was ***within reach***. ▪ Their goal is ***out of reach***.

3 *reaches* [*plural*] **a** : the parts of an area that are a long way from the center ▪ The country's farthest *reaches* had not been explored. — often + *of* ▪ the outer *reaches of* the universe ▪ the further *reaches of* the valley ▪ the northern *reaches of* the country — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Scientists are still discovering the far *reaches of* the human mind. **b** : levels *of* an organization ▪ the upper/higher/lower *reaches of* the business **c** : a straight part of a stream or river ▪ the upper/lower *reaches* of the river

within (easy) reach of : close to (something) ▪ Our house is *within easy reach of* the highway.

re•act /ri'ækt/ *verb* **-acts**; **-act•ed**; **-act•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to behave or change in a particular way when something happens, is said, etc. ▪ When I told her what happened, she *reacted* with anger. ▪ I didn't expect him to *react* that way. ▪ The firefighters *reacted* quickly when they heard the alarm. — often + *to* ▪ She *reacted to* the news by getting angry. ▪ Most people *reacted* positively *to* the smoking ban. — see also OVERREACT

2 *of a chemical substance* : to change after coming into contact with another substance — often + *with* ▪ The chemicals *react with* each other to form a gas. — often + *together* ▪ Ozone is formed in the atmosphere when sunlight and hydrocarbons *react together*.

3 *medical* : to be affected by a drug, food, etc., in usually a bad way ▪ He *reacted* badly to the drug.

react against [*phrasal verb*] ***react against (someone or something)*** : to do things that are opposed to (something or someone that you disagree with) ▪ He belonged to a group of artists who *reacted against* convention by doing things in a completely new way.

re•ac•tant /ri'æktənt/ *noun, pl* **-tants** [*count*] *chemistry* : a substance that changes when it is combined with another substance in a chemical reaction

re•ac•tion /ri'ækʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : the way someone acts or feels in response to something that happens, is said, etc. [*count*] Their *reaction* to the news was positive. ▪ When I told him what happened, his immediate *reaction* was one of shock. ▪ The announcement produced an angry/stunned *reaction* from most of the people at the meeting. ▪ My first *reaction* when I met him was not to trust him. ▪ There has been a ***mixed reaction*** [=people have reacted in different ways] to the new policy. [*noncount*] There hasn't yet been much *reaction* to the announcement. ▪ The newspaper received many angry letters ***in reaction to*** [=in response to] the editorial.

2 : an action or attitude that shows disagreement with or disapproval of someone or something [*count*] — usually singular; often + *against* ▪ The modernist movement in literature was a *reaction against* traditional literary conventions. [*noncount*] There has been strong *reaction against* the government's policies.

3 *reactions* [*plural*] : the ability to act and move quickly in order to avoid sudden danger ▪ A good driver has quick *reactions*. ▪ The speed of his *reactions* saved his life.

4 *medical* : an occurrence in which your body is affected by a drug, food, etc., in usually a bad way [*count*] I had/suffered a (bad) *reaction* to the medicine. ▪ Something she ate caused/triggered an allergic *reaction*. [*noncount*] There is a risk of adverse *reaction* to the medicine.

5 a *chemistry* : a chemical change that occurs when two or more substances combine to form a new substance [*count*] The *reaction* of hydrogen with oxygen makes water. ▪ chemical *reactions* [*noncount*] a substance produced by chemical *reaction* **b** [*count, noncount*] *physics* : a process in which the nucleus of an atom is changed by being split apart or joined with the nucleus of another atom — called also *nuclear reaction*; see also CHAIN REACTION

6 [*count, noncount*] *physics* : a physical force that opposes the action of an equal and opposite force ▪ For every action, there is an equal and opposite *reaction*.

7 [*noncount*] *formal* : a strong tendency or desire to oppose new political or social ideas ▪ They have had to fight against the forces of *reaction*.

re•ac•tion•ary /ri'ækʃəˌneri, *Brit* ri'ækʃənri/ *noun, pl* **-ar•ies** [*count*] *disapproving* : a person who is strongly opposed to new political or social ideas

– **reactionary** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *reactionary* views/opinions/ideas ▪ a *reactionary* politician

re•ac•ti•vate /ri'æktəˌveɪt/ *verb* **-vates**; **-vat•ed**; **-vat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to start working or happening again : to activate (something) again ▪ *reactivate* the alarm ▪ Once his debt was paid, his account was *reactivated*.

re•ac•tive /ri'æktɪv/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : done in response to a problem or situation : reacting to problems when they occur instead of doing something to prevent them ▪ a *reactive* strategy ▪ The government's response to the problem was *reactive* rather than proactive. — compare PROACTIVE

2 *chemistry* : tending to change into something else when mixed with another substance ▪ a *reactive* chemical/substance

re•ac•tor /ri'æktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] *physics* : a large device that produces nuclear energy — called also *nuclear reactor*

[1]read /'ri:d/ *verb* **reads**; **read** /'rɛd/; **read•ing** /'ri:dɪŋ/

1 a : to look at and understand the meaning of letters, words, symbols, etc. [*no obj*] She learned to *read* at a very early age. [+ *obj*] Can you *read* decimals/music/Braille? ▪ I can't *read* your handwriting. ▪ He claimed that he could ***read my palm***. [=look at the lines on the palm of my hand and tell me what was going to happen to me in the future] **b** : to read the words of (a book, magazine, etc.) [+ *obj*] He likes *reading* the newspaper. ▪ She *reads* a lot of mystery novels. ▪ We will be *reading* (works by) Milton in the class. ▪ She starts work every day by *reading* her e-mail. ▪ Didn't you *read* the instructions? [*no obj*] He likes to *read*. ▪ She doesn't *read* much. ▪ Please *read* from Chapter 5 through Chapter 10. **c** : to speak aloud the words of (something written) [+ *obj*] He *read* the poem aloud. ▪ The teacher *read* a story to us. = The teacher *read* us a story. ▪ He wrote down the address I gave him and *read* it back to me. [*no obj*] Her mother *read* to her every night at bedtime. — see also READ OUT (below)

2 : to learn information about something from a book, newspaper, etc. [*no obj*] — often + *about* ▪ I *read about* the fire in the newspaper. — sometimes + *of* ▪ I have *read of* such things happening elsewhere. [+ *obj*] — + *that* ▪ I *read* somewhere *that* he's making a new movie. ▪ I *read that* they got married.

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to learn information about (someone) by looking at how that person behaves ▪ I can't *read* her—I'm not sure if she likes me or not. ▪ You're an easy person to *read*. **b** : to learn information about (something) by looking at particular characteristics ▪ A good canoeist can *read* the rapids. ▪ (*golf*) She missed the putt because she didn't *read* the green correctly. ▪ (*American football*) The quarterback *read* the defense correctly.

4 [+ *obj*] : to understand (something) in a particular way ▪ The way I *read* it, we're supposed to show up at 3 p.m. ▪ The situation is hard to *read*. [=*interpret*] — often + *as* ▪ I *read* his actions *as* a cry for help.

5 [+ *obj*] **a** : to show (words) for someone to read ▪ The sign *reads* [=*says*] "No Trespassing." **b** : to show (a temperature, weight, number, etc.) ▪ The thermometer *reads* 90 degrees. ▪ The clock *read* 4:30.

6 [*no obj*] : to be written in a particular way ▪ The definition *reads* awkwardly. [=the definition is awkwardly written] ▪ This essay will *read* better if you reorganize it. ▪ The speech *reads* well. [=the speech is written well] ▪ The first chapters *read* like a lecture.

7 [+ *obj*] : to get information from (something) ▪ Someone *reads* the water meter once a month. ▪ A scanner *reads* the bar codes on packages. ▪ The computer can't *read* that disk.

8 [+ *obj*] : to hear and understand (someone) over a radio ▪ Can you *read* me now? ▪ I *read* you loud and clear.

R

9 [+ *obj*] : to replace (a word or number) with another word or number — used to indicate how something written or said should be changed or corrected ▪ In the second problem, *read* 5 instead of 3. [=the number should be 5, not 3]

10 *Brit* : to study (a subject) especially at a university [+ *obj*] He *read* history at Oxford. [*no obj*] — often + *for* ▪ She is *reading for* a business degree.

read between the lines : to look for or find a hidden meaning that is not directly stated or obvious in something that someone writes or says ▪ Her letter seemed pretty cheerful, but if you *read between the lines*, you can tell that she's not really happy.

read into [*phrasal verb*] ***read into (something)*** : to think of (something, such as a comment or situation) as having a meaning or importance that does not seem likely or reasonable ▪ You're *reading* too much *into* her remarks. [=her remarks do not have the meaning or importance that you think they have]

read lips : to understand what people are saying by watching the movement of their lips : LIP-READ ▪ deaf people who know how to *read lips* ▪ I couldn't hear what he was saying, but I was able to *read* his *lips*. ✧ People who tell you to ***read their lips*** mean that you should pay close attention to what they are saying. ▪ "Can't I please go?" "*Read my lips*: you're not going, and that's final!"

read out [*phrasal verb*] ***read (something) out*** *or* ***read out (something)*** : to read (something) aloud especially to other people ▪ I *read out* the names on the list.

read over [*phrasal verb*] ***read over (something)*** *or* ***read (something) over*** : to read (something) from beginning to end especially to look for mistakes or check details ▪ He *read over* [=*read through*] the directions/contract carefully.

read (someone) like a book : to easily understand the true thoughts and feelings of (someone) by looking at how that person acts or behaves ▪ My mom always knows when I'm lying. She can *read me like a book*.

read someone's thoughts *or* ***read someone's mind*** : to know or guess what someone is thinking ▪ She looked deep into his eyes, trying to *read his thoughts*. ▪ "I think we should go out to a movie tonight." "You *read my mind*. I was thinking the same thing."

read (someone) the riot act see [1]RIOT

read through [*phrasal verb*] ***read through (something)*** *or* ***read (something) through*** : to read (something) from beginning to end especially to look for mistakes or check details ▪ Remember to *read through* [=*read over*] the essay before you hand it in. ▪ He *read* the instructions *through* twice before he tried to assemble the bicycle.

read up on [*phrasal verb*] ***read up on (something)*** : to read a lot about (something) in order to learn about it ▪ I *read up on* the history of the war.

take (something) as read *Brit* : to accept or assume that something is true and does not need to be proved ▪ You can *take it as read* [=you can be sure] that there's nothing really new in their proposal.

[2]read /ˈriːd/ *noun, pl* **reads** [*count*] *informal*

1 : something (such as a book) that is read — usually singular ▪ The book is an easy *read*. [=the book is easy to read; reading the book is easy] ▪ The book is a good/quick/enjoyable *read*.

2 : an act of reading something (such as a book, article, etc.) ▪ He reviewed the book after several *reads*. — usually singular ▪ Give this article a *read* [=read this article] and tell me what you think of it.

3 *chiefly Brit* : a period of time spent reading ▪ She was lying in bed having a peaceful *read*.

[3]read /ˈrɛd/ *adj* : having knowledge that has been gained from reading books, articles, etc. — used after an adverb ▪ He is well-*read*. ▪ He is better *read* than most people. ▪ She is widely *read* in [=she has read a lot of] American literature.

read•able /ˈriːdəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : easy and enjoyable to read ▪ a highly *readable* book ▪ The travel guide is very *readable*.

2 : clear and easy to read ▪ She has such beautiful, *readable* [=*legible*] handwriting. — opposite UNREADABLE; see also MACHINE-READABLE

– read•abil•i•ty /ˌriːdəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I enjoy the clarity and *readability* of his writing style.

read•er /ˈriːdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who reads a book, magazine, newspaper, etc. ▪ The book's ending leaves *readers* to draw their own conclusions. ▪ She's a fast/slow/avid/voracious *reader*. ▪ He's not much of a *reader*. [=he doesn't enjoy reading books, magazines, etc.] ▪ a magazine with three million *readers* — often + *of* ▪ a *reader of* science fiction ▪ regular *readers of* the newspaper — see also MIND READER, NEWSREADER

2 : a machine that is used for reading text or information that is stored on film, tape, etc. ▪ a microfilm *reader* ▪ a card *reader*

3 : a book that is used to learn how to read or to practice reading in your own language or in a foreign language ▪ a first-grade *reader*

4 *or* ***Reader*** *Brit* : a teacher at a university who ranks just below a professor

read•er•ship /ˈriːdɚˌʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships** [*count*]

1 : the number or group of people who read a particular newspaper or magazine — usually singular ▪ The magazine's *readership* decreased when the editors changed the format. ▪ an enthusiastic/devoted *readership* ▪ The newspaper has a *readership* of around 5,000.

2 *or* ***Readership*** *Brit* : the position of a reader at a university ▪ She holds/has a *readership* in chemistry.

read•i•ly /ˈrɛdəli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : quickly and easily ▪ *readily* understandable/available ▪ simple instructions that anyone can *readily* understand

2 : in a way that shows you are willing to do something : without hesitation or complaint ▪ She *readily* [=*willingly*] admits that she is to blame. ▪ He *readily* agreed to help us.

read•i•ness /ˈrɛdinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the state of being ready or prepared for something ▪ The soldier lay ***in readiness***. — often + *for* ▪ They're unsure of their daughter's *readiness for* kindergarten.

2 : the state of being willing to do something — usually followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ He showed a *readiness* [=*willingness*] *to help* us.

read•ing /ˈriːdɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 a [*count*] : the act of reading something ▪ She gave the manuscript a careful *reading*. [=she read the manuscript carefully] ▪ The family attended the *reading* of her will. ▪ The speech ended with a *reading* from his latest novel. ▪ After several *readings*, I finally understood the meaning of the poem. **b** [*noncount*] : the activity of reading a book, magazine, etc. ▪ He needs help in *reading*. ▪ They both love *reading*. ▪ The teacher gave us a list of books for further *reading* on the subject. ▪ The book makes for interesting/good *reading*. [=the book is interesting/good] ▪ He has done a lot of *reading* on this subject. — often used before another noun ▪ *reading* glasses ▪ a *reading* light

2 a : a book, article, etc., that is being read or that is intended to be read [*count*] The *reading* for today is about human cloning. — often plural ▪ The teacher assigned several *readings* to the class. ▪ What are the *readings* for the next class? [*noncount*] *Moby-Dick* is required *reading* for any scholar of 19th-century American literature. ▪ Shakespeare is not exactly ***light reading***. [=the works of Shakespeare are not easy to read] — often used before another noun ▪ Did you bring any *reading* material/matter for the trip? ▪ Students were given a summer *reading* list. ▪ What is your child's *reading* level? [=how difficult are the books, articles, etc., that your child reads?] **b** [*count*] : a part of the Bible that is read aloud as part of a religious service ▪ The pastor selected a *reading* for tonight's service.

3 [*count*] : a particular opinion or understanding of something ▪ We need to get a better *reading* on [=a better idea of] what they intend to do. — often + *of* ▪ I disagree with his *reading* [=*interpretation*] *of* what happened. ▪ Her *reading of* the text is that the main character is depressed. ▪ The judge made his ruling according to a strict *reading of* the law.

4 [*count*] : an event at which something is read aloud to an audience ▪ a poetry/book *reading*

5 [*count*] : the temperature, weight, number, etc., that is shown on a measuring instrument ▪ The thermometer *reading* was 20 degrees. ▪ Meter *readings* are taken once a month. ▪ The scale gave an inaccurate *reading*.

6 [*count*] : an occurrence in which a proposed bill is discussed in a legislature before it becomes law

re•ad•just /ˌriːjəˈʤʌst/ *verb* **-justs**; **-just•ed**; **-just•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to change in order to work or do better in a new situation : to get used to a new situation or change ▪ It takes time to *readjust* after a loved one dies. — often + *to* ▪ The children need time to *readjust to* the new school.

2 [+ *obj*] : to change or move the position of (something) slightly ▪ She was constantly *readjusting* her glasses. ▪ He *readjusted* the picture on the wall.

– re•ad•just•ment /ˌriːjəˈʤʌstmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

[*count*] She was constantly making *readjustments* to her glasses. [*noncount*] After the divorce, he had a tough period of *readjustment*.

re•ad•mit /ˌriːjədˈmɪt/ *verb* **-mits**; **-mit•ted**; **-mit•ting** [+ *obj*]
1 : to allow (someone) to again join a club, group, etc., or enter a place ▪ They refused to *readmit* her to/into the club. ▪ Only people who have ticket stubs will be *readmitted* (to the theater).
2 : to take (someone) into a hospital as a patient again ▪ He was *readmitted* soon after being discharged.

read–only *adj, computers* : capable of being viewed but not of being changed or deleted ▪ a *read-only* file/document

read–only memory *noun* [*noncount*] *computers* : ROM

read•out /ˈriːdˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] *computers* : a small screen that shows information ▪ The calculator has a digital *readout*.; *also* : the information shown on such a screen ▪ He checked the *readout* on the screen.

[1]ready /ˈrɛdi/ *adj* **read•i•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 *not used before a noun* : prepared to do something ▪ I'll be *ready* in 10 minutes. ▪ "Can we leave now?" "I'm ***ready when you are***." ▪ We didn't have much time to ***get ready*** [=to prepare] before they arrived. ▪ (*somewhat formal*) We need more time to ***make ready***. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ We are *ready to make* changes. ▪ The kids are *ready to go/leave*. ▪ Are you *ready to learn/listen*? ▪ The boss is *ready to speak* to you now. ▪ She got/made herself *ready to go*. ▪ Doctors are ***ready and waiting*** *to give* help when it's needed. — often + *for* ▪ She's busy getting the children *ready for* school. ▪ Are you *ready for* your test? ▪ We need time to get/make *ready for* the long trip. ▪ The soldiers are ***ready for anything*** that the enemy might do.
2 *not used before a noun* : properly prepared or finished and available for use ▪ Dinner is *ready*. ▪ The college's new dormitory will be *ready* (by) next year. ▪ Your prescription will be *ready* in about 20 minutes. ▪ The car won't be *ready* until tomorrow. ▪ We got everything *ready* for the party before the guests arrived.
3 *not used before a noun* : almost about *to do* something ▪ He looked like he was *ready to cry*. [=like he was about to start crying] ▪ I was *ready to walk* out of the room [=I felt like walking out of the room] when he said that.
4 *not used before a noun* **a** : willing and eager to do something ▪ She's always *ready* with advice. = She's always *ready* to give advice. [=she likes to give advice] ▪ He is always *ready* to help his friends. ▪ He was angry and *ready* for a fight. **b** : needing or wanting something as soon as possible — usually + *for* ▪ I'm tired and *ready for* bed. [=I want to go to bed] ▪ The house looks like it's *ready for* a paint job. [=looks like it needs to be painted]
5 *always used before a noun* : quick and clever ▪ a *ready* answer/wit
6 *always used before a noun* : available for immediate use ▪ *ready* money/cash ▪ (*Brit*) a *ready* meal ▪ She has *ready* access to the files. [=she can get and use the files very quickly and easily]
(get) ready, (get) set, go *also Brit* ***ready, steady, go*** — used as a command to start a race
ready to roll see [1]ROLL

[2]ready *verb* **read•ies**; **read•ied**; **ready•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to prepare (someone or something) ▪ They *readied* the room for guests. ▪ She *readied* herself to speak. ▪ We have to *ready* ourselves for a tough fight ahead.

[3]ready *noun, pl* **readies**
at the ready : available for immediate use ▪ The tourists kept their cameras *at the ready*.
the ready *or* ***the readies*** *Brit, informal* : money that can be used immediately ▪ I'm a bit short of *the ready* just now.

ready–made /ˌrɛdiˈmeɪd/ *adj*
1 : prepared in advance for immediate use ▪ *ready-made* clothing/meals
2 *always used before a noun* : already created or provided ▪ The snowstorm gave us a *ready-made* excuse not to go to the party. ▪ a *ready-made* solution

ready–to–wear *adj* : made in a standard size and not made for a particular person ▪ a *ready-to-wear* suit

re•af•firm /ˌriːəˈfɚm/ *verb* **-firms**; **-firmed**; **-firm•ing** [+ *obj*] : to formally state (something) again in order to emphasize that it is true ▪ The President *reaffirmed* his commitment to cutting taxes. ▪ She *reaffirmed* her stance on the issue.
– **re•af•fir•ma•tion** /riˌæfɚˈmeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

re•agent /riˈeɪdʒənt/ *noun, pl* **-agents** [*count*] *chemistry* : a substance that is used to test for the presence of another substance by causing a chemical reaction with it

[1]re•al /ˈriːjəl/ *adj*
1 : actually existing or happening : not imaginary ▪ The movie is based on *real* events. ▪ The detective Sherlock Holmes is not a *real* person. ▪ He has no *real* power; he is just a figurehead. ▪ The battle scenes in the movie seemed very *real* to me. ▪ The team has a *real* chance at winning. ▪ There is a very *real* possibility that we will be moving to Maine. ▪ In ***real life***, relationships are not perfect. ▪ The actor looks taller on TV than he does in *real life*. ▪ I finally got to talk to a ***real live*** person [=an actual person] instead of a machine. ▪ He's always daydreaming and seems to be out of touch with ***the real world***. ▪ Their son finally went out into *the real world* [=the world where people have to work, deal with daily problems, etc.] and got a job.
2 : not fake, false, or artificial ▪ *real* [=*genuine*] leather ▪ a *real* diamond ▪ Your *real* friends [=the people who are truly your friends] would be here to help you. ▪ What is his *real* name? ▪ Tell me the *real* reason you need the money.
3 : important and deserving to be regarded or treated in a serious way ▪ This is a very *real* problem/danger/concern. ▪ They have avoided talking about the *real* issues. ▪ There is no *real* reason to worry.
4 *always used before a noun* — used for emphasis ▪ There's a *real* surprise at the end of the movie. ▪ Receiving this award is a *real* thrill. ▪ He's being a *real* jerk.
5 : strong and sincere ▪ I have no *real* interest in sports. [=I'm not very interested in sports] ▪ He made a *real* effort to improve his grades. ▪ There was a look of *real* [=*genuine*] astonishment on her face. ▪ She showed *real* delight/happiness when I told her the good news.
6 *always used before a noun, finance* : measured by what money can actually buy at a particular time ▪ a *real* increase in wages as compared to inflation ▪ Charitable donations declined in *real* dollars last year.
for real *informal* **1** : true and genuine ▪ The information is *for real*. **2** *US* **a** : honest and serious ▪ He convinced us that he was *for real* and really wanted to help. ▪ Is that guy *for real*? **b** : genuinely good, skillful, etc. ▪ The team has proven that it's *for real* this year. [=has proven that it's good and has a real chance of winning] **3** : seriously or truly ▪ He's in trouble *for real*. [=he's really in trouble] ▪ They were just pretending to argue before, but now they're doing it *for real*.
get real *informal* : to start to think in a serious or reasonable way : to stop having foolish ideas, hopes, etc. ▪ We have to *get real* about this problem. ▪ You think you can get into Harvard with those grades? *Get real*.
keep it real *informal* : to talk and behave in an honest and serious way that shows who you really are ▪ He says he's just trying to *keep it real*.
the real deal see [3]DEAL
the real McCoy see MCCOY
the real thing see THING
– **re•al•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The jeweler verified the *realness* [=*genuineness*] of the diamond. ▪ The audience was impressed by the *realness* [=*realism*] of the movie.

[2]real *adv, chiefly US, informal* : very or really ▪ We had a *real* good time. ▪ The water is *real* warm. ▪ He is *real* fast. ▪ We went to bed *real* late. ▪ a *real* old car

real estate *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US*
1 : property consisting of buildings and land ▪ He sells *real estate*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *real estate* broker/business/investment ▪ *real estate* prices/values
2 : the business of selling land and buildings ▪ She works in *real estate*.

real estate agent *noun, pl* **~ agents** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a person in the business of selling land and buildings — called also (*Brit*) *estate agent*

re•align /ˌriːəˈlaɪn/ *verb* **-aligns**; **-aligned**; **-align•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to change the position or direction of (something) slightly usually in relation to something else ▪ She *realigned* the mirror. ▪ We had to *realign* the text to fit it on the page. ▪ The car's wheels were *realigned*.
2 : to organize (something) in a different way ▪ The company has *realigned* [=*reorganized*] several departments.
realign yourself : to begin to have different opinions, beliefs, practices, etc. : to become a member or supporter of

R

a different group ▪ She has *realigned herself* with the conservatives.

– **re•align•ment** /ˌriːjəˈlaɪnmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*] His car is due for a *realignment*. [*noncount*] the benefits of corporate *realignment*

re•al•ism /ˈriːjəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the quality of a person who understands what is real and possible in a particular situation and is able to deal with problems in an effective and practical way ▪ He has a sense of *realism* about what can be done to improve the economy.

2 : the quality of being very much like real life : the quality of seeming to be real ▪ The *realism* of her dream was alarming.

3 : a style of art or literature that shows or describes people and things as they are in real life ▪ the stark *realism* of the play/painting

re•al•ist /ˈriːjəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

1 : a person who understands what is real and possible in a particular situation : a person who accepts and deals with things as they really are ▪ I'd like to think that these problems can be solved easily, but I'm a *realist*. I know that a lot of hard work will be needed.

2 : an artist or writer who shows or describes people and things as they are in real life

– **realist** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *realist* [=*realistic*] approach to the problem ▪ a *realist* painting

re•al•is•tic /ˌriːjəˈlɪstɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : able to see things as they really are and to deal with them in a practical way ▪ He tried to be *realistic* about the situation. ▪ We have to be *realistic* and accept the fact that these problems cannot be solved easily. — opposite UNREALISTIC

2 : based on what is real rather than on what is wanted or hoped for : sensible and appropriate ▪ The plan is not very *realistic*. ▪ a *realistic* approach/goal ▪ It's not *realistic* to expect people to spend that much money on wedding gifts. — opposite UNREALISTIC

3 : showing people and things as they are in real life ▪ a *realistic* painting/novel/description ▪ The battle scene in the movie was very *realistic*. [=it seemed very much like a real battle] — opposite UNREALISTIC

– **re•al•is•ti•cal•ly** /ˌriːjəˈlɪstɪkli/ *adv* ▪ We need to deal with these problems *realistically*. ▪ We can't *realistically* expect the war to end soon. = *Realistically*, we can't expect the war to end soon. ▪ The movie portrayed the battle very *realistically*.

[1]re•al•i•ty /riˈæləti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : the true situation that exists : the real situation ▪ He refused to face/accept *reality*. [=the truth] ▪ the difference between fiction/fantasy and *reality* ▪ She's out of touch with *reality*. [=she does not know what is really true] ▪ The *reality* is that we can't afford to buy a house. ▪ He used television as an escape from *reality*.

2 [*count*] : something that actually exists or happens : a real event, occurrence, situation, etc. ▪ The movie shows the harsh/grim/stark *realities* of war. [=the things that really happen in a war] ▪ Her dream of competing in the Olympics became a *reality*. [=she competed in the Olympics, as she had dreamed of doing] ▪ They made the plan a *reality*. — see also VIRTUAL REALITY

in reality : in truth — used to stress that something is true or real especially when it is different from what was believed or expected ▪ They talked as if they had accomplished a lot, but *in reality* they did very little. ▪ *In reality*, she was 15 years younger than she looked.

[2]reality *adj, always used before a noun* — used to describe television shows in which people who are not actors are shown living with, dealing with, and often competing against each other in real-life situations ▪ *reality* television/TV/shows

reality check *noun, pl* ~ **checks** [*count*] *informal* : something which shows you that the real situation is different from what you believed or hoped — usually singular ▪ Her friends gave her a *reality check* about her boyfriend. [=told her the truth about her boyfriend] ▪ He was starting to think he was infallible, so the criticism from his boss served as a *reality check*.

re•al•iz•able *also Brit* **re•al•is•able** /ˌriːjəˈlaɪzəbəl/ *adj*

1 : possible to achieve ▪ a *realizable* goal/plan

2 *finance* : in a form that can be easily sold for money ▪ *realizable* assets

re•al•i•za•tion *also Brit* **re•al•i•sa•tion** /ˌriːjələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌriəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*singular*] : the state of understanding or becoming aware of something ▪ There is a growing *realization* that changes need to be made to the coaching staff. ▪ She had a/the sudden *realization* [=she suddenly realized] that things had changed between them. ▪ He ***came to the realization*** [=he realized] that he was adding up the wrong numbers.

2 [*count*] *formal* : the act of achieving something that was planned or hoped for — usually singular; usually + *of* ▪ He was thrilled by the *realization of* his lifelong dream.

3 [*noncount*] *finance* : the act of selling property in order to get money ▪ the *realization* of assets

re•al•ize *also Brit* **re•al•ise** /ˈriːjəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to understand or become aware of (something) ▪ They did not *realize* the risk/danger that was involved. ▪ He finally *realized* the scope of the problem. ▪ I *realize* (that) this is an unusual situation. ▪ She *realizes* how much things have changed. ▪ Do you *realize* how difficult that stunt is? ▪ You just have to *realize* that you can't always get what you want. ▪ She slowly *realized* what he was trying to say.

2 : to cause (something) to become real — usually used as *(be) realized* ▪ Our worst fears have *been realized*. [=the things that we most feared have actually happened]

3 *formal* : to achieve (something, such as a goal, dream, etc.) ▪ He *realized* a lifelong dream/goal by winning an Olympic medal. ▪ He finally *realized* his ambition to start his own business. ▪ She hasn't yet *realized* her potential as a golfer. [=she hasn't become as good as she can be]

4 *formal* : to earn or get (money) by sale or effort ▪ We can *realize* a profit by selling the stock. ▪ The furniture of the estate *realized* $10,000 at the auction.

real–life *adj, always used before a noun* : happening in the real world rather than in a story : happening in the real life of someone ▪ *real-life* problems/events ▪ a *real-life* drama

re•al•lo•cate /ˌriˈæləˌkeɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to move or direct (something) so that it can be used for a different purpose ▪ After the class trip was canceled, the money was *reallocated* to cover the cost of the dance. ▪ We need to *reallocate* our resources.

– **re•al•lo•ca•tion** /ˌriˌæləˈkeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

re•al•ly /ˈriːjəli/ *adv*

1 — used to refer to what is true or real ▪ She didn't *really* mean it. ▪ Is that *really* a word? ▪ It turned out that the bone wasn't *really* broken. ▪ He might *really* be the one she's going to marry. ▪ They *really* are twins. ▪ What *really* happened? ▪ There are *really* only two choices. ▪ Who *really* cares? ▪ I'm not hurt—*really*. [=I am being honest when I say I'm not hurt] ▪ Did you *really* [=*honestly*] think I wouldn't notice?

2 : without question or doubt — used to make a statement more definite or forceful ▪ You should *really* see a doctor about your back pains. ▪ I *really* believe she's not coming back. ▪ You *really* should try some of this cake. ▪ She *really* is a nice person. ▪ We *really* need the extra money. ▪ He *really* likes her. [=he likes her very much]

3 : to a great degree : VERY ▪ The dog runs *really* fast. ▪ The water is *really* hot/cold. ▪ She's a *really* nice person. ▪ It's a *really* [=*truly*] beautiful day. ▪ a *really* frightening/funny story ▪ I had a *really* good time at the party.

4 — used to reduce the force of a negative statement ▪ I don't *really* agree with you. ▪ It *really* doesn't matter.

5 — used in speech to show surprise, doubt, or interest ▪ "They're getting divorced." "*Really*?" [=I am surprised to hear that and would like to hear more] ▪ "I think she likes me." "Oh, *really*?" [=I am doubtful that she really likes you]

6 *US* — used in speech to express agreement with what someone has just said ▪ "He shouldn't be allowed to do that." "Yeah, *really*. Who does he think he is?"

7 — used in speech to show that you are annoyed ▪ *Really*, you could have mentioned it sooner. ▪ *Really*, you're being ridiculous.

not really — used to say "no" in a way that is not very forceful or definite ▪ "Was the movie good?" "*Not really*." [=the movie wasn't very good] ▪ "Do you want to go to a movie?" "No, *not really*." [=no, I am not very interested in going]

realm /ˈrɛlm/ *noun, pl* **realms** [*count*]

1 : an area of activity, interest, or knowledge ▪ new discoveries in the *realm* of medicine ▪ in political and legal *realms* ▪ the *realm* of art/science/education ▪ A victory by the team seems ***within the realm of possibility***. [=a victory seems possible] ▪ It's not ***beyond the realm of possibility*** [=it's not impossible] that he will return.

2 : a country that is ruled by a king or queen ▪ a peaceful *realm*

re•al•po•li•tik /reɪˈɑːlˌpoʊlɪˌtiːk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a system of politics based on a country's situation and its needs rather than on ideas about what is morally right and wrong

real–time *adj, always used before a noun* : happening or shown at the speed at which a computer receives and processes information ▪ *real-time* data/chatting/video

– real time *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We chatted online in *real time*.

Re•al•tor /ˈriːjəltɚ/ *service mark* — used for a real estate agent who is a member of a national licensing association

re•al•ty /ˈriːjəlti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : REAL ESTATE

[1]ream /ˈriːm/ *noun, pl* **reams**

1 [*count*] : an amount of paper that equals 480, 500, or 516 sheets

2 *reams* [*plural*] *informal* : a large amount of writing — usually + *of* ▪ She took *reams of* notes. [=she took a very large amount of notes]

[2]ream *verb* **reams**; **reamed**; **ream•ing** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to criticize (someone) in an angry way ▪ He ***got reamed*** in the press for his comments. — often + *out* ▪ She *reamed* him *out* for leaving the lights on.

re•an•i•mate /ˌriːˈænəˌmeɪt/ *verb* **-mates**; **-mat•ed**; **-mat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to give new life or energy to (something) ▪ The touchdown *reanimated* the crowd. ▪ She knows how to *reanimate* a dull conversation.

reap /ˈriːp/ *verb* **reaps**; **reaped**; **reap•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to get (something, such as a reward) as a result of something that you have done ▪ She is now *reaping* the benefits/rewards of her hard work. ▪ He *reaped* large profits from his investments.

2 : to cut and collect (a plant, crop, etc.) from a field [+ *obj*] The workers were out *reaping* the crops. [*no obj*] The workers were out *reaping* in the fields.

reap what you sow : to experience the same kind of things that you have caused other people to experience ▪ If you're rude to everyone, you'll *reap what you sow*. [=people will be rude to you]

reap•er /ˈriːpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or machine that cuts and collects crops — see also GRIM REAPER

re•ap•pear /ˌriːjəˈpiɚ/ *verb* **-pears**; **-peared**; **-pear•ing** [*no obj*] : to appear again after not being seen, felt, etc., for a period of time ▪ We watched the fireflies in the field vanish and then *reappear*. ▪ Call the doctor if the symptoms *reappear*. [=come back]

– re•ap•pear•ance /ˌriːjəˈpirəns/ *noun, pl* **-anc•es** [*count*] — usually singular ▪ The bird was believed to be extinct until its recent *reappearance*. [*noncount*] The vaccine prevents *reappearance* of the disease.

re•ap•ply /ˌriːjəˈplaɪ/ *verb* **-plies**; **-plied**; **-ply•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to put or spread (something) again on a surface, a part of the body, etc. ▪ She *reapplied* her makeup. ▪ The finish needs to be *reapplied*.

2 [*no obj*] : to ask formally for something (such as a job, admission to a school, a loan, etc.) again usually in writing ▪ She plans to *reapply* to the school. ▪ He *reapplied* for the job.

3 [+ *obj*] : to cause (force, pressure, etc.) to have an effect or to be felt again ▪ The defense *reapplied* the pressure in the second half.

re•ap•praise /ˌriːjəˈpreɪz/ *verb* **-prais•es**; **-praised**; **-prais•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to make a new judgment about the value of (something) ▪ Our house is being *reappraised* for tax purposes.

2 : to think about (something) again in order to decide whether you should change your opinion about it : REASSESS ▪ The bad economic news is forcing many people to *reappraise* their investment strategies.

– re•ap•prais•al /ˌriːjəˈpreɪzəl/ *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] tax *reappraisals* [*noncount*] The situation has changed and requires some careful *reappraisal*.

[1]rear /ˈriɚ/ *noun, pl* **rears**

1 [*noncount*] : the part of something that is opposite to or away from the front part : the back part of something ▪ There are two bedrooms at the *rear*. — often + *of* ▪ The store is in the *rear of* the building. ▪ We sat toward the *rear of* the train/boat.

2 [*count*] *informal* : the part of your body that you sit on : BUTTOCKS — usually singular ▪ He slipped and fell on his *rear*. [=*rear end*]

bring up the rear : to be in the last position in a group, line, etc. ▪ At this point in the voting, Jones is leading with Smith in second place and Johnson *bringing up the rear*. ▪ They entered the room first and I *brought up the rear*.

[2]rear *adj, always used before a noun* : at or near the back of something ▪ The car's *rear* bumper was damaged. ▪ We used the *rear* [=*back*] entrance of the hotel. ▪ the horse's *rear* [=*hind*] legs ▪ the car's *rear* lights/window

[3]rear *verb* **rears**; **reared**; **rear•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to take care of (a young person or animal) ▪ His family *rears* [=*raises*] cattle. ▪ They *reared* [=*brought up*, (*chiefly US*) *raised*] their children to be polite and well-mannered. ▪ books on child-*rearing* — often + *on* ▪ The kitten was *reared on* special food. ▪ He was *reared on* comic books. [=he read a lot of comic books when he was young]

2 [*no obj*] *of an animal* : to rise up on the back legs with the front legs in the air ▪ The horse *reared* (up) in fright.

3 [*no obj*] : to rise high in the air ▪ The cliff wall *reared* (up) above us.

rear its ugly head see [1]HEAD

rear admiral *noun, pl* ~ **-als** [*count*] : an officer of high rank in the navy

rear end *noun, pl* ~ **ends** [*count*]

1 : the part of the body you sit on : BUTTOCKS ▪ She stood up and brushed off her *rear end*.

2 : the back part of something (such as a vehicle) ▪ The car's *rear end* was badly damaged in the accident.

rear–end /ˈriɚˈɛnd/ *verb* **-ends**; **-end•ed**; **-end•ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US, informal* : to drive into the back of (a vehicle) ▪ Someone *rear-ended* my car at a stoplight. = My car was *rear-ended* at a stoplight. ▪ I got *rear-ended*.

rear guard *noun, pl* ~ **guards** [*count*] : a group of soldiers who are placed at the back of an army and who protect the army from being attacked from behind

rear•guard /ˈriɚˌgɑɚd/ *adj, always used before a noun* : fought or conducted by a group of soldiers at the rear of an army especially during a retreat ▪ a *rearguard* battle/defense ▪ The army fought a courageous *rearguard* action. — often used figuratively to describe an effort or fight to change or stop something that is very close to happening or being done ▪ The town has been fighting a *rearguard* action to prevent the multiplex from being built.

re•arm /riˈɑɚm/ *verb* **-arms**; **-armed**; **-arm•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to obtain new weapons ▪ The treaty forbids the country to *rearm*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to supply (someone or something) with new weapons ▪ Another country was *rearming* their enemies.

– re•ar•ma•ment /riˈɑɚməmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ naval *rearmament* ▪ They announced plans for *rearmament*.

rear•most /ˈriɚˌmoʊst/ *adj, always used before a noun* : at the very rear of something : farthest back from the front ▪ the *rearmost* part of the building ▪ the *rearmost* seats

re•ar•range /ˌriːjəˈreɪnʤ/ *verb* **-rang•es**; **-ranged**; **-rang•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to change the position or order of (things) ▪ He *rearranged* the furniture. ▪ She *rearranged* the letters of her name to spell different words. **b** : to change the position or order of the things in (something) ▪ Because of the cancellation, he had to *rearrange* his schedule. ▪ *rearrange* the living room

2 : to change the time or location of (something) ▪ He asked his secretary to *rearrange* [=*reschedule*] the appointment.

– re•ar•range•ment /ˌriːjəˈreɪnʤmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*] ▪ Her schedule required *rearrangement*.

rear•view mirror /ˈriɚˌvjuː-/ *noun, pl* ~ **-rors** [*count*] : a mirror in a vehicle that allows the driver to see what is behind the vehicle — see picture at CAR

[1]rear•ward /ˈriɚwɚd/ *adj, somewhat formal*

1 : located at, near, or toward the back of something ▪ the *rearward* section of the store

2 : directed toward the rear of something : BACKWARD ▪ a *rearward* glance ▪ *rearward* motion

[2]rear•ward (*chiefly US*) /ˈriɚwɚd/ *or chiefly Brit* **rear•wards** /ˈriɚwɚdz/ *adv, somewhat formal* : at, near, or toward the rear ▪ He glanced *rearward*. [=*backward*]

rear–wheel drive *noun* [*noncount*] : a system that applies engine power to the rear wheels of a vehicle ▪ a car with *rear-wheel drive*

[1]rea•son /ˈriːzn̩/ *noun, pl* **-sons**

1 [*count*] : a statement or fact that explains why something is the way it is, why someone does, thinks, or says something, or why someone behaves a certain way ▪ I gave a *reason* for my absence. ▪ Is there a *reason* for your strange behavior? ▪ There is a *reason* why they don't want to come. ▪ I can't give you the report for the simple *reason* that it isn't yet finished.

▪ She explained her *reasons* for deciding to change jobs. ▪ He wanted to know the *reason* for their decision. ▪ "Why don't you want to go to the party?" "No (particular) *reason*. I just feel like staying home tonight." ▪ Give me one good *reason* why I should believe you. ▪ For obvious *reasons*, we can't do that yet. ▪ For *reasons* of space, some of the charts and graphs have been omitted from the article. ▪ She resigned for personal *reasons*. ▪ He is always late, ***for some/whatever reason***. [=he is always late, and no one knows why] ▪ He tends to get upset ***for no reason***. ▪ She did things ***for no good reason***. [=there was no acceptable explanation for her actions]

2 [*noncount*] : a fact, condition, or situation that makes it proper or appropriate to do something, feel something, etc. ▪ There is no *reason* [=*cause*] to panic. ▪ There's no *reason* for you to feel that way. ▪ I had sufficient/adequate/enough *reason* [=*justification*] to leave. ▪ He saw no *reason* to pursue the issue any further. ▪ They want to try something different, and that's *reason* enough for the change. ▪ He was found not guilty ***by reason of*** insanity. [=not guilty because he was insane when he committed the crime] ▪ We have ***(every) reason*** to believe he is lying. ▪ The company fired him ***with/without reason***. [=there was/wasn't a good reason for the company to fire him] ▪ She decided, *with reason*, to find somewhere else to live. ▪ Poor work conditions are ***all the more reason*** to find another job.

3 [*noncount*] : the power of the mind to think and understand in a logical way ▪ Human beings possess the power of *reason*. ▪ (*old-fashioned*) He ***lost his reason***. [=he became insane]

4 [*noncount*] : ideas and opinions that are fair, sensible, and appropriate ▪ I can't get him to ***listen to (the voice of) reason***. = I can't get him to ***see reason***. ▪ He is not ***open to reason***. [=he is not listening to logical or sensible thinking]

rhyme or reason see ¹RHYME

stand to reason : to be sensible or understandable ▪ If her friends don't want to go, ***it stands to reason*** [=it makes sense] that she won't want to go either.

within reason : within reasonable or sensible limits ▪ You can do anything you want, *within reason*. ▪ The price is *within reason*.

²reason *verb* **-sons; -soned; -son•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to think in a logical way ▪ He lost the ability to *reason*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to form (a conclusion or judgment) by thinking logically ▪ He *reasoned* that both statements couldn't be true. ▪ She *reasoned* that something must be wrong.

reason out [*phrasal verb*] ***reason (something) out*** *or* ***reason out (something)*** : to find an explanation or solution to (something, such as a problem, question, mystery, etc.) by thinking about the possibilities ▪ He *reasoned out* [=*worked out*] the problem by himself.

reason with [*phrasal verb*] ***reason with (someone)*** : to talk with (someone) in a sensible way in order to try to change that person's thoughts or behavior ▪ They tried to *reason with* him, but he wouldn't listen.

rea•son•able /'ri:zn̩əbəl/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] : fair and sensible ▪ We have *reasonable* cause not to believe him. ▪ She offered a *reasonable* compromise. ▪ Your idea sounds *reasonable*. ▪ It's not *reasonable* to expect perfect weather. ▪ Please be more *reasonable*. There is no way I'll be able to finish all this work in so little time. ▪ A *reasonable* man would not expect such a thing. ▪ Our boss has *reasonable* expectations of his employees. ▪ The request/offer seems *reasonable*. ▪ We finished within a *reasonable* [=*acceptable*] amount of time. — opposite UNREASONABLE

2 : fairly or moderately good ▪ The team has a *reasonable* chance of winning. ▪ He makes a *reasonable* amount of money. — see also *reasonable facsimile* at FACSIMILE

3 [*more ~; most ~*] : not too expensive ▪ The store's prices are *reasonable*. ▪ The hotel offers excellent accommodations at *reasonable* rates. — opposite UNREASONABLE

– **rea•son•able•ness** /'ri:zn̩əbəlnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We appreciated the *reasonableness* of his decision.

rea•son•ably /'ri:zn̩əbli/ *adv*

1 : to a fair or moderate degree : FAIRLY ▪ The estimate was *reasonably* accurate. ▪ They're doing a *reasonably* good job. ▪ He is doing *reasonably* well in school. ▪ The food is *reasonably* affordable/inexpensive/cheap. ▪ She is *reasonably* intelligent. ▪ I'm *reasonably* sure that the work will be done soon.

2 [*more ~; most ~*] : in a logical and sensible way ▪ "Why don't we take turns?" she suggested *reasonably*. ▪ We might *reasonably* assume he'll be available. ▪ The judge *reasonably* believes that some form of punishment is necessary. ▪ We need to discuss this problem *reasonably*.

3 [*more ~; most ~*] : in a fair or appropriate way ▪ a *reasonably* priced car [=a car that is not too expensive] ▪ She can *reasonably* be expected to show up on time.

reasoned *adj, always used before a noun* : based on sensible and logical thinking ▪ a *reasoned* argument/conclusion ▪ a *reasoned* appeal ▪ a place for *reasoned* debate

rea•son•ing /'ri:zn̩ɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the process of thinking about something in a logical way in order to form a conclusion or judgment ▪ Could you explain your *reasoning*? ▪ They told everyone the *reasoning* behind the decision. ▪ a conclusion based on fallacious/flawed/false/sound *reasoning* ▪ scientific/logical/legal *reasoning* ▪ a method/mode/pattern of *reasoning* ▪ She chose to follow a particular ***line of reasoning***. [=she chose to use a specific set of reasons in order to reach a conclusion]

2 : the ability of the mind to think and understand things in a logical way ▪ Humans possess the power of *reasoning*.

re•as•sem•ble /ˌri:jə'sɛmbəl/ *verb* **-sem•bles; -sem•bled; -sem•bling**

1 [+ *obj*] : to put the parts of (something) back together : to assemble (something) again ▪ She *reassembled* the puzzle.

2 [*no obj*] : to meet as a group again after a period of time : to assemble again ▪ The committee will *reassemble* [=*reconvene*] next month.

re•as•sert /ˌri:jə'sɚt/ *verb* **-serts; -sert•ed; -sert•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make other people accept or respect (something that has been in doubt) ▪ He tried to *reassert* his authority/leadership/power/control.

2 : to state or declare (something) more strongly or clearly : to state again that (something) is true ▪ She *reasserted* her innocence. = She *reasserted* that she was innocent.

reassert itself : to start to have an effect again after a period of not having an effect ▪ Traditional values have *reasserted themselves*. ▪ An earlier pattern may *reassert itself*.

– **re•as•ser•tion** /ˌri:jə'sɚʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

re•as•sess /ˌri:jə'sɛs/ *verb* **-sess•es; -sessed; -sess•ing** [+ *obj*] : to think about (something) again in order to decide whether to change your opinion or judgment of it : to assess (something) again ▪ The doctor *reassessed* the injury. ▪ She convinced him to *reassess* the issue.

– **re•as•sess•ment** /ˌri:jə'sɛsmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*]

re•as•sur•ance /ˌri:jə'ʃɚrəns/ *noun, pl* **-anc•es** : something that is said or done to make someone feel less afraid, upset, or doubtful [*count*] Experts offered their *reassurances* that the accident wouldn't happen again. [*noncount*] He received *reassurance* from his family. ▪ Children need a lot of *reassurance*.

re•as•sure /ˌri:jə'ʃɚ/ *verb* **-sures; -sured; -sur•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) feel less afraid, upset, or doubtful ▪ Experts *reassured* the public that the accident wouldn't happen again. ▪ I tried to *reassure* myself that the children were safe. ▪ The news didn't *reassure* him.

reassuring *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : making someone feel less afraid, upset, or doubtful ▪ The news was somewhat/slightly *reassuring*. ▪ a *reassuring* change ▪ She gave me a *reassuring* smile. ▪ It was deeply *reassuring* to hear his voice.

– **re•as•sur•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ She smiled *reassuringly*.

re•bate /'ri:ˌbeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-bates** [*count*]

1 : an amount of money that is paid back to you because you have paid too much ▪ a tax *rebate* [=*refund*]

2 : an amount of money that a business or company pays back to you because you have bought a particular product or service ▪ a mail-in/store *rebate* ▪ There is a $50 *rebate* offered with the printer.

¹reb•el /'rɛbəl/ *noun, pl* **-els** [*count*]

1 : a person who opposes or fights against a government ▪ The government captured six armed *rebels*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *rebel* army/leader ▪ *rebel* forces/groups ▪ the *rebel* movement

2 : a person who opposes a person or group in authority ▪ He was a *rebel* against the school administration. : a person who does not obey rules or accept normal standards of behavior, dress, etc. ▪ He is a typical teenage *rebel*. ▪ a fashion *rebel*

²re•bel /rɪ'bɛl/ *verb* **-bels; -belled; -bel•ling** [*no obj*]

1 : to oppose or fight against a government ▪ When the government imposed more taxes, the people *rebelled*. ▪ The protesters are *rebelling* against the new tax law.

2 : to oppose a person or group in authority ▪ Children often

rebel against their parents. : to refuse to obey rules or accept normal standards of behavior, dress, etc. ▪ He *rebeled* against the social conventions of his time.

re•bel•lion /rɪˈbɛljən/ *noun, pl* **-lions**

1 : an effort by many people to change the government or leader of a country by the use of protest or violence [*count*] The king's army suppressed/quelled/crushed the *rebellion*. ▪ The unfair tax laws sparked a *rebellion*. ▪ A *rebellion* broke out. [*noncount*] The peasants rose in *rebellion*.

2 : open opposition toward a person or group in authority [*count*] She's the head of a *rebellion* against the leaders of the party. [*noncount*] Recent election losses have led to open *rebellion* among some party members, who are calling for a complete change of leadership.

3 [*noncount*] : refusal to obey rules or accept normal standards of behavior, dress, etc. ▪ signs of teenage *rebellion*

re•bel•lious /rɪˈbɛljəs/ *adj*

1 : fighting against a government ▪ a *rebellious* army ▪ *rebellious* peasants

2 [*more ~; most ~*] : refusing to obey rules or authority or to accept normal standards of behavior, dress, etc. : having or showing a tendency to rebel ▪ a *rebellious* child ▪ a *rebellious* look ▪ He's always had a ***rebellious streak***. [=he has always been inclined to disobey]

– **re•bel•lious•ly** *adv* ▪ She glared back *rebelliously*. ▪ He responded *rebelliously*. – **re•bel•lious•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

re•birth /riˈbɚθ/ *noun, pl* **-births** [*count*]

1 : a period in which something becomes popular again after a long period of time when it was not popular — often + *of* ▪ the *rebirth of* pop music ▪ The war generated a *rebirth* [=*revival, renaissance*] *of* patriotic feeling.

2 : a period of new life, growth, or activity ▪ the natural cycle of birth, death, and *rebirth* in plants ▪ the *rebirth* [=*revival, renaissance*] of the old shopping district ▪ a spiritual *rebirth*

re•boot /riˈbuːt/ *verb* **-boots**; **-boot•ed**; **-boot•ing** *computers* : to turn off a computer and then immediately turn it on [+ *obj*] She tried to *reboot* her computer after it froze. [*no obj*] After you install the software, you will have to *reboot*.

re•born /riˈboɚn/ *adj* : having new or stronger religious beliefs ▪ a *reborn* Christian

be reborn : to be born again : to become alive again after death ▪ The phoenix is a mythical bird that *is reborn* from its own ashes. — often used figuratively to describe something that becomes active or popular again ▪ After years of renovations and improvements, the city has *been reborn* as a tourist destination.

[1]re•bound /ˈriːˌbaʊnd/ *noun, pl* **-bounds** [*count*]

1 : the act of bouncing back after hitting something ▪ The fielder caught the ball ***on the rebound*** off the wall. [=caught the ball when it rebounded off the wall]

2 : a ball, puck, etc., that bounces back after hitting something ▪ He caught/grabbed the *rebound*.

3 *basketball* : the act of catching the ball after a shot has missed going in the basket ▪ He led the league in *rebounds* last year.

4 : an increase or improvement after a decrease or decline ▪ There has been a recent *rebound* in stock prices.

on the rebound **1** : sad and confused because a romantic relationship has recently ended ▪ She refused to date him while he was still *on the rebound*. **2** *chiefly US* : getting better ▪ His health is *on the rebound*.

[2]rebound *verb* **-bounds**; **-bound•ed**; **-bound•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to bounce back *off* something after hitting it ▪ The baseball *rebounded off* the wall.

2 [*no obj*] : to increase or improve after a recent decrease or decline ▪ Share prices are *rebounding*. ▪ She *rebounded* quickly from the loss. ▪ He is *rebounding* [=*recovering*] from the injury well.

3 *basketball* : to catch the ball after a shot has missed going in the basket [*no obj*] She is good at both shooting and *rebounding*. [+ *obj*] He *rebounded* the ball and quickly passed it to a teammate.

re•buff /rɪˈbʌf/ *verb* **-buffs**; **-buffed**; **-buff•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to refuse (something, such as an offer or suggestion) in a rude way ▪ Our suggestion was immediately *rebuffed*. ▪ The company *rebuffed* the bid. ▪ She *rebuffed* him when he asked her for a date.

– **rebuff** *noun, pl* **-buffs** [*count*] ▪ Our suggestion was met with a sharp *rebuff*.

re•build /riˈbɪld/ *verb* **-builds**; **-built** /riˈbɪlt/; **-build•ing**

1 : to build (something) again after it has been damaged or destroyed [+ *obj*] He *rebuilt* his house after it was destroyed by a fire. [*no obj*] They tried to *rebuild* after the earthquake.

2 : to make important improvements or changes in (something) [+ *obj*] They are *rebuilding* [=*renovating, remodeling*] an old house. ▪ He is trying to *rebuild* [=*restore*] his reputation. ▪ The new owner plans to *rebuild* the franchise. [*no obj*] The team is *rebuilding* after losing most of its top players.

re•buke /rɪˈbjuːk/ *verb* **-bukes**; **-buked**; **-buk•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to speak in an angry and critical way to (someone) — often + *for* ▪ She was *rebuked* [=*reprimanded*] *for* being late. ▪ The boss *rebuked* us *for* talking too much.

– **rebuke** *noun, pl* **-bukes** [*count*] ▪ He was stunned by the harsh *rebuke* from his father.

re•bus /ˈriːbəs/ *noun, pl* **-bus•es** [*count*] : a riddle or puzzle made up of letters, pictures, or symbols whose names sound like the parts or syllables of a word or phrase

re•but /rɪˈbʌt/ *verb* **-buts**; **-but•ted**; **-but•ting** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to prove (something) is false by using arguments or evidence ▪ Her lawyer attempted to *rebut* the witness's testimony.

– **re•but•tal** /rɪˈbʌtl̩/ *noun, pl* **-tals** *formal* [*count*] Her report is a *rebuttal* of some common misconceptions. ▪ In an angry *rebuttal*, the researchers claimed they were being unfairly scrutinized. [*noncount*] He said ***in rebuttal*** that he hadn't cheated.

re•cal•ci•trant /rɪˈkælsətrənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : stubbornly refusing to obey rules or orders ▪ a *recalcitrant* prisoner

– **re•cal•ci•trance** /rɪˈkælsətrəns/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]re•call /rɪˈkɑːl/ *verb* **-calls**; **-called**; **-call•ing**

1 *not used in progressive tenses, somewhat formal* : to remember (something) from the past [+ *obj*] She wanted to send him a letter but couldn't *recall* his address. ▪ I don't *recall* what time they said they would be here. ▪ It is important to *recall* that not very long ago cell phones did not exist. ▪ From what I *recall*, I think the library is two blocks down on the left. ▪ "The first time we met," he *recalled*, "we got into a big argument." [*no obj*] As you may *recall*, we had agreed that decisions would require prior approval. ▪ "What's his address?" "I don't *recall*."

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to ask or order (someone) to return ▪ The government *recalled* the soldiers to active duty. = The soldiers were *recalled* to active duty. ▪ The ambassador was *recalled* from abroad. **b** : to ask people to return (a product with a defect or problem) ▪ The factory is *recalling* all the cars because of a problem with the brakes. ▪ Officials *recalled* two tons of contaminated meat today.

3 *not used in progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to be thought of : to bring (an image, idea, etc.) into your mind ▪ The old stone town hall *recalls* [=*resembles*] a stone house from medieval Europe. ▪ Seeing her again *recalled* memories of the happy times we spent together.

[2]re•call /ˈriːˌkɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-calls**

1 [*singular*] : an official order for someone or something to return ▪ They issued a *recall* of workers after the layoff.

2 [*count*] : a request by a company for people to return a product that has a defect or problem ▪ The factory has issued a *recall* of all cars with the defective brakes. ▪ a beef *recall*

3 [*noncount*] : the ability to remember what has been learned or experienced in the past ▪ She did mental exercises meant to improve her *recall*. ▪ He has ***total recall***. [=the ability to remember all the details of things exactly as they happened]

4 [*singular*] *US* : a way in which a public official may be removed from office by a special vote of the people ▪ Many people are calling for a *recall* of the mayor. ▪ a *recall* election

beyond recall : impossible to bring back : not able to be brought back or remembered ▪ Her youth was (gone) *beyond recall*. [=her youth was gone and could not be brought back] ▪ events that are now *beyond recall*

re•cant /rɪˈkænt/ *verb* **-cants**; **-cant•ed**; **-cant•ing** *formal* : to publicly say that you no longer have an opinion or belief that you once had [*no obj*] Church officials asked the minister/priest to *recant*. [+ *obj*] Witnesses threatened to *recant* their testimony when the court released their names to the paper.

– **re•can•ta•tion** /ˌriːˌkænˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

re•cap /ˈriːˌkæp/ *verb* **-caps**; **-capped**; **-cap•ping** : to give a brief summary of what has been done or said before [+ *obj*] At the end of the program, the announcer *recapped* the

R

day's news. ▪ Before we continue, let's *recap* what we have done so far. [*no obj*] Before we continue, let's *recap*.
– **recap** *noun, pl* **-caps** [*count*] ▪ The article provides a short *recap* of recent political developments. ▪ Before we continue, here's a *recap* of what we have done so far.

re•ca•pit•u•late /ˌri:kə'pɪʧəˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing** *formal* : to give a brief summary of something : RECAP [+ *obj*] To *recapitulate* what was said earlier, we need to develop new ways to gain customers. [*no obj*] We understood your point, there's no need to *recapitulate*.
– **re•ca•pit•u•la•tion** /ˌri:kəˌpɪʧə'leɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] She provided a *recapitulation* [=*summary*] of events leading up to this point. [*noncount*] His speech was so complex that *recapitulation* is impossible.

re•cap•ture /ri'kæpʧɚ/ *verb* **-tures**; **-tured**; **-tur•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to catch (someone or something that has escaped) ▪ The guards *recaptured* the escaped prisoner.
2 : to gain control of (a place or position) again after losing it ▪ The soldiers *recaptured* the hill they had lost the day before. ▪ In the final lap of the race, he *recaptured* the lead.
3 : to experience or bring back (a feeling, quality, or situation) again ▪ They are trying to *recapture* those happy times they had together. ▪ The documentary *recaptures* the social tensions of the 1960s.
– **recapture** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The escaped prisoners have so far avoided *recapture*.

re•cast /ri'kæst, *Brit* ri'kɑ:st/ *verb* **-casts**; **-cast**; **-cast•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to change the actors in (a play, movie, or television show) ▪ The director decided to *recast* the movie with unknowns. **b** : to give a new role to (an actor) ▪ When she quit the movie, I was *recast* in the leading role. ▪ The director *recast* some of the actors in the play.
2 : to present (something) in a different way ▪ You should *recast* the last sentence in your essay to make it clearer. ▪ He *recast* his political image to fit the times.

rec•ce /'rɛki/ *noun, pl* **-ces** [*count, noncount*] *Brit, informal* : RECONNAISSANCE

rec'd *abbr* received ▪ your letter *rec'd* March 3

re•cede /rɪ'si:d/ *verb* **-cedes**; **-ced•ed**; **-ced•ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to move away gradually ▪ The floodwaters slowly *receded*. ▪ I felt sad as I watched the ship *recede* from view.
2 : to become smaller or weaker ▪ We listened as the sound of the sirens *receded* [=*faded*] into the distance. ▪ The pain from my headache slowly began to *recede*.
3 ✧ If your hair is *receding*, you are gradually losing the hair that is at the front of your head. ▪ His hair started *receding* when he was in his thirties. ▪ He has a ***receding hairline***.
4 ✧ A ***receding chin/forehead*** is a chin/forehead that slants backward.

re•ceipt /rɪ'si:t/ *noun, pl* **-ceipts**
1 [*count*] : a piece of paper on which the things that you buy or the services that you pay for are listed with the total amount paid and the prices for each ▪ Keep your *receipt* in case you need to return anything.
2 [*noncount*] *formal* : the act of receiving something ▪ The form should be completed and returned within 30 days of *receipt*. ▪ Open immediately ***upon/on receipt of*** the package. ▪ I am ***in receipt of*** your instructions. [=I have received your instructions]
3 ***receipts*** [*plural*] : money that a business, bank, or government receives ▪ Our company deposits cash *receipts* every day.

re•ceiv•able /rɪ'si:vəbəl/ *adj, always used after a noun, business* : not yet paid ▪ ***accounts receivable*** [=the amounts of money that people and (other) businesses owe you]

re•ceiv•ables /rɪ'si:vəbəlz/ *noun* [*plural*] *business* : the amounts of money that other people and businesses owe you ▪ Our *receivables* are down this quarter.

re•ceive /rɪ'si:v/ *verb* **-ceives**; **-ceived**; **-ceiv•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to get or be given (something) ▪ You will be charged a late fee if the electric company does not *receive* your payment on time. ▪ I *received* a letter/call from her yesterday. ▪ You will *receive* a discount if you spend over $100. ▪ This spring he'll *receive* [=be awarded] his PhD in physics.
2 [+ *obj*] : to react to (something) in a specified way ▪ She *received* the news of his death with remarkable calmness. — often used as *(be) received* ▪ Her new book *was* well/poorly *received* by the critics. [=the critics liked/disliked her new book] ▪ The results of the study *were received* with considerable skepticism.
3 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to welcome (someone) in usually a formal way ▪ The ambassador *received* [=*greeted*] his guests as they arrived at the party.
4 [+ *obj*] : to accept (someone) as a member of an organization, church, etc. — + *into* ▪ She was *received into* the church/university.
5 [+ *obj*] **a** : to suffer (an injury) ▪ He *received* [=*got*] a broken nose when he slipped and fell on the ice. **b** : to be given (a punishment) ▪ She *received* a heavy sentence from the judge.
6 [+ *obj*] : to experience or take (a medical treatment) ▪ He *receives* an injection once a week to treat his allergies. ▪ Only one of the patients *receiving* the new treatment is experiencing bad side effects. ▪ He *received* a kidney transplant.
7 [+ *obj*] **a** : to get (signals that are sent to a television, radio, etc.) ▪ We were unable to *receive* the broadcast. ▪ A satellite *receives* the signals and then sends them back to earth. **b** : to be able to hear (someone who is talking to you on a radio) ▪ I'm *receiving* you loud and clear.
8 *American football* : to be the player or team to which the ball is kicked when play begins [*no obj*] They won the coin toss and chose to *receive*. [+ *obj*] They chose to *receive* the kickoff.
9 [+ *obj*] *law* : to buy or take (goods that have been stolen) illegally ▪ He was found guilty of *receiving* stolen goods.
on/at the receiving end ✧ If you are *on/at the receiving end* of something bad or unpleasant, you are the person it is directed at. ▪ It's not often that I find myself *on the receiving end* of such insults.

received *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : widely accepted ▪ What was radical thinking in times past has become ***received wisdom*** today.

Received Pronunciation *noun* [*noncount*] : the British pronunciation of words that is based on the speech of educated people and is sometimes considered to be the standard pronunciation — abbr. *RP*

re•ceiv•er /rɪ'si:vɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : the part of a telephone that you pick up and hold near your face when you are making or receiving a phone call ▪ She angrily slammed down the phone's *receiver*.
2 : radio or television equipment that changes signals into sound and pictures ▪ a satellite *receiver*
3 *American football* : a player who catches passes thrown by the quarterback — see also WIDE RECEIVER
4 *law* : a person who is chosen to take control of a bankrupt business or its property ▪ She was listed as the *receiver* in the bankruptcy proceedings.
5 *law* : a person who buys or takes goods knowing that they have been stolen ▪ a *receiver* of stolen property

re•ceiv•er•ship /rɪ'si:vɚˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*] *law* : the state of a business that has been placed under the control of a receiver because it is bankrupt ▪ Years of financial difficulty eventually placed the company into *receivership*.

receiving line *noun, pl* ~ **lines** [*count*] *US* : a group of family members and friends who stand in line at a wedding, funeral, or other formal occasion to welcome or greet guests and receive their good wishes, their sympathy, etc.

re•cent /'ri:sn̩t/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : happening or beginning not long ago ▪ *Recent* events have brought attention to the problem. ▪ I usually watch that show every week, but I missed the most *recent* episode. ▪ Medical science has made amazing progress in *recent* decades/years. ▪ She's a *recent* college graduate. [=she graduated from college a short time ago] ▪ The change was *recent*. ▪ That was the biggest earthquake ***in recent history/memory***.

re•cent•ly /'ri:sn̩tli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : during the period of time that has just passed : not long ago ▪ She *recently* graduated from college. ▪ I was going to paint the room white, but more *recently* I've been considering a light blue. ▪ I saw him *recently* for the first time in many years. ▪ Only *recently* did they decide to move. ▪ Until *recently* I had no idea where I would end up finding a job.

re•cep•ta•cle /rɪ'sɛptɪkəl/ *noun, pl* **-ta•cles** [*count*]
1 *formal* : a container that is used to hold something ▪ She used the box as a *receptacle* for her jewelry. ▪ a trash *receptacle* — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He became a *receptacle* for his father's love and kindness.
2 *US* : a device into which an electric cord can be plugged in order to provide electricity for a lamp, television, etc. ▪ an electrical *receptacle* [=*outlet*]

re•cep•tion /rɪ'sɛpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*count*] : the kind of welcome that someone or something

is given — usually singular ▪ The performers did not get the warm *reception* they had hoped for. ▪ His suggestion was given a cool *reception*. [=people were not enthusiastic about his suggestion]

2 [*count*] : a social gathering to celebrate something or to welcome someone ▪ The school held a *reception* for the new students and their families. ▪ a wedding *reception*

3 [*noncount*] : the act or process of receiving, welcoming, or accepting something or someone ▪ He decided to run for a seat on the school committee only a year after his *reception* into the community. ▪ Her job is to deal with the *reception* of donations.

4 [*noncount*] — used to describe how well or badly a radio, television, etc., is able to receive signals ▪ Our TV gets poor *reception* because of all the trees around the house. ▪ My cell phone *reception* is terrible.

5 [*noncount*] : a desk or area in a hotel, office building, etc., where visitors first go after entering ▪ Check in at *reception* when you arrive. = Check in at the ***reception desk*** when you arrive. ▪ I waited in the ***reception area***. [=*lobby*]

6 [*count*] *American football* : the act of catching a forward pass ▪ He had three *receptions* [=he caught three passes] in today's game.

reception class *noun, pl* ~ **classes** [*count*] *Brit* : a class for young children who are just starting to go to school

re•cep•tion•ist /rɪ'sɛpʃənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a person whose job is to deal with the people who call or enter an office, hotel, etc.

reception room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] *Brit* : a room in a house (such as a living room) that is used for sitting and not for cooking, sleeping, etc. ▪ For sale: house with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, and 2 *reception rooms*.

re•cep•tive /rɪ'sɛptɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : willing to listen to or accept ideas, suggestions, etc. ▪ I was happy to be speaking before such a *receptive* audience. — often + *to* ▪ He was *receptive to* the idea of going back to school.

– **re•cep•tive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He was pleased by the *receptiveness* of the audience. – **re•cep•tiv•i•ty** /ˌri:ˌsɛp'tɪvəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the audience's *receptivity* to his theories

re•cep•tor /rɪ'sɛptə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] *biology* : a nerve ending that senses changes in light, temperature, pressure, etc., and causes the body to react in a particular way

[1]re•cess /'ri:ˌsɛs/ *noun, pl* **-cess•es**

1 [*noncount*] *US* : a short period of time during the school day when children can play ▪ The students play outside after lunch and at/during *recess*. ▪ Do you have morning *recess*? — called also (*Brit*) *playtime*

2 : a usually brief period of time during which regular activity in a court of law or in a government stops [*count*] The judge called for a *recess* [=*break*] for lunch. ▪ The Senate debates will continue after the August *recess*. [*noncount*] The Senate wanted to vote on the bill before *recess*.

3 [*count*] : a dark, hidden place or part — usually plural; often + *of* ▪ the dark *recesses of* the forest ▪ He buried the memory in the deepest *recesses of* his mind.

4 [*count*] : a part of a wall that is set back from the rest of the wall

[2]recess *verb* **-cesses**; **-cessed**; **-cess•ing** *US* : to stop regular activity in a court of law or in a government for a usually short period of time [*no obj*] The trial *recessed* for the holidays. [+ *obj*] The judge decided to *recess* the trial for the holidays.

recessed *adj* : set back into a wall or ceiling ▪ The shelf is *recessed* into the wall. ▪ The room has *recessed* lights/lighting. ▪ *recessed* shelves

re•ces•sion /rɪ'sɛʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 : a period of time in which there is a decrease in economic activity and many people do not have jobs [*count*] Many people lost their jobs during the recent *recession*. ▪ an economic *recession* [*noncount*] The economy is in deep *recession*. ▪ The President helped pull the country out of *recession*.

2 [*noncount*] *formal* : the act of moving back or away slowly : the act of receding ▪ the *recession* of the floodwaters

re•ces•sion•ary /rɪ'sɛʃəˌneri, *Brit* rɪ'sɛʃənri/ *adj* : of or relating to an economic recession ▪ in these *recessionary* times

re•ces•sive /rɪ'sɛsɪv/ *adj, biology* : causing or relating to a characteristic or condition that a child will have only if both of the child's parents have it ▪ *recessive* genes ▪ Red hair is a *recessive* trait. = Red hair is *recessive*. — opposite DOMINANT

re•charge /ri'ʧɑəʤ/ *verb* **-charg•es**; **-charged**; **-charg•ing**

1 : to refill (a battery) with electricity [+ *obj*] When the computer beeps, you need to *recharge* the battery. [*no obj*] It takes about an hour for the battery to *recharge*.

2 [*no obj*] : to regain your energy and strength ▪ Take a break to give yourself time to *recharge*.

recharge your batteries *informal* : to rest and relax in order to regain your energy and strength ▪ We took a nap after work to *recharge our batteries* before going out dancing.

– **re•charge•able** *adj* ▪ *rechargeable* batteries

re•charg•er /ri'ʧɑəʤə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a machine that recharges batteries ▪ The digital camera has a built-in *recharger*.

re•cher•ché /rəˌʃeə'ʃeɪ, *Brit* rə'ʃɛəˌʃeɪ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : unusual and not understood by most people ▪ *recherché* references

re•cid•i•vist /rɪ'sɪdəvɪst/ *noun, pl* **-vists** [*count*] *formal* : a person who continues to commit crimes even after being caught and punished

– **re•cid•i•vism** /rɪ'sɪdəˌvɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We hope the new program will lower *recidivism* rates.

rec•i•pe /'rɛsəpi/ *noun, pl* **-pes** [*count*]

1 : a set of instructions for making food ▪ The *recipe* calls for fresh thyme. ▪ I didn't read the *recipe* carefully. ▪ This is one of my grandmother's *recipes*. ▪ a ***recipe book*** [=*cookbook*] — often + *for* ▪ a *recipe for* beef stew

2 : a way of doing something that will produce a particular result — + *for* ▪ He says he has an infallible *recipe for* success. ▪ "She's planning to do the plumbing herself." "That's a ***recipe for disaster***." [=that will result in disaster]

re•cip•i•ent /rɪ'sɪpijənt/ *noun, pl* **-ents** [*count*] *formal* : a person who receives something ▪ welfare *recipients* — often + *of* ▪ She is the *recipient of* many honors. [=she has received many honors]

re•cip•ro•cal /rɪ'sɪprəkəl/ *adj* — used to describe a relationship in which two people or groups agree to do something similar for each other, to allow each other to have the same rights, etc. ▪ a *reciprocal* trade agreement between two countries ▪ a *reciprocal* exchange of information ▪ The plan will only work if both sides fulfill their *reciprocal* [=*mutual*] obligations.

– **re•cip•ro•cal•ly** /rɪ'sɪprəkli/ *adv*

re•cip•ro•cate /rɪ'sɪprəˌkeɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing**

1 a : to do (something) for or to someone who has done something similar for or to you [*no obj*] She was harshly criticized, but she did not defend herself or *reciprocate* in any way. [=she did not criticize the people who criticized her] [+ *obj*] They appreciated her kindness but were not ready to *reciprocate* the gesture. **b** [+ *obj*] : to have (a feeling) for someone who has the same feeling for you ▪ It broke his heart to learn that his love was not *reciprocated*. [=that the person he loved did not love him]

2 [*no obj*] *technical* : to move back and forth again and again ▪ a *reciprocating* saw

– **re•cip•ro•ca•tion** /rɪˌsɪprə'keɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

rec•i•proc•i•ty /ˌrɛsə'prɑ:səti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : a situation or relationship in which two people or groups agree to do something similar for each other, to allow each other to have the same rights, etc. : a reciprocal arrangement or relationship ▪ The proposal calls for *reciprocity* in trade relations.

re•cit•al /rɪ'saɪtl̩/ *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*]

1 : a dance or musical performance ▪ piano *recitals* ▪ a dance *recital*

2 : the act of reading something out loud or saying something from memory usually for an audience ▪ a poetry *recital* — often + *of* ▪ He gave a *recital of* his own poems before a large group of students.

3 : a long description or list that includes many things — often + *of* ▪ Her speech was actually just a long *recital of* names, places, and dates.

rec•i•ta•tion /ˌrɛsə'teɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : the act of reciting something: such as **a** : the act of saying or repeating something out loud for an audience [*noncount*] the *recitation* of poetry/prayers [*count*] a poetry *recitation* **b** [*count*] : the act of describing or listing many things in a series — often + *of* ▪ a *recitation of* our successes and failures ▪ dry *recitations of* statistics

rec•i•ta•tive /ˌrɛsətə'ti:v/ *noun, pl* **-tives** *music* : a passage in vocal music (such as an opera) in which the words are sung in a way that resembles speech [*count*] the second *recitative* of Act II [*noncount*] The opera made use of *recitative*.

R

re•cite /rɪ'saɪt/ *verb* **-cites**; **-cit•ed**; **-cit•ing**
1 : to read (something) out loud or say (something) from memory usually for an audience [+ *obj*] He *recited* the poem/passage with great feeling. [*no obj*] He began to *recite* from the Koran.
2 [+ *obj*] : to say or describe (a series or list of things) ▪ He can easily *recite* all the facts about any player on the team.

reck•less /'rɛkləs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not showing proper concern about the possible bad results of your actions ▪ He is a wild and *reckless* young man. ▪ She has gotten two tickets for ***reckless driving*** [=driving a car in a dangerous manner] ▪ He showed a ***reckless disregard for*** the safety of others. ▪ He spends money ***with reckless abandon***.
– **reck•less•ly** *adv* ▪ They *recklessly* threw themselves into battle. – **reck•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ financial *recklessness*

reck•on /'rɛkən/ *verb* **-ons**; **-oned**; **-on•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *informal* : to think or suppose (something) : to believe that (something) is true or possible ▪ I *reckon* that we'll have to leave early. ▪ Do you *reckon* you'll be able to go to the grocery store after work? ▪ We'll have to leave early, I *reckon*. ▪ "Do you think it will rain?" "(I) *Reckon* so." [=I think it will]
2 : to calculate or guess (an amount, number, value, etc.) : to have or form a general idea about (something) ▪ They *reckoned* that they would reach their destination by noon. ▪ I *reckon* [=*estimate*] the height of the building to be 70 feet. ▪ Losses were *reckoned* to be over a million dollars.
3 : to think of (someone or something) as being something specified — usually used as *(be) reckoned* ▪ She *was reckoned* [=*considered*] to be among the group's leaders. = She *was reckoned* as one of the group's leaders.
reckon on [*phrasal verb*] ***reckon on (something)*** : to expect (something) to happen : to plan on (something) ▪ The train was an hour late, which was something we hadn't *reckoned on*. ▪ She *reckoned on* winning the election. [=she expected to win the election]
reckon up [*phrasal verb*] ***reckon up (something) or reckon (something) up*** *chiefly Brit* : to calculate the total number or amount of (something) ▪ He *reckoned up* the bill.
reckon with [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***reckon with (something)*** : to consider or think about (something) when you are making plans ▪ They hadn't *reckoned with* all the paperwork that went along with buying a new house. **2** ***reckon with (someone or something)*** : to deal with (someone or something that can cause problems or trouble) ▪ Anyone who tries to change the system will have to *reckon with* me. = Anyone who tries to change the system will have me to *reckon with*. [=I will oppose/fight anyone who tries to change the system] ✧ If you are a ***person/force to be reckoned with*** or a ***person/force to reckon with***, you are someone who is strong and cannot be ignored. ▪ When he won his first three matches, the other players realized that he was *a force/man to be reckoned with*.
reckon without [*phrasal verb*] ***reckon without (something or someone)*** *chiefly Brit* : to fail to consider (something or someone) when making plans ▪ They thought they could defeat him, but they *reckoned without* his determination.

reckoning *noun*
1 [*noncount*] : the act of calculating the amount of something ▪ I was more than $10 off in my *reckoning*. ▪ ***By my reckoning*** [=by my calculations], he should be in his 80s by now.
2 a [*noncount*] : the time when your actions are judged as good or bad and you are rewarded or punished ▪ When the ***day of reckoning*** comes, we will have to face some unpleasant truths. **b** [*count*] : the act of judging something — usually singular ▪ In the ***final reckoning*** her earliest books are the best.
3 [*noncount*] *Brit* : the group of people or things that are considered likely to win or be successful ▪ Our football team hardly comes ***into the reckoning*** ▪ Because of his injury, he is ***out of the reckoning*** ▪ The team is still ***in the reckoning***.

re•claim /rɪ'kleɪm/ *verb* **-claims**; **-claimed**; **-claim•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to get back (something that was lost or taken away) ▪ Sons and daughters are proudly *reclaiming* the traditions that their parents had forgotten. ▪ She *reclaimed* the title of world champion this year. ▪ You might be able to *reclaim* some of the money you contributed.
2 : to make (land) available for use by changing its condition ▪ Environmental groups have been *reclaiming* contaminated sites. ▪ Acres of land were *reclaimed* by conservationists. ▪ *reclaimed* swampland
3 : to get (a usable material) from materials that have been used before ▪ The factory *reclaims* fibers from textile wastes. ▪ These bottles were made from *reclaimed* [=(more commonly) *recycled*] plastic.
– **rec•la•ma•tion** /ˌrɛklə'meɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ land *reclamation*

re•cline /rɪ'klaɪn/ *verb* **-clines**; **-clined**; **-clin•ing**
1 [*no obj*] *formal* : to sit back or lie down in a relaxed manner ▪ She was *reclining* on the sofa, watching TV.
2 : to lean backward [*no obj*] Does that chair *recline*? ▪ The theater has *reclining* seats. [+ *obj*] He *reclined* his seat so that he could nap more comfortably.

re•clin•er /rɪ'klaɪnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a comfortable chair which has a back that can lean back at an angle — see picture at LIVING ROOM

re•cluse /'rɛˌklu:s, *Brit* rɪ'klu:s/ *noun, pl* **-cluses** [*count*] : a person who lives alone and avoids other people ▪ My neighbor is a *recluse*—I only see him about once a year.
– **re•clu•sive** /rɪ'klu:sɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ my *reclusive* neighbor ▪ a *reclusive* lifestyle

rec•og•ni•tion /ˌrɛkɪg'nɪʃən/ *noun*
1 a : the act of accepting that something is true or important or that it exists [*noncount*] The procedure is gaining *recognition* as the latest advance in organ transplant surgery. ▪ The Olympic Committee gave official/formal *recognition* to the sport. [*singular*] His smile was a *recognition* that things were not so bad. **b** [*noncount*] : the act of accepting someone or something as having legal or official authority — often + *of* ▪ the *recognition of* the territory as a state ▪ They demand legal *recognition of* their rights.
2 [*noncount*] : the act of knowing who or what someone or something is because of previous knowledge or experience ▪ She somehow escaped *recognition*. [=she was not recognized; no one knew who she was when they saw her] ▪ The renovations changed the house ***beyond (all) recognition***. [=changed the house so much that it looked completely different and could not be recognized as the same house]
3 [*noncount*] : special attention or notice especially by the public for someone's work or actions ▪ Her paintings received *recognition* from her fellow artists. ▪ All she wanted was some *recognition* for her work. ▪ He finally received the *recognition* that he deserved. ▪ They were awarded medals ***in recognition of*** their bravery.
4 [*noncount*] *computers* : the ability of a computer to understand and process human speech or writing ▪ speech/voice/handwriting *recognition*

re•cog•ni•zance /rɪ'kɑ:gnəzəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US, law* : a legal promise made by someone before a court of law that must be kept to avoid being punished ▪ He was released ***on his own recognizance*** [=he promised to do what the court wanted him to do and the court let him go]

rec•og•nize *also Brit* **rec•og•nise** /'rɛkɪgˌnaɪz/ *verb* **-niz•es**; **-nized**; **-niz•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *not used in progressive tenses* : to know and remember (someone or something) because of previous knowledge or experience ▪ I didn't *recognize* you at first with your new haircut. ▪ I can always *recognize* him from far away by/from the way he walks. ▪ They *recognized* the odor at once.
2 : to accept or be aware that (something) is true or exists ▪ It's important to *recognize* [=be aware of] your own faults. ▪ They started talking and quickly *recognized* [=*realized*] how much they had in common.
3 : to accept and approve of (something) as having legal or official authority ▪ The U.S. government has now *recognized* the newly formed country. ▪ They refused to *recognize* the treaty.
4 : to think of (someone or something) as being something specified ▪ The institute is an internationally *recognized* authority on eye surgery. ▪ Walt Whitman is *recognized* as one of America's great poets.
5 : to publicly give special attention or notice to (someone or something) ▪ They *recognized* her years of service with a special award. ▪ We want to find an appropriate way to *recognize* his achievements.
– **rec•og•niz•able** *also Brit* **rec•og•nis•able** /'rɛkɪgˌnaɪzəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ She has one of the most *recognizable* faces in the movie industry. ▪ The bird is easily *recognizable* because of its bright red feathers.
– **rec•og•niz•ably** *also Brit* **rec•og•nis•ably** /'rɛkɪgˌnaɪzəbli/ *adv* ▪ *recognizably* different versions

[1]re•coil /rɪ'kojəl/ *verb* **-coils**; **-coiled**; **-coil•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to quickly move away from something that is shocking, frightening, or disgusting : to react to something with shock or fear ▪ We *recoiled* in horror at the sight of his wounded arm. ▪ He *recoiled* from her touch. — often used figuratively ▪ We *recoiled* at the prospect of having to spend that much money to fix the car.

2 *of a gun* : to move back suddenly when fired ▪ The rifle *recoiled* and bruised my shoulder.

[2]re•coil /ˈriːˌkojəl/ *noun* [*singular*] : the sudden backward movement of a gun that happens when the gun is fired ▪ The gun has a sharp *recoil*.

rec•ol•lect /ˌrɛkəˈlɛkt/ *verb* **-lects**; **-lect•ed**; **-lect•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remember (something) ▪ I've been trying to *recollect* what happened. ▪ I don't *recollect* telling him anything, but maybe I did. ▪ She couldn't *recollect* who had mentioned his name in the first place. ▪ From what I *recollect*, they said four of them were coming.

rec•ol•lec•tion /ˌrɛkəˈlɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the act of remembering something or the ability to remember something ▪ Her *recollection* of the accident is very different from mine. ▪ ***To the best of my recollection*** [=from what I can remember], I only met them once.

2 [*count*] : something from the past that is remembered : MEMORY ▪ She has only a vague *recollection* of her seventh birthday party. ▪ His novel is largely based on his own *recollections* of his childhood in the inner city. ▪ He says he ***has no recollection*** of what happened. [=he doesn't remember what happened]

re•com•mence /ˌriːkəˈmɛns/ *verb* **-menc•es**; **-menced**; **-menc•ing** *formal* : to begin (something) again after stopping [+ *obj*] The countries agreed to *recommence* the peace talks. [*no obj*] Production will *recommence* in early fall.

rec•om•mend /ˌrɛkəˈmɛnd/ *verb* **-mends**; **-mend•ed**; **-mend•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to say that (someone or something) is good and deserves to be chosen ▪ A friend *recommended* this restaurant. ▪ I can't decide between the lasagna and the salmon. Which do you *recommend*? ▪ They *recommended* her for a promotion after only two years. ▪ The film is *recommended* to anyone who liked her earlier movies.

2 : to suggest that someone do (something) ▪ It is strongly *recommended* that you change the oil in your car every 5,000 miles. ▪ Take only the *recommended* dose of cough syrup. ▪ I *recommend* [=*suggest*] getting to the theater an hour early to be sure you get tickets. = I *recommend* that you get to the theater an hour early. ▪ You may decide to pursue the matter in court, but I wouldn't *recommend* it.

3 : to make (something or someone) seem attractive or good ▪ As a vacation destination, the area ***has much to recommend it*** [=there are many things that make it a good vacation destination] ▪ He ***has little/nothing to recommend him*** as a political candidate. [=he has little/nothing that suggests he would be an attractive or successful candidate]

rec•om•men•da•tion /ˌrɛkəmənˈdeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the act of saying that someone or something is good and deserves to be chosen ▪ My boss wrote me a glowing ***letter of recommendation*** ▪ We picked this restaurant ***on his recommendation*** [=because he recommended it] ▪ Employees are frequently hired ***on the recommendation of*** a friend in the company.

2 [*count*] : a suggestion about what should be done ▪ The report made very specific *recommendations* for policy reform. ▪ He rejected his doctor's *recommendation* [=*advice*] that he work less and exercise more. ▪ The committee's *recommendation* to hire a new director has been well received.

3 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a formal letter that explains why a person is appropriate or qualified for a particular job, school, etc. ▪ The application requires two written *recommendations*. [=*references*]

[1]rec•om•pense /ˈrɛkəmˌpɛns/ *noun, formal* : something that is given to or done to thank or reward someone or to pay someone for loss or suffering [*singular*] He is asking for a just/fair *recompense* for the work he's done. [*noncount*] She is seeking *recompense* [=*compensation*] for medical fees. ▪ He received $10,000 ***in recompense*** for his injuries.

[2]recompense *verb* **-pens•es**; **-pensed**; **-pens•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to give something (such as money) to (someone) as a reward or as a payment for loss or suffering ▪ The company has agreed to *recompense* [=(more commonly) *compensate*] her for the injuries she sustained on the job.

re•con /ˈriːˌkɑːn/ *noun, pl* **-cons** [*count, noncount*] *US, informal* : RECONNAISSANCE

rec•on•cile /ˈrɛkənˌsajəl/ *verb* **-ciles**; **-ciled**; **-cil•ing** *formal*

1 [+ *obj*] : to find a way of making (two different ideas, facts, etc.) exist or be true at the same time ▪ I'm afraid her story cannot be *reconciled* with the proven facts. [=her story must be false because it does not agree with the proven facts] ▪ You'll need to *reconcile* [=*settle*] your differences with her. ▪ It can be difficult to *reconcile* your ideals with reality.

2 : to cause people or groups to become friendly again after an argument or disagreement [+ *obj*] His attempt to *reconcile* his friends (with each other) was unsuccessful. — often used as *(be) reconciled* ▪ After many years, they *are* finally *reconciled* (with each other). [=they are friendly again] [*no obj*] We will never *reconcile*. ▪ After many years, they finally *reconciled* (with each other).

reconcile to [*phrasal verb*] ***reconcile (someone) to (something)*** : to cause (someone) to accept (something unpleasant) ▪ He eventually became *reconciled to* his position in life. ▪ I *reconciled* myself *to* the loss.

– rec•on•cil•able /ˌrɛkənˈsaɪləbəl/ *adj* ▪ Your theory is easily *reconcilable* with our results.

rec•on•cil•i•a•tion /ˌrɛkənˌsɪliˈeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal*

1 : the act of causing two people or groups to become friendly again after an argument or disagreement [*noncount*] Signing the trade agreement was praised as an act of *reconciliation* between the two countries. [*count*] He contacted us in hopes of a *reconciliation*.

2 : the process of finding a way to make two different ideas, facts, etc., exist or be true at the same time [*noncount*] The differences in their philosophies are beyond *reconciliation*. [=cannot be reconciled] [*count*] a *reconciliation* of opposing views

re•con•dite /ˈrɛkənˌdaɪt/ *adj, formal* : not understood or known by many people ▪ a *recondite* subject/fact

re•con•di•tion /ˌriːkənˈdɪʃən/ *verb* **-tions**; **-tioned**; **-tion•ing** [+ *obj*] : to return (something) to good condition by repairing it, cleaning it, or replacing parts ▪ He *reconditioned* the old car. ▪ a *reconditioned* engine

re•con•fig•ure /ˌriːkənˈfɪgjɚ, *Brit* ˌriːkənˈfɪgə/ *verb* **-ure**; **-ures**; **-ur•ing** [+ *obj*] : to change the way (something) is arranged or prepared for a particular purpose ▪ We *reconfigured* the floor space to make it easier to work in. ▪ The network has been *reconfigured*.

re•con•nais•sance /rɪˈkɑːnəzəns/ *noun, pl* **-sanc•es** : military activity in which soldiers, airplanes, etc., are sent to find out information about an enemy [*noncount*] There are two helicopters available for *reconnaissance*. ▪ *reconnaissance* missions/aircraft [*count*] They did/conducted a *reconnaissance* of the enemy's position.

re•con•noi•ter (*US*) *or Brit* **re•con•noi•tre** /ˌriːkəˈnoɪtɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** : to go to (a place or area) in order to find out information about a military enemy : to do a reconnaissance of (a place) [+ *obj*] An expedition *reconnoitered* the coast to find out the exact location of enemy forces. [*no obj*] They were sent ahead to *reconnoiter*.

re•con•sid•er /ˌriːkənˈsɪdɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** : to think carefully about (someone or something) again especially in order to change a choice or decision you have already made [+ *obj*] She refused to *reconsider* her decision not to loan us the money. ▪ Local opposition has forced the company to *reconsider* building a new warehouse here. [*no obj*] We hope you will *reconsider*.

– re•con•sid•er•a•tion /ˌriːkənˌsɪdəˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ The plan was sent back to the board for *reconsideration*.

re•con•sti•tute /riˈkɑːnstəˌtuːt, *Brit* riˈkɒnstəˌtjuːt/ *verb* **-tutes**; **-tut•ed**; **-tut•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *formal* : to form (an organization or group) again in a different way ▪ They have plans to *reconstitute* the bankrupt company. ▪ a newly *reconstituted* committee

2 *technical* : to return (something, such as dried food) to a former state by adding water ▪ *reconstituted* potatoes

– re•con•sti•tu•tion /riˌkɑːnstəˈtuːʃən, *Brit* riˌkɒnstəˈtjuːʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

re•con•struct /ˌriːkənˈstrʌkt/ *verb* **-structs**; **-struct•ed**; **-struct•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to build (something damaged or destroyed) again ▪ After the earthquake, many houses needed to be *reconstructed*. ▪ Archaeologists were able to *reconstruct* most of the ancient village from their findings.

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2 : to find out and describe or show the way an event or series of events happened ▪ They are attempting to *reconstruct* the events that led to the bridge's collapse. ▪ Police *reconstructed* the crime.

re•con•struc•tion /ˌriːkənˈstrʌkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of building something that was damaged or destroyed again ▪ the *reconstruction* of the dam

2 [*noncount*] : the process of putting something (such as a country) back into a good condition ▪ the *reconstruction* of postwar Europe ▪ *reconstruction* of the health-care system

3 : a process in which an event or series of events is carefully examined in order to find out or show exactly what happened [*noncount*] They were able to determine the cause of the accident by careful *reconstruction* of the events leading up to it. [*count*] The police staged a *reconstruction* of the crime/accident.

4 *or* **Reconstruction** [*noncount*] *US* : the period from 1867 to 1877 when the southern states joined the northern states again after the American Civil War

re•con•struc•tive /ˌriːkənˈstrʌktɪv/ *adj, medical* : done on a body part to return it to a former shape or to change the way that it looks ▪ a *reconstructive* operation ▪ His face was badly damaged and will require ***reconstructive surgery***.

re•con•vene /ˌriːkənˈviːn/ *verb* **-venes; -vened; -ven•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to meet again after a break ▪ Congress/Parliament will *reconvene* after the holiday.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (a group of people) to meet again after a break ▪ The association *reconvened* the conference every three years.

[1]rec•ord /ˈrɛkəd/ *noun, pl* **-ords** [*count*]

1 : an official written document that gives proof of something or tells about past events ▪ There is no *record* of their first meeting. ▪ Please submit your school *records* [=an official list of your classes, grades, etc.] with your application. ▪ dental/medical/financial/court *records* ▪ Unfortunately, there is no *record* of the transaction. ▪ keep/maintain (good) *records*

2 a — used to talk about the things that someone or something has done in the past ▪ The candidate has a strong environmental *record*. [=has a history of voting for laws, supporting projects, etc., that help the environment] ▪ a voting *record* ▪ She has a good driving *record*. [=she has not had any car accidents, traffic tickets, etc.] ▪ The company has a perfect safety *record*. [=the company has had no accidents, injuries, etc.] ▪ The team had a ***losing/winning record*** last season. [=the team lost/won most of the games it played last season] — see also TRACK RECORD **b** : CRIMINAL RECORD ▪ The defendant does not have a *record*. [=has not been arrested in the past for a crime]

3 : a performance or achievement that is the best of its kind ▪ a new *record* for the high jump ▪ He ***broke the record*** for the high jump. [=he jumped higher than anyone else had ever jumped] ▪ She ***set a record*** for the most sales in the history of the company. [=she made more sales for the company than anyone else ever had] ▪ He ***holds the world/Olympic record*** for the shot put. [=he has thrown the shot put farther than anyone else in the world/Olympics] ▪ She *holds the* (team/school's) *record* for the most strikeouts in a game.

4 a : a flat, round disc on which sound or music is recorded ▪ He has a collection of old *records*. ▪ play a *record* — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He sounds like a ***broken record***. [=he keeps saying the same thing over and over again] **b** : a musical recording on a record, CD, etc. ▪ Have you heard the band's latest *record*? ▪ a ***hit record*** [=a record or CD that is very popular and sells many copies] — often used before another noun ▪ an independent *record* label/company [=a company that produces musical recordings] ▪ She just signed her first *record* [=(more commonly) *recording*] contract.

a matter of record see [1]MATTER

for the record **1** — used to indicate that a statement will be written down in an official record ▪ The judge asked her to state her name *for the record*. **2** — used to indicate that you are making a statement which is important and should be remembered ▪ I'll do what you want, but (just) *for the record*, I don't think this is a good idea.

off the record — used to describe a statement that is not official and should not be repeated or made public by being used in a newspaper, magazine, etc. ▪ Government officials did speak to reporters, but only *off the record*. [=the reporters were not allowed to publish the things the officials said] ▪ Her remarks were strictly *off the record*. ▪ *Off the record*, I don't think he has any real chance of winning.

of record *formal* **1** : having an official status ▪ his attorney *of record* ▪ the company's shareholders *of record* **2** : regarded as an accurate and trusted source of information ▪ a newspaper *of record*

on record **1** — used to indicate that someone is making or has made an official or public statement ▪ She is *on record* as supporting the program. [=she has publicly stated that she supports the program] ▪ The judge's opinion is *on record*. ▪ The governor ***went on record*** as being opposed to higher taxes. **2** : included or described in official records ▪ This has been one of the worst years *on record* [=one of the worst years ever recorded] for winter storms.

on the record — used to describe a statement that is official and can be repeated or made public by being used in a newspaper, magazine, etc. ▪ The reporter made it clear that the interview was *on the record*.

set/put the record straight : to provide the facts about something that people have a false understanding or idea about ▪ Let me *set the record straight* about what really happened last week.

[2]re•cord /rɪˈkoəd/ *verb* **-cords; -cord•ed; -cord•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to write (something) down so that it can be used or seen again in the future : to produce a record of (something) ▪ Be sure to *record* all your business expenditures. ▪ He *recorded* the incident in his journal. = The incident was *recorded* in his journal. = His journal *recorded* the incident. ▪ The first *recorded* [=*known*] case of the disease occurred two years ago. ▪ There are similar events all throughout ***recorded history***.

2 [+ *obj*] : to show a measurement of (something) : to indicate (something) ▪ The thermometer *recorded* 40 degrees below zero. ▪ A seismograph is a device that measures and *records* the intensity of earthquakes.

3 : to store (something, such as sounds, music, images, etc.) on tape or on a disk so that it can be heard or seen later : to produce a recording of (something) [+ *obj*] Please *record* the television program for me. ▪ He *recorded* the birthday party with his new video camera. ▪ He just *recorded* his latest album. ▪ The show is *recorded* in front of a live audience. [*no obj*] The band spent all night *recording*. — see also PRERECORD

[3]rec•ord /ˈrɛkəd/ *adj, always used before a noun* : best or most remarkable among other similar things ▪ We've had *record* temperatures. [=temperatures that are higher/lower than temperatures have ever been at this time of year] ▪ He finished in *record* time. [=in the least amount of time ever] ▪ A *record* number [=the highest number ever] of voters turned out for the election. ▪ Gas prices are at a *record* high. [=higher than they have ever been]

record book *noun, pl* **~ books** [*count*] : a book that has records of the best or most remarkable performances or achievements in a particular sport or activity — usually used figuratively ▪ His long jump earned him a place in the *record book*. [=his long jump set a record] ▪ That game was one for the *record books*. [=many records were set during that game]

record–breaking *adj, always used before a noun* : better, greater, higher, etc., than any other in the past : beyond any previous record ▪ a *record-breaking* high jump ▪ The outdoor concert drew a *record-breaking* crowd to the park. [=the largest crowd to ever be at the park]

– **record breaker** *noun, pl* **~ -ers** [*count*]

recorded delivery *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : CERTIFIED MAIL ▪ I sent the package by *recorded delivery*.

re•cord•er /rɪˈkoədə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a device that records sounds or images or both so that they can be heard or seen again — see also COCKPIT VOICE RECORDER, FLIGHT RECORDER, TAPE RECORDER

2 : a musical instrument that is shaped like a tube with holes and that is played by blowing into the top of the tube — see picture at WOODWIND

3 : a judge in some courts of law

4 : a person whose job is to record official information ▪ She works as the clerk and *recorder* at the county courthouse.

record holder *noun, pl* **~ -ers** [*count*] : the person or thing that has achieved something no other person or thing has achieved : a person or thing that holds a record ▪ He is the marathon world *record holder*. [=he has run a marathon in less time than any other person in the world] ▪ They're developing an airplane that is expected to be faster than the current *record holder*.

re•cord•ing /rɪˈkoədɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*count*] : music, sounds, or images that have been stored on

a record, CD, computer, etc., so that they can be heard or seen again ▪ a digital *recording* ▪ early *recordings* of jazz

2 [*noncount*] : the act or process of storing sounds or images on tape or a disk — usually used before another noun ▪ a *recording* studio/session ▪ a ***recording artist*** [=a person who performs music for recordings]

record player *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a device used for playing musical records

[1]re•count /ɹɪˈkaʊnt/ *verb* **-counts**; **-count•ed**; **-count•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to tell someone about (something that happened) : to describe or give an account of (an event) ▪ John later *recounted* how he got lost on the way home. ▪ He *recounted* the conversation that he had with his boss. — compare [2]RECOUNT

[2]re•count /ɹiˈkaʊnt/ *verb* **-counts**; **-count•ed**; **-count•ing** [+ *obj*] : to count (something) again ▪ They carefully *recounted* the votes. ▪ We *recounted* the money to make sure it was all there. — compare [1]RECOUNT

[3]re•count /ˈɹiːˌkaʊnt/ *noun, pl* **-counts** [*count*] : a second count of the votes in a very close election ▪ The election was very close and the loser demanded a *recount*.

re•coup /ɹɪˈkuːp/ *verb* **-coups**; **-couped**; **-coup•ing** [+ *obj*] : to get back (money that has been spent, invested, lost, etc.) : RECOVER ▪ It will be hard for us to *recoup* the loss. ▪ Movie studios can turn to video sales to *recoup* the costs of a movie that does poorly at the box office. ▪ She *recouped* only a portion of her investment.

re•course /ˈɹiːˌkoəs, *Brit* ɹɪˈkɔːs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : an opportunity or choice to use or do something in order to deal with a problem or situation ▪ His only *recourse* [=the only thing he can do] is to file a complaint with the management. ▪ She has no legal *recourse* against the magazine. [=there is no legal action she can take against the magazine] ▪ He had no *recourse* to legal help. [=he was not able to get legal help] ▪ The dispute was settled ***without recourse to*** law.

re•cov•er /ɹɪˈkʌvəɹ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing**

1 [*no obj*] **a** : to become healthy after an illness or injury : to return to normal health ▪ She had a heart attack but is *recovering* well. — often + *from* ▪ He's at home *recovering from* the flu. ▪ I feel fully *recovered from* my surgery. **b** : to return to a normal state after a period of difficulty ▪ Share prices will be down until the economy *recovers*. — often + *from* ▪ The team never *recovered from* the devastating loss. ▪ The city will *recover from* this recession eventually.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to get (something, such as an ability or feeling) again ▪ He'll try again when he *recovers* [=*regains*] his confidence. ▪ She *recovered* consciousness in the hospital. ▪ I slipped, but somehow *recovered* my balance. ▪ He suffered a stroke and hasn't yet *recovered* the use of his left arm. **b** : to get back (something stolen or lost) ▪ The police *recovered* his stolen wallet. ▪ The program helps users *recover* computer files that have been deleted. ▪ a *recovered* computer file — often + *from* ▪ Very little was *recovered from* the wrecked ship. **c** : to get back (money that has been spent, invested, etc.) ▪ The author gets no royalties until the publisher *recovers* [=*recoups*] the expenses of publication. ▪ He may sue the company to ***recover damages*** for injuries caused by the device. [=to get money from the company to make up for being injured by the device]

– **re•cov•er•able** /ɹɪˈkʌvəɹəbəl/ *adj*

re–cov•er /ɹiˈkʌvəɹ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cover (something) again : to put a new cover on (something) ▪ She *re-covered* the old chair with a new fabric.

re•cov•er•ing /ɹɪˈkʌvəɹɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : in a state in which you have stopped or are trying to stop a behavior (such as drinking alcohol or using drugs) that you have been doing for a long time and that is harmful to you ▪ a *recovering* alcoholic ▪ *recovering* drug addicts ▪ (*humorous*) He describes himself as "a *recovering* politician."

re•cov•ery /ɹɪˈkʌvəɹi/ *noun, pl* **-er•ies**

1 [*count*] : the act or process of becoming healthy after an illness or injury : the act or process of recovering — usually singular ▪ The patient made a miraculous *recovery*. ▪ Therapy played a vital role in his *recovery*. ▪ The card said, "Best wishes for a ***speedy recovery***." [=a quick return to health] ▪ She is expected to ***make a complete/full recovery***. [=to recover fully; to have no lasting health problems] ▪ She's ***on the road to recovery***. [=in the process of becoming healthy again]

2 : the act or process of returning to a normal state after a period of difficulty [*count*] — usually singular ▪ the forest's natural *recovery* after a fire ▪ The army helped with the *recovery* efforts after the storm. ▪ We should see a gradual economic *recovery* in the next few months. [*noncount*] This policy may slow the pace of economic *recovery*.

3 [*noncount*] : the return of something that has been lost, stolen, etc. ▪ We hope for the *recovery* of the stolen paintings. ▪ Their mission was the *recovery* of the space capsule. ▪ programmers trained in ***data recovery*** [=getting back computer files that are or seem to be lost]

4 [*noncount*] : the act or process of stopping the use of drugs, alcohol, etc., and returning to a healthy way of living ▪ Admitting that you are addicted to a drug is an important step toward *recovery*. ▪ She's battled alcoholism most of her life, but she's ***in recovery*** now.

5 [*noncount*] : the act of getting something (such as oil, gas, gold, etc.) out of a substance that is deep in the ground ▪ a technique used in oil and gas *recovery*

recovery room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] : a room in a hospital where patients are taken for special care after an operation

re–cre•ate /ˌɹiːkɹiˈeɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something from the past) exist or seem to exist again : to create (something) again ▪ The movie set *re-creates* a London street of 1895. ▪ The scene of the crime was *re-created* based upon police photographs.

– **re–cre•a•tion** /ˌɹiːkɹiˈeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] a perfect *re-creation* of a colonial village [*noncount*] The investigation involved careful *re-creation* of the crime scene.

rec•re•a•tion /ˌɹɛkɹiˈeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : something people do to relax or have fun : activities done for enjoyment [*noncount*] The fields next to the school are used for *recreation*. ▪ a *recreation* center/area/facility [*count*] Hiking and gardening are our favorite *recreations*. [=*pastimes*]

rec•re•a•tion•al /ˌɹɛkɹiˈeɪʃənl̩/ *adj*

1 : done for enjoyment ▪ *recreational* activities

2 *of a drug* : used for pleasure instead of for medical purposes ▪ Marijuana is a *recreational* drug. ▪ *recreational* drug users

recreational vehicle *noun, pl* ~ **-cles** [*count*] *US* : a large vehicle that often has a bathroom, kitchen, and beds for use during travel and camping; *especially* : MOTOR HOME — called also *RV*; compare CAMPER

recreation ground *noun, pl* ~ **grounds** [*count*] *Brit* : an area of public land that is used for sports and outdoor games

recreation room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*]

1 : a public room in a school, hospital, etc., that is used for games and social activities

2 *US* : a room in a house that is used for playing games, watching television, etc. — called also (*informal*) *rec room*

re•crim•i•na•tion /ɹɪˌkɹɪməˈneɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : an angry statement in which you accuse or criticize a person who has accused or criticized you [*count*] The discussion turned into a heated debate with *recriminations* flying back and forth. [*noncount*] The meeting ended with bitterness and *recrimination*. ▪ words of *recrimination*

rec room /ˈɹɛk-/ *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] *US, informal* : RECREATION ROOM

[1]re•cruit /ɹɪˈkɹuːt/ *verb* **-cruits**; **-cruit•ed**; **-cruit•ing**

1 a : to find suitable people and get them to join a company, an organization, the armed forces, etc. [+ *obj*] He was *recruited* by the army after high school. ▪ Public schools are *recruiting* new teachers. ▪ College football coaches spend a lot of time *recruiting* high school athletes. [*no obj*] College football coaches spend a lot of time *recruiting*. ▪ Some parents don't think the military should be *recruiting* from high schools. **b** [+ *obj*] : to form or build (a group, team, army, etc.) by getting people to join ▪ We *recruited* a crew of volunteers to help us. ▪ *recruit* a regiment ▪ *recruit* an army

2 [+ *obj*] : to persuade (someone) to join you in some activity or to help you ▪ I *recruited* my brother to drive us to the concert. ▪ She *recruited* four friends to distribute food to the homeless with her.

– **re•cruit•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ an army *recruiter* – **re•cruit•ment** /ɹɪˈkɹuːtmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *recruitment* of college graduates

[2]recruit *noun, pl* **-cruits** [*count*]

1 : a person who has recently joined the armed forces ▪ army *recruits*

2 : a person who has recently joined a company, organization, etc. ▪ the newest *recruit* on the team ▪ She's one of the department's new *recruits*.

rec•tal /ˈɹɛktl̩/ *adj, medical* : relating to, affecting, or located near the rectum ▪ *rectal* cancer

rect•an•gle /ˈɹɛkˌtæŋgəl/ *noun, pl* **-an•gles** [*count*] *geometry* : a four-sided shape that is made up of two pairs of paral-

lel lines and that has four right angles; *especially* : a shape in which one pair of lines is longer than the other pair▪ squares and *rectangles* — see picture at GEOMETRY
– **rect•an•gu•lar** /rɛkˈtæŋgjələ/ *adj*▪ a *rectangular* shape

rec•ti•fy /ˈrɛktəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to correct (something that is wrong)▪ The hotel management promised to *rectify* the problem/situation.
– **rec•ti•fi•ca•tion** /ˌrɛktəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

rec•ti•lin•e•ar /ˌrɛktəˈlɪnijə/ *adj, technical* : made with straight lines ▪ *rectilinear* forms/designs/shapes : having many straight lines▪ the *rectilinear* skyline/architecture of a modern city

rec•ti•tude /ˈrɛktəˌtuːd, *Brit* ˈrɛktəˌtjuːd/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the quality of being honest and morally correct▪ No one questioned his moral *rectitude*. [=*integrity*]

rec•tor /ˈrɛktə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]
1 : a priest or minister who is in charge of a church or parish
2 *chiefly Brit* : a person who is in charge of a university or school

rec•to•ry /ˈrɛktəri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : the house where the rector of a Christian church lives

rec•tum /ˈrɛktəm/ *noun, pl* **-tums** [*count*] *medical* : the end of the tube in your body that helps digest food : the last part of the large intestine — see picture at HUMAN

re•cum•bent /rɪˈkʌmbənt/ *adj, formal* : lying down▪ The Egyptian sphinx has the body of a *recumbent* lion. ▪ a *recumbent* position

re•cu•per•ate /rɪˈkuːpəˌreɪt, *Brit* rɪˈkjuːpəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to return to normal health or strength after being sick, injured, etc. : RECOVER▪ She took a day off to *recuperate*. — often + *from*▪ Dad is *recuperating from* knee surgery.
2 [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to get back (money that has been spent, invested, lost, etc.)▪ The company is expected to *recuperate* [=*recoup, recover*] its losses in the next two months.
– **re•cu•per•a•tion** /rɪˌkuːpəˈreɪʃən, *Brit* rɪˌkjuːpəˈreɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

re•cu•per•a•tive /rɪˈkuːpəˌreɪtɪv, *Brit* rɪˈkjuːpərətɪv/ *adj, formal* : helping you to return to normal health or strength : helping you to recuperate▪ the *recuperative* [=*healing*] powers of the body [=the body's ability to heal]

re•cur /rɪˈkɚ/ *verb* **-curs**; **-curred**; **-cur•ring** [*no obj*] : to happen or appear again : to occur again▪ There is only a slight chance that the disease will *recur*. ▪ The same problem keeps *recurring*.
– **recurring** *adj*▪ She suffers from *recurring* headaches. ▪ a *recurring* injury/nightmare

re•cur•rence /rɪˈkɚəns/ *noun, pl* **-renc•es** : a new occurrence of something that happened or appeared before [*count*]We hope to prevent a *recurrence* of the disease. [*noncount*]high/low rates of *recurrence*

re•cur•rent /rɪˈkɚənt/ *adj* : happening or appearing again and again▪ a *recurrent* fever/infection ▪ The loss of innocence is a *recurrent* theme in his stories.
– **re•cur•rent•ly** *adv*

re•cy•cle /riˈsaɪkəl/ *verb* **-cy•cles**; **-cy•cled**; **-cy•cling**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to make something new from (something that has been used before)▪ The company *recycles* plastic. ▪ They're studying various ways to *recycle* garbage into fuel. ▪ The oil is *recycled*. ▪ The doormat is made from *recycled* tires.
b : to send (used newspapers, bottles, cans, etc.) to a place where they are made into something new [+ *obj*]Town residents are required to *recycle* cans and bottles. [*no obj*]We make efforts to *recycle*.
2 [+ *obj*] : to use (something) again▪ The author *recycles* a familiar story in her latest novel.
– **re•cy•cla•ble** /riˈsaɪkləbəl/ *adj* ▪ *recyclable* bottles
– **recyclable** *noun, pl* **-cla•bles** [*count*] ▪ Put all *recyclables* [=recyclable materials] in the green bin.
– **recycling** *noun* [*noncount*]▪ The *recycling* of plastics is encouraged. ▪ (*US*) Put the *recycling* [=the materials that can be recycled] out by the curb in the morning. — often used before another noun ▪ a *recycling* plant [=a factory that recycles materials] ▪ the city's *recycling* program

[1]red /rɛd/ *adj* **red•der**; **red•dest** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having the color of blood▪ a shiny *red* fire truck ▪ bright *red* shoes ▪ dark *red* apples
2 : reddish brown or reddish orange in color▪ She has *red* hair. [=she is a redhead] ▪ a *red* fox
3 *of a person's face* : pink because of embarrassment, anger, etc.▪ His face turns *red* when he gets angry. ▪ When she realized her mistake, she turned ***beet red*** [=she blushed] ▪ (*Brit*) His face ***went red*** with embarrassment.
4 *of eyes* : having many red lines from lack of sleep, drunkenness, etc. : BLOODSHOT▪ Her eyes were *red* from crying.
5 *somewhat old-fashioned, informal + disapproving* : supporting Communism : COMMUNIST
a red rag to a bull *Brit, informal* : something that makes a person very angry▪ Just mentioning his poor marks to him was waving *a red rag to a bull*.
not one red cent see CENT
paint the town red see [2]PAINT
– **red•ness** /ˈrɛdnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]▪ There was swelling and *redness* around the site of the bee sting.

[2]red *noun, pl* **reds**
1 : the color of blood [*noncount*]The artist uses *red* to symbolize passion. ▪ a lady dressed in *red* [*count*] the *reds* and oranges of autumn leaves — see color picture on page C1
2 [*count, noncount*] : RED WINE
3 ***Red*** [*count*] *somewhat old-fashioned, informal + disapproving* : a Communist or someone who supports Communists
in the red : spending and owing more money than is being earned ▪ Apparently the company had been *in the red* [=had been losing money] for some time before it went out of business. — compare *in the black* at [2]BLACK
see red *informal* : to become very angry▪ The construction delays on the highway have many commuters *seeing red*.

red alert *noun, pl* ~ **alerts** : a warning that there is great danger [*count*] — usually singular▪ The commander issued a *red alert*. ▪ A *red alert* was sounded on the island as the storm approached. [*noncount*]The troops have been put ***on red alert***

red blood cell *noun, pl* ~ **cells** [*count*] : a red-colored blood cell that carries oxygen from the lungs to other parts of the body — called also *red blood corpuscle, red cell, red corpuscle*; compare WHITE BLOOD CELL

red–blood•ed /ˈrɛdˈblʌdəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : full of energy, strength, and strong emotion▪ Every *red-blooded* teenager wants a car. ▪ your average *red-blooded* sports fan ▪ I did what any *red-blooded* woman would do: I demanded an apology.

red•brick /ˈrɛdˌbrɪk/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : made of red bricks▪ a historic *redbrick* mansion
2 *Brit* — used to describe British universities that were created in the late 19th or early 20th century and that have buildings made of red bricks▪ He attended a *redbrick* university. — compare OXBRIDGE

red card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] *soccer* : a red card that a referee holds in the air to indicate that a player who has broken the rules of the game will not be allowed to continue playing — compare YELLOW CARD

red carpet *noun*
roll out the red carpet : to formally greet or welcome an important guest who has just arrived▪ The governor *rolled out the red carpet* for his dinner guests.
– **red–carpet** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *red-carpet* welcome ▪ We got the ***red-carpet treatment*** [=we were treated like very important people] when we arrived.

red cell *noun, pl* ~ **cells** [*count*] : RED BLOOD CELL

red•coat /ˈrɛdˌkoʊt/ *noun, pl* **-coats** [*count*] : a British soldier of the 18th and early 19th centuries and especially during the American Revolution

red corpuscle *noun, pl* ~ **-puscles** [*count*] : RED BLOOD CELL

Red Crescent *noun*
the Red Crescent : an organization in Islamic countries that helps people who are suffering because of a war or natural disaster

Red Cross *noun*
the Red Cross : an international organization that helps people who are suffering because of a war or natural disaster

red deer *noun, pl* ~ **deer** [*count*] : a large kind of deer with big antlers that lives in Europe, Asia, and Africa — compare ELK 1

red•den /ˈrɛdn̩/ *verb* **-dens**; **-dened**; **-den•ing** : to make something red or to become red [+ *obj*] First-degree burns *redden* the skin. [*no obj*]Her face *reddened* when her name was announced.

red•dish /ˈrɛdɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : somewhat red▪ the *reddish* clay ▪ She has *reddish*-brown hair.

re•dec•o•rate /riˈdɛkəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-rates**; **-rat•ed**; **-rat•ing** : to change the appearance of the inside of a house, building, or room by painting the walls, changing the furniture, etc.

[+ *obj*] They *redecorated* [=*redid*] three rooms in their house. [*no obj*] She helped us *redecorate*.
– **re•dec•o•ra•tion** /riˌdɛkəˈreɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

re•deem /rɪˈdi:m/ *verb* **-deems**; **-deemed**; **-deem•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (something that is bad, unpleasant, etc.) better or more acceptable ▪ The exciting ending partially *redeems* what is otherwise a very dull movie. ▪ The restaurant's excellent service is not enough to *redeem* [=*compensate for*] the mediocre food. ▪ He wants to ***redeem his reputation***.
2 : to exchange (something, such as a coupon or lottery ticket) for money, an award, etc. ▪ You can *redeem* this coupon at any store. ▪ You have 90 days to *redeem* your winning lottery ticket. ▪ This voucher can be *redeemed* for a free meal at several local restaurants.
3 : to buy back (something, such as a stock or bond) ▪ The government will pay you interest when it *redeems* the bonds you bought. ▪ The company *redeemed* some of its stock.
4 : to pay back (money that is owed) ▪ *redeem* a debt
5 *formal* : to do what is required by (a pledge or a promise) : FULFILL ▪ The President *redeemed* his campaign promise. [=he did what he promised to do]
6 *Christianity* : to save (people) from sin and evil ▪ They believe that Jesus Christ was sent here to *redeem* us from sin.
redeem yourself : to succeed or do something good after you have failed or done something bad ▪ They can *redeem themselves* for yesterday's loss by winning today's game.

re•deem•able /rɪˈdi:məbəl/ *adj*
1 : able to be exchanged for money or goods ▪ The gift certificate is *redeemable* at any store location. ▪ (*Brit*) The voucher is ***redeemable against*** any purchase.
2 *US* : able to make something that is bad or unpleasant more acceptable, enjoyable, etc. ▪ That movie had no *redeemable* [=*redeeming*] qualities whatsoever. [=nothing about the movie was good, enjoyable, etc.]

re•deem•ing /rɪˈdi:mɪŋ/ *adj* : making a bad or unpleasant thing or person better or more acceptable ▪ He had few *redeeming* qualities. [=he had few good qualities to offset his bad qualities] ▪ The job's only *redeeming* feature is the employee discount.

re•deem•er /rɪˈdi:mɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers**
1 [*count*] : a person who brings goodness, honor, etc., to something again : a person who redeems something ▪ He was considered the *redeemer* of the family's reputation/virtue.
2 ***the Redeemer*** : JESUS CHRIST

re•demp•tion /rɪˈdɛmpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : the act, process, or result of redeeming something or someone: such as **a** [*noncount*] : the act of making something better or more acceptable ▪ the *redemption* of his reputation ▪ The situation is ***beyond/past redemption***. [=it is too bad to be corrected or improved] **b** : the act of exchanging something for money, an award, etc. [*count*] stock *redemptions* [*noncount*] the *redemption* of coupons **c** [*noncount*] *Christianity* : the act of saving people from sin and evil ▪ the *redemption* of sinners : the fact of being saved from sin or evil ▪ a sinner's search for *redemption* ▪ bad people who are ***beyond/past redemption*** [=who cannot be saved]
– **re•demp•tive** /rɪˈdɛmptɪv/ *adj* ▪ the *redemptive* power of art/love/sports

re•de•ploy /ˌri:dɪˈplɔɪ/ *verb* **-ploys**; **-ployed**; **-ploy•ing**
1 : to move (soldiers or equipment) to a new area [+ *obj*] The soldiers were *redeployed* to the country's capital. [*no obj*] Most units will *redeploy* to their home bases.
2 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to move (something, such as money) from one area or activity to another ▪ They *redeployed* their assets into mutual funds.
– **re•de•ploy•ment** /ˌri:dɪˈplɔɪmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*]

re•de•sign /ˌri:dɪˈzaɪn/ *verb* **-signs**; **-signed**; **-sign•ing** [+ *obj*] : to change the design of (something) ▪ The book's cover has been *redesigned* for the new edition. ▪ We're *redesigning* our kitchen. ▪ a newly *redesigned* Web site
– **redesign** *noun, pl* **-signs** [*count, noncount*] ▪ The *redesign* of the Web site has been a great success.

re•de•vel•op /ˌri:dɪˈvɛləp/ *verb* **-ops**; **-oped**; **-op•ing**
1 : to change the appearance of an area especially by repairing and adding new buildings, stores, roads, etc. [+ *obj*] The city has plans to *redevelop* the neighborhood. — often used as *(be) redeveloped* ▪ A portion of the property is *being redeveloped* into condos. [*no obj*] The city has plans to *redevelop*.
2 [*no obj*] : to happen or develop again ▪ We need to make sure that these problems don't *redevelop*.
– **re•de•vel•op•ment** /ˌri:dɪˈvɛləpmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*] ▪ urban *redevelopment*

red–eye /ˈrɛdˌaɪ/ *noun, pl* **-eyes**
1 [*count*] *US, informal* : a flight in a passenger airplane that happens late at night or that continues through the night ▪ He caught/took the *red-eye* to Los Angeles. ▪ a *red-eye* flight
2 [*noncount*] : the appearance of a person's eyes as red in a photograph that was taken with a flash ▪ The digital photo editing program can be used to remove *red-eye*.

red–faced *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing a red face especially because you are embarrassed, angry, or ashamed ▪ I was *red-faced* [=very embarrassed] when I realized the stupid mistake I'd made. ▪ He was *red-faced* with rage/shame.

red flag *noun, pl* ~ **flags** [*count*] : a warning sign : a sign that there is a problem that should be noticed or dealt with ▪ Gaps in your employment history are *red flags* to employers.

red giant *noun, pl* ~ **giants** [*count*] *astronomy* : a very large star that has a reddish color

red–hand•ed /ˈrɛdˈhændəd/ *adv* : while doing something wrong or illegal ▪ The robbers were ***caught red-handed*** by the police. [=the robbers were caught while they were stealing]

red•head /ˈrɛdˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] : a person who has red hair ▪ Her brothers are both *redheads*.
– **red•head•ed** /ˈrɛdˌhɛdəd/ *adj* ▪ a *redheaded* actress

red herring *noun, pl* ~ **-rings** [*count*] : something unimportant that is used to stop people from noticing or thinking about something important ▪ The argument is a *red herring*. It actually has nothing to do with the issue. ▪ The plot of the mystery was full of *red herrings*.

red–hot /ˈrɛdˈhɑ:t/ *adj*
1 a : glowing red because of being very hot ▪ *red-hot* coals **b** : extremely hot ▪ a *red-hot* iron ▪ a bowl of *red-hot* chili
2 *informal* **a** : very active or successful ▪ The local economy has been *red-hot*. ▪ The team is *red-hot* again this year. **b** : extremely popular ▪ a *red-hot* vacation destination **c** : new and exciting ▪ *red-hot* news

re•dial /ˈri:ˌdajəl/ *verb* **-dials**; *US* **-dialed** *or Brit* **-dialled**; *US* **-dial•ing** *or Brit* **-dial•ling** : to select a series of numbers on a telephone again : to dial again [+ *obj*] Did you *redial* the number? [*no obj*] The number was busy, so she *redialed*.
– **redial** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The phone has a *redial* function. ▪ You can dial the same number again by pressing the *redial* button.

redid *past tense of* REDO

red ink *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* — used to describe a situation in which a business, organization, etc., is spending more money than it is earning and has a lot of debt ▪ The company was ***drowning/awash in red ink***. [=deeply in debt]

re•di•rect /ˌri:dəˈrɛkt/ *verb* **-rects**; **-rect•ed**; **-rect•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to change the path or direction of (something) ▪ They dug trenches near the river to *redirect* the flow of the water. ▪ Traffic will be *redirected* to avoid downtown. ▪ Visitors to the old Web site address are *redirected* automatically to the new one. ▪ I tried to *redirect* their attention to the other painting.
2 : to use (something) for a different purpose ▪ *redirect* tax dollars ▪ It's time to *redirect* your energy to your homework.
3 *Brit* : to send (a letter or package) to a new mailing address : FORWARD
– **re•di•rec•tion** /ˌri:dəˈrɛkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

re•dis•cov•er /ˌri:dɪˈskʌvɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [+ *obj*] : to find (something lost or forgotten) again : to discover (something) again ▪ She *rediscovered* her love of ballet when she was in her 50s.

re•dis•trib•ute /ˌri:dɪˈstrɪˌbju:t/ *verb* **-utes**; **-ut•ed**; **-ut•ing** [+ *obj*] : to divide (something) among a group in a different way ▪ Unused federal funds will be *redistributed* to other states. ▪ The government *redistributed* the land to the settlers.
– **re•dis•trib•u•tion** /riˌdɪstrəˈbju:ʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *redistribution* of wealth

re•dis•trict /riˈdɪstrɪkt/ *verb* **-tricts**; **-trict•ed**; **-trict•ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to divide (a town, state, etc.) into new political or school districts ▪ The town was *redistricted* last year.

red–letter day *noun, pl* ~ **days** [*count*] *informal* : a very happy and important day ▪ Yesterday was a *red-letter day* for the graduating class.

red–light *adj, always used before a noun* : having many prostitutes ▪ the city's *red-light* district/area

red meat *noun* [*noncount*] : meat that is red when it is raw — used especially to refer to beef; compare WHITE MEAT

red•neck /ˈrɛdˌnɛk/ *noun, pl* **-necks** [*count*] *US, informal* + *usually disapproving* : a white person who lives in a small town or in the country especially in the southern U.S., who typically has a working-class job, and who is seen by others as being uneducated and having opinions and attitudes that are offensive
– **redneck** *also* **red•necked** /ˈrɛdˌnɛkt/ *adj* ▪ a *redneck* sheriff ▪ a *redneck* town

re•do /riˈduː/ *verb* **-does** /riˈdʌz/; **-did** /riˈdɪd/; **-done** /riˈdʌn/; **-do•ing** /riˈduːwɪŋ/ [+ *obj*]
1 : to do (something) again especially in order to do it better ▪ Let's hope we don't have to *redo* our paperwork.
2 : to change (something, such as a room or part of a room) so that it looks new or different ▪ I want to *redo* the kitchen and put in new cabinets and new appliances.
– **re•do** /ˈriːˌduː/ *noun, pl* **-dos** [*count*] *informal* ▪ There are no *redos* in the Olympics. [=there are no opportunities to do something again if you do not like how you did it the first time]

red•o•lent /ˈrɛdələnt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *literary* + *formal*
1 : having a strong smell : full of a fragrance or odor ▪ a *redolent* bouquet — often + *of* ▪ a room *redolent of* spices — often + *with* ▪ The sauce was *redolent with* the smell of basil.
2 : causing thoughts or memories *of* something ▪ a room *redolent* [=*reminiscent*] *of* the 1940s

re•dou•ble /riˈdʌbəl/ *verb* **-dou•bles**; **-dou•bled**; **-dou•bling** : to greatly increase the size or amount of (something) [+ *obj*] They *redoubled* their efforts to finish the work on time. [*no obj*] Their efforts to finish the work *redoubled* as the deadline drew near.

re•doubt /rɪˈdaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-doubts** [*count*]
1 : a small building or area that gives protection to soldiers under attack
2 : a safe or protected place ▪ The refugees gathered in a hilly *redoubt* several miles outside the city.

re•doubt•able /rɪˈdaʊtəbəl/ *adj, literary* + *formal* : causing or deserving great fear or respect : very powerful, impressive, etc. ▪ a *redoubtable* [=*formidable*] warrior ▪ There is a new biography of the *redoubtable* Winston Churchill.

re•dound /rɪˈdaʊnd/ *verb* **-dounds**; **-dound•ed**; **-dound•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to have a particular result — used especially to describe how something affects someone or something or affects the opinion that people have about someone or something; + *to* ▪ It ***redounds to his credit*** that he worked so hard to prevent this crisis. [=he deserves credit for working so hard] ▪ a policy that may ***redound to the advantage of*** our competitors [=that may help our competitors]

red panda *noun, pl* ~ **panda** *also* ~ **pandas** [*count*] : a small Asian animal that has reddish-brown fur and a long tail

red pepper *noun, pl* ~ **-pers**
1 [*count*] : a type of hollow vegetable (called a pepper) that is red and that can be eaten raw or cooked
2 [*count*] : a hot pepper that is red and that is added to food to make it spicy; *also* [*noncount*] : CAYENNE PEPPER

re•draft /riˈdræft, *Brit* riˈdrɑːft/ *verb* **-drafts**; **-draft•ed**; **-draft•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make a new version of (a document, plan, etc.) ▪ A meeting was called to *redraft* the state budget proposal.

re•draw /riˈdrɑː/ *verb* **-draws**; **-drew**; **-drawn**; **-draw•ing** [+ *obj*] : to draw (something) again usually in a different way ▪ The company is *redrawing* its logo. — often used figuratively ▪ The country's borders were *redrawn* after the war. [=the borders were changed]

[1]re•dress /rɪˈdrɛs/ *verb* **-dress•es**; **-dressed**; **-dress•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to correct (something that is unfair or wrong) ▪ We hope that all these grievances/problems will be *redressed* [=*remedied*] immediately. ▪ It is time to *redress* the injustices of the past. ▪ They've been treated unfairly, and it's time to ***redress the balance***. [=make the situation fair]

[2]redress *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : something (such as money) that is given to someone to make up for damage, trouble, etc. ▪ Their lawyer has said that they intend to seek *redress* [=*compensation*] through the courts.

red•shirt /ˈrɛdˌʃɚt/ *noun, pl* **-shirts** [*count*] *US, sports* : a college athlete who practices with a team but does not play any official games ✧ Since college athletes are only officially allowed to play for four years, being a redshirt for a year makes it possible for an athlete to attend the school for five years and play for four of those years. ▪ a *redshirt* freshman
– **redshirt** *verb* **-shirts**; **-shirt•ed**; **-shirt•ing** [+ *obj*] He was *redshirted* his freshman year. [*no obj*] He *redshirted* (during) his freshman year.

red•skin /ˈrɛdˌskɪn/ *noun, pl* **-skins** [*count*] *informal* + *offensive* : NATIVE AMERICAN ✧ The word *redskin* is very offensive and should be avoided.

red–tailed hawk /ˈrɛdˌteɪld-/ *noun, pl* ~ **hawks** [*count*] : a type of American hawk that has a reddish tail — called also *redtail*

red tape *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving* : a series of actions or complicated tasks that seem unnecessary but that a government or organization requires you to do in order to get or do something ▪ bureaucratic *red tape* ▪ You would not believe the *red tape* involved in getting the required permits.

re•duce /rɪˈduːs, *Brit* rɪˈdjuːs/ *verb* **-duc•es**; **-duced**; **-duc•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) smaller in size, amount, number, etc. : DECREASE ▪ The medicine *reduces* the risk of infection. ▪ We are trying to *reduce* our debt. ▪ Stricter speed limit enforcement has *reduced* the number of car accidents. ▪ Her prison sentence was *reduced* from 15 years to 10. ▪ a drastically *reduced* price
2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cause (someone) to be in a specified state or condition — + *to* ▪ The movie's ending ***reduced them to tears***. [=made them cry] ▪ The crowd was ***reduced to silence***. [=became suddenly silent] **b** : to cause (something) to be in a specified form by breaking it, burning it, etc. — + *to* ▪ *reduce* stone *to* powder ▪ mountains that will someday be *reduced to* sand ▪ Their house was ***reduced to ashes*** [=was completely burned/destroyed] by the fire. ▪ The city was ***reduced to rubble/ruins*** by the bombing. **c** : to force (someone) to do something that causes shame, embarrassment, etc. — followed by *to* + *-ing verb* ▪ The museum has been *reduced to begging* for funding.
3 [+ *obj*] : to describe (something) in a way that includes only some of the facts and details — + *to* ▪ You're *reducing* religion *to* a list of do's and don'ts. ▪ Her argument can be *reduced to* a few essential points.
4 : to boil (a liquid) so that there is less of it [+ *obj*] Simmer the broth until it is *reduced* to 2 cups. [=until there are only two cups of it] [*no obj*] Simmer the broth until it *reduces* to 2 cups.
5 [+ *obj*] : to change (someone's rank) to a lower or less important one ▪ As part of her sentence, the sergeant's rank was *reduced* to private.
6 [*no obj*] *US, informal* : to gradually decrease your weight by eating less ▪ He's on a (weight) *reducing* diet.
7 [+ *obj*] *mathematics* : to change (a fraction) so that it is written with the lowest possible numbers ▪ You can *reduce* ⅔ to ½.
reduced circumstances *formal* : a situation in which you have less money than you used to have ▪ He found himself living in *reduced circumstances* after he lost his job. ▪ We will have to adjust to our *reduced circumstances*.
– **re•duc•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a fever *reducer* ▪ noise/weight *reducers* – **re•duc•ible** /rɪˈduːsəbəl, *Brit* rɪˈdjuːsəbəl/ *adj* ▪ The theories are not *reducible* to easy interpretation. ▪ The fraction is *reducible*.

re•duc•tion /rɪˈdʌkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 : the act of making something smaller in size, amount, number, etc. : the act of reducing something [*count*] a drastic/marked/sharp/significant *reduction* in size ▪ troop *reductions* = *reductions* in the number of troops ▪ cost/price/rate *reductions* [*noncount*] Many voters want to see some *reduction* of the deficit.
2 [*count*] : an amount by which something is reduced ▪ There is a 20 percent *reduction* on selected items during this sale.

re•duc•tive /rɪˈdʌktɪv/ *adj, formal* + *often disapproving* : dealing with or describing something complicated in a simple or too simple way ▪ a *reductive* interpretation of the theory ▪ *reductive* methods of analysis

re•dun•dan•cy /rɪˈdʌndənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies**
1 a [*noncount*] : the act of using a word, phrase, etc., that repeats something else and is therefore unnecessary ▪ Avoid *redundancy* in your writing. **b** [*count*] : a word, phrase, etc., that repeats something else and is therefore unnecessary : a redundant word, phrase, etc. ▪ Try to avoid using *redundancies* in your writing.
2 *technical* : a part in a machine, system, etc., that has the same function as another part and that exists so that the entire machine, system, etc., will not fail if the main part fails [*count*] The design incorporates several *redundancies*. [*noncount*] a system with a high level of *redundancy*

3 *Brit* **a** : the act of ending the employment of a worker or group of workers [*count*] compulsory/voluntary *redundancies* [=*layoffs*] [*noncount*] The restructuring is expected to result in the *redundancy* of several hundred workers. **b** [*noncount*] : the fact of being dismissed from a job because you are no longer needed ▪ The workers are now facing *redundancy*.

re•dun•dant /rɪ'dʌndənt/ *adj*

1 : repeating something else and therefore unnecessary ▪ He edited the paper and removed any *redundant* information or statements. ▪ Avoid *redundant* expressions in your writing. ▪ Some people say that since all adages are old, the phrase "old adage" is *redundant*.

2 *technical* — used to describe part of a machine, system, etc., that has the same function as another part and that exists so that the entire machine, system, etc., will not fail if the main part fails ▪ The design incorporates several *redundant* features.

3 *Brit* : dismissed from a job because you are no longer needed ▪ More than 200 of the company's employees have already been ***made redundant***. [=*laid off*]

– **re•dun•dant•ly** *adv* ▪ In the phrase "old adage," "old" is sometimes thought of as being used *redundantly*.

red wine *noun, pl* ~ **wines** [*count, noncount*] : wine that has a red color

red•wood /'rɛd,wʊd/ *noun, pl* **-woods**

1 [*count*] : a very tall evergreen tree

2 [*noncount*] : the wood of a redwood

red zone *noun*

the red zone *American football* : the area of the field that is inside an opponent's 20-yard line ▪ The team has had trouble scoring when it gets into *the red zone*.

reed /'ri:d/ *noun, pl* **reeds** [*count*]

1 : a tall, thin grass that grows in wet areas ▪ the *reeds* along the edge of a pond

2 a : a thin strip of wood, metal, or plastic inside some musical instruments (such as clarinets and oboes) that makes a sound when you blow over it **b** : a musical instrument that has a reed ▪ the orchestra's *reeds* ▪ the *reed* section of the orchestra

re•ed•u•cate /ri'ɛʤə,keɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to teach (someone) to do or understand something in a new way ▪ The program *reeducates* people about how to eat in a more healthful way. ▪ (*disapproving*) camps that were used to "*reeducate*" political prisoners [=to force political prisoners to accept the official ideas and beliefs of the government]

2 : to train (someone) for a different job ▪ We need to *reeducate* the workers who lost their jobs when the factory closed.

– **re•ed•u•ca•tion** /ri,ɛʤə'keɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a need for *reeducation* about how to eat in a more healthful way ▪ ***reeducation camps*** for political prisoners

reedy /'ri:di/ *adj* **reed•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : full of or covered with reeds ▪ a *reedy* marsh

2 : having a weak, high-pitched sound ▪ *reedy* music/voices

3 *US* : long and thin ▪ *reedy* legs/arms

reef /'ri:f/ *noun, pl* **reefs** [*count*] : a long line of rocks or coral or a high area of sand near the surface of the water in the ocean — see also BARRIER REEF, CORAL REEF

ree•fer /'ri:fɚ/ *noun, pl* **-fers** *informal + old-fashioned*

1 [*noncount*] : MARIJUANA ▪ smoking *reefer*

2 [*count*] : a marijuana cigarette ▪ smoking a *reefer*

reef knot *noun, pl* ~ **knots** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : SQUARE KNOT

reek /'ri:k/ *verb* **reeks**; **reeked**; **reek•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to have a very strong and unpleasant smell ▪ The garbage *reeks*. [=*stinks*] — often + *of* ▪ The room *reeked of* smoke.

2 *usually disapproving* — used to say that it is very obvious that someone or something has a lot of a specified thing; usually + *of* ▪ a neighborhood that *reeks of* poverty [=a neighborhood in which everyone is clearly very poor] ▪ She *reeks of* money. [=she dresses, acts, etc., in a way that shows that she has a lot of money]

[1]reel /'ri:l/ *noun, pl* **reels** [*count*]

1 a : a device shaped like a cylinder that a string, cord, etc., is wrapped around ▪ a garden hose *reel* ▪ (*Brit*) a cotton *reel* [=(*US*) a spool of thread] **b** : a device that is attached to the handle of a fishing pole and used to wrap and release the line ▪ He bought a new rod and (fishing) *reel*. — see picture at FISHING **c** : an object that is used to hold and release film or tape ▪ a *reel* of film

2 : a part of a movie that is on a reel of film ▪ There's an exciting chase scene in the movie's second *reel*.

– compare [4]REEL

[2]reel *verb* **reels**; **reeled**; **reel•ing**

reel in [*phrasal verb*] ***reel (something) in*** *or* ***reel in (something)*** : to pull in (a fish that is caught on a hook on the end of a fishing line) by turning the reel of a fishing rod

reel off [*phrasal verb*] ***reel (something) off*** *or* ***reel off (something)*** : to say (something) easily and quickly ▪ She *reeled off* the right answers without hesitation.

– compare [3]REEL

[3]reel *verb* **reels**; **reeled**; **reeling** [*no obj*]

1 : to be very shocked, confused, and upset ▪ Still *reeling* from the death of her husband, she was now dealing with having to find a new job. ▪ I couldn't believe what I was hearing. My head *reeled*.

2 : to move or fall back suddenly ▪ He suddenly *reeled* back against the wall. ▪ The surprise attack sent the enemy *reeling*.

3 : to move or walk in a way that is very unsteady ▪ He was *reeling* drunkenly down the street. ▪ They *reeled* around the room, laughing hysterically. ▪ When she opened her eyes, the room was *reeling*. [=the room looked like it was moving in an unsteady way]

– compare [2]REEL

[4]reel *noun, pl* **reels** [*count*] : a lively dance originally from Scotland and Ireland; *also* : the music for this dance — see also VIRGINIA REEL — compare [1]REEL

re•elect /,ri:jə'lɛkt/ *verb* **-elects**; **-elect•ed**; **-elect•ing** [+ *obj*] : to elect (someone) again ▪ The town *reelected* her (to be) mayor. ▪ He was *reelected* to the school committee.

– **re•elec•tion** /,ri:jə'lɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ The senator decided to run for *reelection*.

re•emerge /,ri:jɪ'mɚʤ/ *verb* **-emerg•es**; **-emerged**; **-emerg•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to come out of something you have entered ▪ The rescuers didn't *reemerge* from the cave until hours later.

2 : to be seen or known again ▪ an old style that has *reemerged* [=has become popular again] ▪ The former actor has *reemerged* as a candidate for mayor.

re•en•act /,ri:jə'nækt/ *verb* **-acts**; **-act•ed**; **-act•ing** [+ *obj*] : to repeat the actions of (an event) ▪ The group *reenacted* a famous American Civil War battle.

– **re•en•act•ment** /,ri:jə'næktmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*]

re•en•ter /ri'ɛntɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** : to enter again: such as **a** : to go into (a place you have left) again [+ *obj*] They've *reentered* the country. ▪ The space shuttle has safely *reentered* the Earth's atmosphere. [*no obj*] If you leave the theater, you won't be allowed to *reenter* without showing a ticket stub. **b** [+ *obj*] : to go back into (a game that you were participating in earlier) ▪ The quarterback *reentered* the game in the second half. **c** [+ *obj*] : to type in (words, data, etc.) again on a computer ▪ The original file was corrupted, so they had to *reenter* the data.

– **re•en•try** /ri'ɛntri/ *noun, pl* **-tries** [*noncount*] *Reentry* to the theater will be permitted with a ticket stub. ▪ The space shuttle needs to be controlled precisely during *reentry*. [*count*] shuttle *reentries*

re•es•tab•lish /,ri:jɪ'stæblɪʃ/ *verb* **-lish•es**; **-lished**; **-lish•ing** [+ *obj*] : to establish (someone or something) again: such as **a** : to cause (someone or something) to be widely known and accepted again ▪ The city is trying to *reestablish* itself as a tourist destination. **b** : to make (something) exist again ▪ The school was *reestablished* last year in a new town. ▪ She is working hard to *reestablish* her political influence. ▪ The crew has *reestablished* communication with the ship.

– **re•es•tab•lish•ment** /,ri:jɪ'stæblɪʃmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

re•eval•u•ate /,ri:jɪ'vælja,weɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [+ *obj*] : to judge the value or condition of (someone or something) again ▪ We will *reevaluate* your progress after six months.

re•ex•am•ine /,ri:ɪg'zæmən/ *verb* **-ines**; **-ined**; **-in•ing** [+ *obj*] : to examine (someone or something) again usually in a new or different way ▪ The book *reexamines* traditional family roles.

ref /'rɛf/ *noun, pl* **refs** [*count*] *informal* : a referee in a game or sport

ref. *abbr* reference

re•fec•to•ry /rɪ'fɛktəri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : a large room where meals are served at a place (such as a seminary or monastery) where many people live

re•fer /rɪ'fɚ/ *verb* **-fers**; **-ferred**; **-fer•ring** [+ *obj*] : to send

(someone or something) to a particular person or place for treatment, help, advice, etc. ▪ How can doctors *refer* patients for treatment without examining them first? ▪ Most of the patients we see here were *referred* by other doctors. — usually + *to* ▪ My doctor *referred* me *to* a specialist. ▪ The Senate bill has been *referred to* the Finance Committee. ▪ The company is *referring* people *to* its Web site for more information.

refer to [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***refer to (something)*** : to look at or in (something) for information ▪ She often *refers to* her notes when giving a speech. ▪ Please *refer to* our Web site for more information. **2** ***refer to (something)*** : to have a direct connection or relationship to (something) ▪ The word "finch" *refers to* a kind of bird. ▪ The numbers shown in the text *refer to* footnotes at the bottom of the page. **3 a** ***refer to (someone or something)*** : to talk about or write about (someone or something) especially briefly : to mention (someone or something) in speech or in writing ▪ No one *referred to* the incident. **b** ***refer to (something or someone) as (something)*** : to call (something or someone) by (a specified name or title) ▪ The victim was *referred to* only *as* "John Doe." ▪ At one time, people *referred to* the city *as* the Paris of the East.

[1]ref•er•ee /ˌrɛfəˈriː/ *noun, pl* **-ees** [*count*]
1 : a person who makes sure that players act according to the rules of a game or sport ▪ a football/soccer *referee*
2 *Brit* : [1]REFERENCE 3a

[2]referee *verb* **-ees; -eed; -ee•ing** *sports* : to act as a referee in (a game or sport) [+ *obj*] She *refereed* the basketball game. [*no obj*] He has *refereed* for several years now.

[1]ref•er•ence /ˈrɛfrəns/ *noun, pl* **-enc•es**
1 : the act of mentioning something in speech or in writing : the act of referring *to* something or someone [*count*] *references to* an earlier event ▪ Bob's nickname was "Elvis," a *reference to* the way he styled his hair. [=people called Bob "Elvis" because he styled his hair in the same way Elvis Presley did] [*noncount*] She ***made reference to*** our agreement. [=she mentioned our agreement] ▪ The numbers were calculated ***by reference to*** the most recent census. — see also FRAME OF REFERENCE, POINT OF REFERENCE
2 [*noncount*] : the act of looking at or in something for information ▪ The report was filed for future *reference*. [=so that people could look at it later] ▪ *Reference* to a map will make the position clear. — see also CROSS-REFERENCE
3 a [*count*] : a person who can be asked for information about another person's character, abilities, etc. ▪ She listed her former teacher as a *reference* when she applied for the job. — called also (*Brit*) *referee* **b** : a statement about someone's character, abilities, etc. [*count*] Her former teacher gave her a *reference* when she applied for the job. [*noncount*] Her teacher gave her a ***letter of reference***.
4 [*count*] : something (such as a book, dictionary, encyclopedia, etc.) that people can look at or in to find information about something ▪ a small dictionary that is a handy *reference* ▪ How many *references* do you use in your essay?

in reference to *or* ***with reference to*** *formal* : about or concerning (something or someone) : in relation to ▪ I have something further to add *with reference to* [=*with respect to*, *in regard to*] what was said earlier. ▪ I am writing *in reference to* your recent letter. ▪ The course covers ancient history *with* special *reference to* the Roman Empire. [=the course is about ancient history and especially about the Roman Empire]

terms of reference see [1]TERM

[2]reference *verb* **-ences; -enced; -enc•ing** [+ *obj*] : to mention (something or someone) in speech or in writing : to refer to (something or someone) ▪ The book *references* many other authors who have written on this topic.

[3]reference *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : used to find information about something ▪ a *reference* book ▪ a list of *reference* materials/sources
2 : used to tell people where information can be found ▪ a *reference* mark/number

reference library *noun, pl* ~ **-braries** [*count*]
1 : a collection of books often about a particular subject ▪ a *reference library* of science
2 : a library that lets you use books while you are there but does not allow you to take the books home — compare LENDING LIBRARY

reference point *noun, pl* ~ **points** [*count*] : POINT OF REFERENCE

ref•er•en•dum /ˌrɛfəˈrɛndəm/ *noun, pl* **-da** /-də/ *or* **-dums** : an event in which the people of a county, state, etc., vote for or against a law that deals with a specific issue : a public vote on a particular issue [*count*] They are having/holding a *referendum* to decide the issue. = They are having/holding a *referendum* on the issue. [*noncount*] The issue was decided by *referendum*.

re•fer•ral /rɪˈfɚrəl/ *noun, pl* **-rals** [*count*] : the act of sending someone to another person or place for treatment, help, advice, etc. ▪ She got a *referral* (to a specialist) from her doctor. = Her doctor gave her a *referral*.

[1]re•fill /riˈfɪl/ *verb* **-fills; -filled; -fill•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to fill (something) again ▪ He *refilled* his glass from the nearby pitcher. ▪ I need to *refill* my prescription. [=to get more of a prescribed medicine]
2 [*no obj*] : to be filled again ▪ The reservoir will *refill* once it begins raining.
– re•fill•able /riˈfɪləbəl/ *adj* ▪ a *refillable* propane tank ▪ The prescription is *refillable*.

[2]re•fill /ˈriːˌfɪl/ *noun, pl* **-fills** [*count*] : a new supply of something ▪ The restaurant advertised free *refills* (of soda). ▪ prescription *refills*

re•fi•nance /ˌriːfəˈnæns, riˈfaɪˌnæns/ *verb* **-nanc•es; -nanced; -nanc•ing** [+ *obj*] : to get a new loan to pay (an older debt) : to finance (something) again ▪ *refinance* a mortgage ▪ They're *refinancing* their home.

re•fine /rɪˈfaɪn/ *verb* **-fines; -fined; -fin•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to remove the unwanted substances in (something) ▪ *refine* oil/sugar
2 : to improve (something) by making small changes ▪ The inventor of the machine spent years *refining* the design. ▪ The class is meant to help you *refine* your writing style.
– re•fin•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ oil/sugar *refiners* [=companies that refine oil/sugar] **– refining** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ oil production and *refining*

refined *adj*
1 : free of unwanted substances : PURE ▪ *refined* flour/metals/oil/sugar
2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : improved to be more precise or exact ▪ She has become more *refined* in her painting technique. ▪ *refined* testing methods
3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing the good education, polite manners, etc., that are expected in people who belong to a high social class ▪ *refined* and civilized people ▪ He has very *refined* manners. ▪ *refined* and elegant works of art

re•fine•ment /rɪˈfaɪnmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**
1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of removing unwanted substances from something : the act or process of making something pure ▪ oil *refinement*
2 [*noncount*] : the act or process of improving something — often + *of* ▪ the *refinement of* testing methods
3 [*count*] : an improved version of something — often + *of* ▪ The game is a *refinement of* last year's version.
4 [*count*] : a small change that improves something ▪ Several engine *refinements* have resulted in increased efficiency.
5 [*noncount*] : the quality of a person who has the good education, polite manners, etc., that are expected in people who belong to a high social class ▪ a person of great *refinement*

re•fin•ery /rɪˈfaɪnəri/ *noun, pl* **-er•ies** [*count*] : a place where the unwanted substances in something (such as oil or sugar) are removed : a place where something is refined ▪ oil/sugar *refineries*

re•fin•ish /riˈfɪnɪʃ/ *verb* **-ish•es; -ished; -ish•ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to remove the coating on the surface of (furniture, a floor, etc.) and put on a new coating : to put a new finish on (something) ▪ She made her living repairing and *refinishing* wood floors. ▪ *refinished* antique furniture

re•fit /riˈfɪt/ *verb* **-fits; -fit•ted; -fit•ting** [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a boat) ready for use again especially by adding new parts ▪ *refit* a ship for service ▪ They're *refitting* the building with hardwood floors.
– re•fit /ˈriːˌfɪt/ *noun, pl* **-fits** [*count*] ▪ The ship was in port for a *refit*. **– refitting** *noun, pl* **-tings** [*count, noncount*]

re•flect /rɪˈflɛkt/ *verb* **-flects; -flect•ed; -flect•ing**
1 a [*no obj*] *of light, sound, etc.* : to move in one direction, hit a surface, and then quickly move in a different and usually opposite direction — usually + *off* ▪ The light *reflected off* the mirror. ▪ The sound of our voices *reflected off* the walls of the tunnel. **b** [+ *obj*] ✧ When a surface *reflects* light, sound, or heat, it causes the light, sound, or heat that hits it to move or bounce away in a different direction. ▪ A polished surface *reflects* light. ▪ The tiles are used to *reflect* heat. ▪ The moon shines with *reflected* light. [=the moon shines because it is reflecting the light that shines on it from the sun]

2 [+ *obj*] : to show the image of (something) on a surface ▪ The old church is *reflected* in the glass exterior of the skyscraper. ▪ The clouds were *reflected* [=*mirrored*] in the surface of the lake.

3 [+ *obj*] : to show (something) : to make (something) known ▪ Her book clearly *reflects* her beliefs. ▪ Where you learned a language is *reflected* in your accent.

4 [*no obj*] **a** : to cause people to think of someone or something in a specified way — + *on* or *upon* ▪ The book leaves out things that might *reflect* badly/poorly *on* him. [=things that might make him look bad] ▪ Your achievement *reflects* well *on* your school. = Your achievement ***reflects credit on*** your school. [=your achievement shows that your school taught you well] **b** : to cause people to disapprove of someone or something — + *on* or *upon* ▪ His bad behavior *reflects on* all of us.

5 a [*no obj*] : to think carefully about something ▪ You should take some time to *reflect* before you make a decision. — often + *on* or *upon* ▪ I've been *reflecting on* my experiences here. **b** [+ *obj*] : to think or say (something) after careful thought ▪ She was disappointed with their decision, but she *reflected* that it could have been worse. ▪ "It could have been worse," she *reflected*.

reflected glory *noun* [*noncount*] : respect or admiration that you get because of something that someone else has done ▪ He enjoyed basking in the *reflected glory* of his famous brother's success.

re•flec•tion *or chiefly Brit* **re•flex•ion** /rɪˈflɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : an image that is seen in a mirror or on a shiny surface ▪ She was looking at her *reflection* in the mirror. ▪ He saw the *reflections* of the clouds on the lake.

2 [*count*] : something that shows the effect, existence, or character of something else — often + *of* ▪ The high crime rate is a *reflection of* the violence of our society. ▪ artistic styles that are *reflections of* different cultures ▪ The movie is an accurate *reflection of* what life is like in small towns.

3 [*singular*] : something that causes people to disapprove of a person or thing — + *on* or *upon* ▪ His bad behavior is a *reflection on* all of us. [=it makes people think badly of all of us] ▪ You're not to blame for these problems. They're ***no reflection on*** you. [=they do not show anything about your character]

4 [*noncount*] : careful thought about something ▪ She had no time for *reflection*. ▪ spending time in quiet *reflection* ▪ ***On/Upon reflection*** [=after thinking about it], I decided to accept their offer.

5 [*count*] : an opinion that you form or a remark that you make after carefully thinking about something — usually plural ▪ The book features the writer's *reflections* on America and its people. ▪ personal *reflections*

re•flec•tive /rɪˈflɛktɪv/ *adj*

1 a [*more ~; most ~*] : causing light, sound, or heat to move away : reflecting light, sound, or heat ▪ The material is highly *reflective*. [=it easily reflects light] ▪ *reflective* surfaces **b** : relating to or caused by light that reflects off a surface ▪ the *reflective* glare of the shiny metal

2 [*more ~; most ~*] : thinking carefully about something : THOUGHTFUL ▪ She was in a very *reflective* mood.

3 — used to say that one thing shows what something else is like; + *of* ▪ The school is *reflective of* society: the same problems that exist in society exist at the school.

– **re•flec•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ He spoke softly and *reflectively* about his experiences.

re•flec•tor /rɪˈflɛktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : an object that is used to reflect light ▪ safety devices such as bicycle *reflectors* ▪ *Reflectors* are placed along the lanes of the highway.

re•flex /ˈriːˌflɛks/ *noun, pl* **-flex•es**

1 [*count*] : an action or movement of the body that happens automatically as a reaction to something ▪ the cough/gag *reflex* ▪ *reflexes* such as swallowing and blinking ▪ a *reflex* action/response

2 [*count*] : something that you do without thinking as a reaction to something ▪ Disagreeing with my suggestions has become almost a *reflex* for him.

3 *reflexes* [*plural*] : the natural ability to react quickly ▪ an athlete with great/quick *reflexes* ▪ My *reflexes* are slower now that I'm older.

re•flex•ive /rɪˈflɛksɪv/ *adj*

1 *grammar* : showing that the action in a sentence or clause happens to the person or thing that does the action ▪ In "I hurt myself," the verb "hurt" is *reflexive*. ▪ In the sentence "We forced ourselves to finish the assignment," the word "ourselves" is a *reflexive* pronoun.

2 : happening or done without thinking as a reaction to something ▪ For many people, the *reflexive* response to this kind of demand is to say no. ▪ music that triggers *reflexive* toe tapping

– **re•flex•ive•ly** *adv* ▪ Many people respond *reflexively* to this kind of demand by saying no.

re•flex•ol•o•gy /ˌriːˌflɛkˈsɑːlədʒi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a method of relieving pain or curing illness by pressing on particular parts of a person's hands or feet

– **re•flex•ol•o•gist** /ˌriːˌflɛkˈsɑːlədʒɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*]

re•flux /ˈriːˌflʌks/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a backward flow of the contents of the stomach into the esophagus that causes heartburn ▪ acid *reflux*

re•fo•cus /riˈfoʊkəs/ *verb* **-cus•es**; **-cused**; **-cus•ing** : to focus again: such as **a** : to adjust (something, such as a camera or a lens) again to make an image clear [+ *obj*] She *refocused* the camera. [*no obj*] The camera *refocuses* automatically. **b** : to cause (something, such as attention) to be directed at something different [+ *obj*] She *refocused* her energies toward a career in music. ▪ He needs to *refocus* his attention on his schoolwork. [*no obj*] Sports are not a priority now. You need to *refocus* and improve your grades.

re•for•es•ta•tion /riˌforəˈsteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of planting tree seeds or young trees in an area where there used to be a forest — compare DEFORESTATION

– **re•for•est** /riˈforəst/ *verb* **-ests**; **-est•ed**; **-est•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ They are *reforesting* the burned areas of land.

[1]re•form /rɪˈfoɚm/ *verb* **-forms**; **-formed**; **-form•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to improve (someone or something) by removing or correcting faults, problems, etc. ▪ The program is designed to *reform* prisoners. ▪ They want to *reform* campaign spending. ▪ The laws need to be *reformed*.

2 [*no obj*] : to improve your own behavior or habits ▪ The program is designed to help former gang members who are trying to *reform*.

– **re•form•able** /rɪˈfoɚməbəl/ *adj* ▪ Some prisoners are not *reformable*. – **reformed** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *reformed* tax laws ▪ a *reformed* criminal

[2]reform *noun, pl* **-forms**

1 [*noncount*] : the improvement of something by removing or correcting faults, problems, etc. ▪ A group of senators are calling for *reform* of the nation's health-care system. ▪ economic/educational/political/tax *reform* ▪ a *reform* movement

2 [*count*] : an action, plan, rule, etc., that is meant to improve something ▪ He has proposed a list of political *reforms*.

Re•form /rɪˈfoɚm/ *adj* : accepting and following only some of the traditional beliefs and customs of Judaism ▪ *Reform* Judaism ▪ a *Reform* congregation

re–form /riˈfoɚm/ *verb* **-forms**; **-formed**; **-form•ing** : to form (something) again [+ *obj*] They decided to *re-form* the band. [=to bring the members of the band together again] [*no obj*] The ice *re-formed* on the lake. [=ice formed on the lake again]

ref•or•ma•tion /ˌrɛfɚˈmeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 *formal* : the act or process of improving something or someone by removing or correcting faults, problems, etc. [*noncount*] the *reformation* of our justice system ▪ education *reformation* [=(more commonly) *reform*] [*count*] — usually singular ▪ a radical *reformation* of society

2 *the Reformation* : the 16th-century religious movement that led to the establishment of the Protestant churches

re•for•ma•to•ry /rɪˈfoɚməˌtori, *Brit* rɪˈfɔːmətri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *US, old-fashioned* : REFORM SCHOOL

re•form•er /rɪˈfoɚmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who works to change and improve a society, government, etc. ▪ an economic/educational/social *reformer*

re•form•ist /rɪˈfoɚmɪst/ *adj*

1 : wanting to change and improve a society, government, etc. ▪ a *reformist* group/movement

2 : of or relating to the work of a reformer ▪ *reformist* efforts/views

reform school *noun, pl* ~ **schools** [*count*] *US, old-fashioned* : a place where young people who have committed crimes are sent to live and be taught to behave in ways that are socially acceptable

re•fract /rɪˈfrækt/ *verb* **-fracts**; **-fract•ed**; **-fract•ing** [+ *obj*] *technical, of an object or substance* : to make (light) change direction when it goes through at an angle ▪ Prisms *refract* light. ▪ Light is *refracted* when it hits water.

R

– **re•frac•tion** /rɪ'frækʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ the *refraction* of light through water – **re•frac•tive** /rɪ'fræktɪv/ *adj* ▪ the *refractive* properties of the glass

re•frac•to•ry /rɪ'fræktəri/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 *medical* : difficult to treat or cure ▪ a *refractory* disease
2 *formal* : difficult to control or deal with ▪ a *refractory* [=*disobedient*] child

[1]re•frain /rɪ'freɪn/ *verb* **-frains**; **-frained**; **-frain•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to stop yourself from doing something that you want to do ▪ I was going to make a joke but I *refrained*. — usually + *from* ▪ Please *refrain from* smoking. ▪ She *refrained from* saying what she truly felt.

[2]refrain *noun, pl* **-frains** [*count*]
1 : a phrase or verse that is repeated regularly in a poem or song : CHORUS
2 : a comment or statement that is often repeated ▪ A common/familiar *refrain* among teachers these days is that the schools need more funding.

re•fresh /rɪ'frɛʃ/ *verb* **-fresh•es**; **-freshed**; **-fresh•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (someone) have more energy and feel less tired or less hot ▪ A cold shower should *refresh* you. [=make you feel better] ▪ Sleep *refreshes* the body.
2 : to give someone more of (a drink) : to fill (someone's glass, cup, etc.) again ▪ Can I *refresh* your drink? [=would you like me to fill your glass again?]
3 *computers* : to put (something, such as a page on the Internet) into a computer's memory again in order to show any new information : to cause an updated version of (something, such as an Internet page) to appear on a computer screen ▪ Try *refreshing* [=*reloading*] the home page.
refresh someone's memory : to remind someone about something : to help someone to remember something ▪ I'm not sure of the address. Can you *refresh my memory*? [=can you remind me?]
– **refreshed** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ I felt very *refreshed* after taking a nap.

re•fresh•er /rɪ'frɛʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US* : something that helps you to remember something you have forgotten : a reminder about something — usually singular; usually + *on* ▪ Before we play, I need a *refresher on* the rules. [=I need someone to remind me about the rules] ▪ Some people need a *refresher on* how to be polite.

refresher course *noun, pl* **~ courses** [*count*] : a training class which helps people review information or learn new skills needed for their jobs ▪ The staff is required to take *refresher courses* every three years.

re•fresh•ing /rɪ'frɛʃɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : pleasantly new, different, or interesting ▪ Working on the new project was a *refreshing* change. ▪ It is *refreshing* to hear some good news about him.
2 : making you feel more rested, energetic, cool, etc. ▪ a *refreshing* glass of cold water ▪ My swim was very *refreshing*.
– **re•fresh•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ *refreshingly* different/honest ▪ The water was *refreshingly* cool.

re•fresh•ment /rɪ'frɛʃmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**
1 *refreshments* [*plural*] : drinks and small amounts of food ▪ Light *refreshments* will be served/provided at the meeting. ▪ They provided plenty of ***liquid refreshments***. [=drinks, especially alcoholic drinks]
2 [*noncount*] : food and drink ▪ The workers were in need of *refreshment*. ▪ (*humorous*) Would you like some ***liquid refreshment***? [=an alcoholic drink]
3 [*noncount*] : the process of becoming rested and regaining strength or energy ▪ We went camping for relaxation and *refreshment*.

re•fried beans /'ri:ˌfraɪd-/ *noun* [*plural*] : a Mexican food that consists of beans that are cooked with seasonings, fried, then mashed and fried again

re•frig•er•ate /rɪ'frɪʤəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [+ *obj*] : to put or keep (something, such as food) in a refrigerator in order to make it cold or keep it fresh ▪ *Refrigerate* the mixture for an hour before serving. ▪ The potato salad needs to be (kept) *refrigerated*.
– **refrigerated** *adj* ▪ Ice cream is delivered in a *refrigerated* truck. [=a truck that has a refrigerator for keeping things cold] – **re•frig•er•a•tion** /rɪˌfrɪʤə'reɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The salad does not need *refrigeration*.

re•frig•er•a•tor /rɪ'frɪʤəˌreɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a device or room that is used to keep things (such as food and drinks) cold — called also *fridge*; see picture at KITCHEN

re•fu•el /ri'fju:l/ *verb* **-els**; *US* **-eled** *or Brit* **-elled**; *US* **-el•ing** *or Brit* **-el•ling** : to add fuel to (an airplane, a truck, etc.) [+ *obj*] The crew *refueled* the airplane. — often used as *(be) refueled* ▪ The airplane needs to *be refueled*. [*no obj*] The airplane landed to *refuel*.

ref•uge /'rɛˌfju:ʤ/ *noun, pl* **-ug•es**
1 [*noncount*] : shelter or protection from danger or trouble ▪ They were seeking *refuge*. = They were seeking a ***place of refuge***. [=a safe place] — often + *in* or *from* ▪ We ***took refuge in*** [=we took shelter in, we went into] a nearby barn during the storm. = We ***found refuge from*** the storm in a nearby barn. ▪ They ***sought refuge in*** another country. [=went to another country for protection] — often used figuratively ▪ After the death of her husband, she *took/sought/found refuge in* her music.
2 [*count*] : a place that provides shelter or protection ▪ wildlife *refuges* [=areas where wild animals are protected] — often + *for* ▪ The area is a *refuge for* wildlife. ▪ The shelter is a *refuge for* abused women.

ref•u•gee /ˌrɛfjʊ'ʤi:/ *noun, pl* **-gees** [*count*] : someone who has been forced to leave a country because of war or for religious or political reasons ▪ Thousands of *refugees* have fled the area. ▪ *refugee* camps

[1]re•fund /rɪ'fʌnd/ *verb* **-funds**; **-fund•ed**; **-fund•ing** [+ *obj*] : to give back money that someone paid for something (such as a product that was returned or a service that was not acceptable) ▪ If you are not completely satisfied, we will *refund* the purchase price. ▪ We will *refund* (you) your money. ▪ They refused to *refund* the ticket. [=to give back the money that I had paid for the ticket]
– **re•fund•able** /rɪ'fʌndəbəl/ *adj* ▪ The fee is not *refundable*. ▪ a *refundable* security deposit

[2]re•fund /'ri:ˌfʌnd/ *noun, pl* **-funds** [*count*] : an amount of money that is given back to someone who has returned a product, paid too much, etc. ▪ No *refunds* or exchanges are allowed. ▪ She demanded a *refund*. ▪ The store gave me a ***full refund***. [=gave me back all the money I paid] ▪ We received a ***tax refund*** this year. [=this year we paid too much income tax so we got some money back]

re•fur•bish /rɪ'fɚbɪʃ/ *verb* **-bish•es**; **-bished**; **-bish•ing** [+ *obj*] : to repair and make improvements to (something, such as a building) ▪ They are *refurbishing* [=*renovating*] the old house. ▪ They sell *refurbished* computers. [=old computers that have been repaired so that they are in good condition]
– **re•fur•bish•ment** /rɪ'fɚbɪʃmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*] ▪ The hotel is closed for *refurbishment*. [=*renovation*]

re•fus•al /rɪ'fju:zəl/ *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] : an act of saying or showing that you will not do, give, or accept something : an act of refusing ▪ My request for more money was met with a flat/firm *refusal*. — often + *of* ▪ Her *refusal of* the job surprised us. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ She worried about his stubborn/steadfast *refusal to eat*.
(the right of) first refusal : the right to accept or refuse something before it is offered to anyone else ▪ If we decide to sell the house, we'll give our tenants *first refusal*. [=we will offer to sell the house to our tenants before offering to sell to other people]

[1]re•fuse /rɪ'fju:z/ *verb* **-fus•es**; **-fused**; **-fus•ing**
1 : to say that you will not accept (something, such as a gift or offer) [+ *obj*] He *refused* the job. [=he did not accept the job] ▪ I ***could hardly refuse*** [=could not refuse] the money. ▪ The offer was ***too good to refuse***. [=the offer was so good that I had to accept it] [*no obj*] When they offered me the money, I couldn't *refuse*.
2 : to say or show that you are not willing to do something that someone wants you to do [*no obj*] They asked her to help but she *refused*. [+ *obj*] — usually followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ He *refused to answer* the question. ▪ She flatly/stubbornly/steadfastly *refused to help*. ▪ They *refuse to accept* the truth.
3 [+ *obj*] : to not allow someone to have (something) ▪ They were *refused* [=*denied*] admittance to the game. ▪ They *refused* him a visa. [=they did not give him a visa]

[2]ref•use /'rɛˌfju:s/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : something (such as paper or food waste) that has been thrown away : trash or garbage ▪ a pile of *refuse* [=*rubbish*]

re•fute /rɪ'fju:t/ *verb* **-futes**; **-fut•ed**; **-fut•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*
1 : to prove that (something) is not true ▪ The lawyer *refuted* the testimony of the witness. ▪ *refute* an argument/claim
2 : to say that (something) is not true ▪ He *refuted* [=*denied*] the rumor about him. ▪ He *refutes* the notion that he's planning to retire soon. ▪ She *refuted* the allegations against her.

– **ref·u·ta·tion** /ˌrɛfjʊˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] *formal* ▪ a *refutation* of the theory

[1]reg /ˈrɛg/ *noun, pl* **regs** [*count*] *US, informal* : REGULATION ▪ a list of proposed *regs*

[2]reg *abbr* **1** register; registered; registration **2** regular

re·gain /riˈgeɪn/ *verb* **-gains**; **-gained**; **-gain·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to get (something) again : to get back (something that you lost) ▪ I *regained* [=*recovered*] my health/strength. ▪ She fell into a coma and never *regained* consciousness. ▪ He slipped but quickly *regained* his footing. ▪ The actor has recently *regained* some of his former popularity. ▪ The pilot struggled to *regain* control of the plane. ▪ The home team attempted/tried to *regain* possession of the ball.
2 *literary* : to get back to (something) : to reach (a place) again ▪ They finally *regained* the shore.

re·gal /ˈriːgəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : of, relating to, or suitable for a king or queen ▪ He has a *regal* bearing. [=he is very dignified, authoritative, etc.] ▪ a ceremony of *regal* [=*royal*] splendor
– **re·gal·ly** /ˈriːgəli/ *adv* ▪ She waved *regally* to the crowd.

re·gale /rɪˈgeɪl/ *verb* **-gales**; **-galed**; **-gal·ing**
regale with [*phrasal verb*] ***regale (someone) with (something)*** *somewhat formal* : to entertain or amuse (someone) by telling stories, describing experiences, etc. ▪ He *regaled* his party guests *with* stories of his adventures abroad.

re·ga·lia /rɪˈgeɪljə/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : special clothes and decorations (such as a crown or scepter) for official ceremonies ▪ Her royal/ceremonial *regalia* was quite impressive. ▪ The queen was in ***full regalia***.
2 : special clothing of a particular kind ▪ The war *regalia* of the tribe is on display at the museum. ▪ He was dressed in cowboy *regalia*.

[1]re·gard /rɪˈgɑəd/ *noun, pl* **-gards**
1 [*noncount*] : care or concern for someone or something — often + *for* or *to* ▪ He has no *regard for* my feelings. [=he doesn't care at all about my feelings] ▪ She seems to have little *regard for* her health. ▪ Would you please show some *regard for* others? ▪ The company acted ***without regard for*** the safety of its workers. ▪ She was hired ***without regard to*** race, age, or gender. [=race, age, and gender did not influence the decision to hire her] ▪ The President acted ***with due regard to*** [=with the proper care for] the welfare of the nation.
2 : a feeling of respect and admiration for someone or something [*singular*] — often + *for* ▪ I have a great *regard for* his ability. ▪ The students ***have a high regard for*** their teacher. [=the students respect and admire their teacher very much] [*noncount*] She has won the *regard* [=*esteem, respect*] of the other scientists in her field. ▪ I have no/little *regard* for his opinions. ▪ His work is ***held in high regard***. [=his work is greatly respected]
3 *regards* [*plural*] : friendly greetings ▪ Give/Send them my (warm/kind) *regards*. [=greet them for me; tell them I am thinking of them] — sometimes used to end a letter ▪ I look forward to seeing you soon. *Regards*, John.
in that/this regard *formal* — used to refer to something just mentioned ▪ He is studying law and *in that regard* he is doing very well. [=he is doing well studying law] ▪ We will take care of supplying the food, so you have nothing to worry about *in that regard*.
in/with regard to *formal* : relating to (something) ▪ This letter is *in regard to* your unpaid balance. [=this letter concerns your unpaid balance] ▪ I have a question *with regard to* [=*concerning, regarding*] your last statement.

[2]regard *verb* **-gards**; **-gard·ed**; **-gard·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to think of (someone or something) in a particular way ▪ He is highly *regarded* by his coworkers. [=his coworkers have a very high opinion of him] — often + *as* ▪ She *regards* him *as* a friend. [=she considers him a friend] ▪ He *regards* himself *as* an expert. ▪ The book is widely *regarded as* his best. [=many people think the book is the best that he has ever written]
2 *formal* : to look at (someone or something) ▪ The police officer *regarded* the group of teenagers with suspicion.
as regards *formal* : relating to (something) : in or with regard to (something) ▪ *As regards* [=*regarding*] your first question, we cannot assist you.

regarding *prep, somewhat formal* : relating to (something) : ABOUT ▪ The teacher talked to the students *regarding* their homework. ▪ I have a question *regarding* your earlier comments.

re·gard·less /rɪˈgɑədləs/ *adv* : in spite of difficulty, trouble, etc. : without being stopped by difficulty, trouble, etc. ▪ It may rain, but I will go *regardless*. [=I will go even if it rains; I will not be stopped from going] ▪ It was raining, but we went for a walk *regardless*. [=*anyway*]
regardless of : without being stopped or affected by (something) ▪ He runs every day *regardless of* the weather. [=he runs every day no matter what the weather is like] ▪ *Regardless of* [=*despite*] our request, he would not alter his plans.

re·gat·ta /rɪˈgɑːtə, *Brit* rɪˈgætə/ *noun, pl* **-tas** [*count*] : a race or a series of races between boats (such as sailboats)

re·gen·cy /ˈriːʤənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies** [*count*] : a government or period of time in which a person (called a regent) rules in place of a king or queen ▪ The people supported the *regency*. ▪ Peace was restored during the *regency*.

Re·gen·cy /ˈriːʤənsi/ *adj, always used before a noun* : of, relating to, or like the styles in Britain during the period 1811–20 ▪ an example of *Regency* furniture/architecture/style

re·gen·er·ate /rɪˈʤɛnəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at·ed**; **-at·ing**
1 *biology* : to grow again after being lost, damaged, etc. [*no obj*] The lizard's tail can *regenerate*. ▪ The tissue cells *regenerated*. [+ *obj*] The lizard is able to *regenerate* its tail. ▪ The tissue cells can ***regenerate themselves***.
2 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to give new life to (something) ▪ The land is *regenerated* [=*renewed*] by the rotation of the crops. ▪ The plan is meant to *regenerate* [=*revive*] the economy.
– **re·gen·er·a·tion** /rɪˌʤɛnəˈreɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] – **re·gen·er·a·tive** /rɪˈʤɛnəˌreɪtɪv, *Brit* rɪˈʤɛnərətɪv/ *adj* ▪ the *regenerative* process

re·gent /ˈriːʤənt/ *noun, pl* **-gents** [*count*] : a person who rules a kingdom when the king or queen is not able to rule because he or she is sick, too young, etc.

Regent *adj, always used after a noun* : ruling because the king or queen is unable to rule : acting as a regent ▪ the Prince *Regent*

reg·gae /ˈrɛgeɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : popular music that is originally from Jamaica and that combines native styles with elements of rock and soul music

reg·i·cide /ˈrɛʤəˌsaɪd/ *noun, pl* **-cides**
1 [*noncount*] : the crime of killing a king or queen
2 [*count*] : someone who kills a king or queen

re·gime /reɪˈʒiːm/ *noun, pl* **-gimes** [*count*]
1 : a form of government ▪ a socialist/Communist/military *regime* : a particular government ▪ The new *regime* is sure to fall.
2 : a system of management ▪ Under the new *regime*, all workers must file a weekly report.
3 : REGIMEN ▪ He was put on a strict exercise *regime*.

reg·i·men /ˈrɛʤəmən/ *noun, pl* **-mens** [*count*] : a plan or set of rules about food, exercise, etc., to make someone become or stay healthy ▪ a daily training/exercise *regimen* ▪ a strict treatment/drug *regimen* — often + *of* ▪ a *regimen of* daily exercise

[1]reg·i·ment /ˈrɛʤəmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*] : a military unit that is usually made of several large groups of soldiers (called battalions) ▪ infantry/cavalry *regiments*
– **reg·i·men·tal** /ˌrɛʤəˈmɛntl/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ the *regimental* commander/headquarters

[2]reg·i·ment /ˈrɛʤəˌmɛnt/ *verb* **-ments**; **-ment·ed**; **-ment·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to organize and control (something) strictly ▪ They carefully *regiment* their son's diet/schedule/life.
2 : to control the behavior of (people) strictly ▪ She criticized the way the school *regiments* its students by having strict rules.
– **reg·i·men·ta·tion** /ˌrɛʤəmənˈteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She did not like the school's *regimentation*. – **regimented** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The school was highly *regimented*. ▪ a *regimented* schedule/routine/lifestyle ▪ He's following a *regimented* diet.

re·gion /ˈriːʤən/ *noun, pl* **-gions**
1 [*count*] : a part of a country, of the world, etc., that is different or separate from other parts in some way ▪ The bird returns to this *region* every year. ▪ The plant grows in tropical *regions*. [=*areas*] ▪ He's the company sales manager for the entire Southwest *region*. — often + *of* ▪ the agricultural/coastal/mountainous *regions of* the country ▪ the Amazon *region of* South America ▪ the desert *regions of* the world ▪ the winemaking *regions of* France ▪ the unknown *regions of* outer space
2 [*count*] : a place on your body : an area that is near a specified part of your body ▪ She has a pain in the lower back *re-*

R

gion. — often + *of* ▪ He felt a pain in the *region* [=*vicinity*] *of* his heart.

3 ***the regions*** *Brit* : the parts of a country that are not close to the capital city ▪ attempts to go outside of London and stimulate cultural life in *the regions*

(somewhere) in the region of : close to (an amount) ▪ He makes *somewhere in the region of* [=*about*, *approximately*] $100,000 a year.

– **re•gion•al** /ˈriːʤənl̩/ *adj* ▪ He spoke with a *regional* accent. [=an accent that occurs in a particular region] ▪ a *regional* newspaper/school – **re•gion•al•ly** *adv* ▪ The newspaper is sold *regionally*. ▪ a *regionally* based newspaper

re•gion•al•ism /ˈriːʤənəˌlɪzəm/ *noun, pl* **-isms**

1 [*noncount*] : interest in or loyalty to a particular region ▪ The residents have a strong sense of *regionalism*.

2 [*count*] : a word that is used in a particular region ▪ The word "pop" for "soda" is a Midwest *regionalism*.

[1]reg•is•ter /ˈrɛʤəstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]

1 : an official list, book, or system for keeping records of something — often + *of* ▪ The church keeps a *register of* births, marriages, and deaths. ▪ a national *register of* historic places ▪ a *register* [=(*US*) *registry*] *of* voters ▪ (*Brit*) After the students were seated, the teacher ***called/took the register*** [=read a list of the students' names out loud and noted which students were there and which were not]

2 *formal* : a part of the range of musical notes that a person's voice or an instrument can reach ▪ a singer's upper/middle/lower *register*

3 : CASH REGISTER ▪ She works at the *register* in a grocery store.

4 *US* : a cover on an opening (such as a heating vent) that has parts which can be opened or closed to control the flow of air

[2]register *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to record information about (something) in a book or system of public records ▪ He *registered* the birth of his child. ▪ She *registered* her new car. ▪ The car was *registered* under my name. ▪ The company *registered* its trademark. ▪ Only 32 cases of the disease have been *registered*. **b** : to put your name on an official list [*no obj*] Did you *register* to vote? — often + *at* or *for* ▪ We *registered at* the hotel. ▪ Patients must *register at* the front desk. ▪ The students *registered for* classes. [=the students enrolled in classes] ▪ All men between the ages of 18 and 25 must *register for* the draft. [+ *obj*] She is busy *registering* the students/voters/guests. — see also PREREGISTER ✧ If you ***register as something*** or if you ***are registered as something***, you enter or have entered your name on an official list which indicates what group you belong to. ▪ He *registered as* a Republican. = He *is registered* (to vote) *as* a Republican. ▪ She *registered as* unemployed/disabled.

2 [+ *obj*] : to show or record (an amount, value, etc.) ▪ Roast the meat for two hours or until the meat thermometer *registers* 140 degrees. ▪ an earthquake that *registered* 6.3 on the Richter scale

3 [+ *obj*] : to get or reach (something) : ACHIEVE ▪ The team finally *registered* a victory after losing three games in a row. ▪ The company *registered* over one billion dollars in sales.

4 a [*no obj*] : to be recognized or remembered ▪ It took a moment for what she was saying to *register*. [=it took a moment before I understood what she was saying] — often used in negative statements ▪ The name didn't *register* with me. [=I didn't recognize the name] **b** [+ *obj*] : to notice or realize (something) — often used in negative statements ▪ She didn't *register* my presence until I spoke to her.

5 *formal* : to show (a feeling or emotion) [+ *obj*] Her face *registered* anger/fear/surprise. ▪ Fear was *registered* on her face. [*no obj*] Fear *registered* on her face.

6 [+ *obj*] : to send (a letter, package, etc.) by registered mail to protect it from damage or loss ▪ Please *register* this letter.

7 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (something) known officially and publicly ▪ I want to *register* a protest over their decision.

registered *adj*

1 a : having the owner's name entered in an official list or register ▪ a *registered* trademark/security **b** : having your name entered in an official list or register ▪ Are you a *registered* voter?

2 : sent by registered mail ▪ a *registered* letter

registered mail *noun* [*noncount*] : mail that is recorded in the post office where it is mailed and then recorded again in each post office it reaches and that is treated with special care — called also (*Brit*) *registered post*; compare CERTIFIED MAIL

registered nurse *noun, pl* ~ **nurses** [*count*] : a nurse who has more training and experience than a licensed practical nurse and who has passed a special exam — called also *RN* — compare LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE, PRACTICAL NURSE

register office *noun, pl* ~ **-fices** [*count*] *Brit* : REGISTRY OFFICE

reg•is•trar /ˈrɛʤəˌstrɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-trars** [*count*]

1 : someone who is in charge of keeping records especially of births, marriages, and deaths

2 : an officer of a college or university who is in charge of registering students and keeping academic records

3 *Brit* : a doctor who is training at a hospital to become a specialist in a particular field of medicine : RESIDENT

reg•is•tra•tion /ˌrɛʤəˈstreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 a : the act or process of entering information about something in a book or system of public records [*noncount*] — often + *of* ▪ the *registration of* motor vehicles ▪ the *registration of* trademarks [*count*] trademark *registrations* **b** : the act or process of entering names on an official list [*noncount*] Student *registration* (for courses) ends today. ▪ Voter *registration* begins today. ▪ A $75 *registration* fee is due. [*count*] *Registrations* for the test/course are lower this year than they were last year. [=fewer people have registered for the test/course this year]

2 [*count*] *US* : a document showing that something (such as a vehicle) has been officially registered ▪ The police officer asked to see my driver's license and *registration*.

registration number *noun, pl* ~ **-bers** [*count*] *Brit* : LICENSE NUMBER

reg•is•try /ˈrɛʤəstri/ *noun, pl* **-tries** [*count*]

1 : a place where official records are kept ▪ the Massachusetts *Registry* of Motor Vehicles

2 *US* : a book or system for keeping an official list or record of items ▪ a voter *registry* [=*register*] ▪ a ***gift registry*** [=a list kept by a store of the things that someone wants as gifts]

registry office *noun, pl* ~ **-fices** [*count*] *Brit* : a place where marriages are performed and where records of births, marriages, and deaths are kept

re•gress /ˈriːˌgrɛs/ *verb* **-gress•es**; **-gressed**; **-gress•ing** [*no obj*] *technical* : to return to an earlier and usually worse or less developed condition or state ▪ The patient is *regressing* to a childlike state.

– **re•gres•sion** /rɪˈgrɛʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** [*count, noncount*]

[1]re•gret /rɪˈgrɛt/ *verb* **-grets**; **-gret•ted**; **-gret•ting** [+ *obj*]

1 : to feel sad or sorry about (something that you did or did not do) : to have regrets about (something) ▪ Don't say anything you might *regret* later. ▪ I deeply *regret* what I said. ▪ She does not *regret* leaving him. ▪ He *regrets* not traveling more when he was younger. ▪ He says he doesn't *regret* anything that he's done in his life. ▪ If you don't travel now, you might ***live to regret it*** [=you might feel sorry or disappointed about it in the future]

2 *not used in progressive tenses* — used formally and in writing to express sad feelings about something that is disappointing or unpleasant ▪ We *regret* to inform you [=we are sorry to tell you] that we have offered the job to someone else. ▪ We *regret* any inconvenience these delays may cause. ▪ Dr. Smith *regrets* that she will be unable to attend. [=Dr. Smith cannot attend] ▪ It is to be *regretted* [=it is regrettable/unfortunate] that the program has lost its funding.

[2]regret *noun, pl* **-grets**

1 : a feeling of sadness or disappointment about something that you did or did not do [*count*] She has no *regrets* about leaving him. ▪ My greatest *regret* is not going to college. [*noncount*] She expressed (her) *regret* for calling me a liar. ▪ ***To my regret*** I never visited Europe. ▪ It is ***with deep regret*** that he is announcing his resignation. ▪ ***Much to the regret of*** my parents, I decided not to go to college. = ***Much to*** my parents' ***regret*** I decided not to go to college. [=my parents were disappointed that I did not go to college]

2 ***regrets*** [*plural*] : a statement saying politely that you will not be able to go to a meeting, party, etc. ▪ My coworker ***gives/sends her regrets*** for not being able to attend the meeting.

re•gret•ful /rɪˈgrɛtfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : feeling or showing regret : sad or disappointed ▪ He is *regretful* about not coming with us.

re•gret•ful•ly /rɪˈgrɛtfəli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : with regret : with sadness or disappointment ▪ "I must leave now," he said *regretfully*. ▪ I must *regretfully* decline your invitation.
2 — used to say that something is regretted ▪ *Regretfully* [=*regrettably, unfortunately*], we can't go. [=we are disappointed that we can't go]

re•gret•ta•ble /rɪ'grɛtəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : causing sadness or disappointment : UNFORTUNATE ▪ His decision to quit is *regrettable*. ▪ It was a *regrettable* mistake.

re•gret•ta•bly /rɪ'grɛtəbli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 — used to say that something is disappointing or regrettable ▪ *Regrettably* [=*unfortunately*], I cannot go. ▪ *Regrettably*, the movie theater was shut down.
2 : to an extent that causes disappointment or regret ▪ There has been a *regrettably* [=*disappointingly*] large decline in wages. ▪ The progress of the work was *regrettably* slow.

re•group /ri'gru:p/ *verb* **-groups**; **-grouped**; **-group•ing**
1 : to form into a group again [*no obj*] Members of the search party will *regroup* in the morning. [+ *obj*] The general *regrouped* his forces after the retreat.
2 [*no obj*] : to stop for a short time and prepare yourself before you continue doing something that is difficult : to stop and think, reorganize, etc., before continuing ▪ Let's *regroup* and try this again. ▪ Wait a minute. I need to *regroup*. ▪ The coach called a time-out to give his players time to *regroup*.

[1]reg•u•lar /'rɛgjələ/ *adj*
1 a : happening over and over again at the same time or in the same way : occurring every day, week, month, etc. ▪ He works *regular* hours. [=he works at the same time every work day] ▪ He has never held a *regular* [=*steady*] job. ▪ Most days she follows a *regular* routine/schedule. ▪ The music has a *regular* [=*steady*] beat. **b** : happening at times that are equally separated ▪ The town holds *regular* meetings. ▪ five *regular* payments of $100 ▪ His breathing/heartbeat is *regular*. [=*normal*] ▪ The sales team meets ***on a regular basis***. [=*regularly*] ▪ The buses run from 4 a.m. to midnight ***at regular intervals***. [=there is the same amount of time between buses] — opposite IRREGULAR
2 *always used before a noun* **a** : happening or done very often ▪ Seeing wildlife is a *regular* [=*common*] occurrence where she lives. ▪ We made *regular* use of the pool. ▪ Getting *regular* exercise is important. ▪ Exercise has become a *regular* part of my lifestyle. ▪ The theater was ***in regular use*** [=was used continuously] for over 20 years. **b** : doing the same thing or going to the same place very often ▪ He is a *regular* contributor to the magazine. ▪ She is a *regular* [=*frequent*] guest on the TV show. ▪ He is one of the store's ***regular customers***. [=customers who shop at the store frequently]
3 : spaced an equal distance apart ▪ The seedlings were planted in *regular* rows. ▪ The wallpaper has a *regular* pattern of stripes. ▪ The boards are placed ***at regular intervals***. [=the space between each board is the same]
4 *always used before a noun* **a** : normal or usual ▪ Our *regular* business/office hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ▪ The *regular* price is $45, but it is on sale for $30. ▪ I saw a different doctor because my *regular* doctor was on vacation. ▪ He is substituting today for the *regular* quarterback. ▪ The class will meet at the *regular* time tomorrow. ▪ The *regular* [=*scheduled*] television programming was interrupted by a special report. ▪ The *regular* season for football begins soon. ▪ Parties are a *regular* feature of college life. ▪ He sat down in his *regular* spot. **b** *chiefly US* : not special or unusual ▪ Do you use *regular* or premium gas in your car? ▪ Would you like a *regular* [=normal size] soda or a large? ▪ He's a *regular* [=*average, ordinary*] guy. ▪ It's nothing special, just a *regular* [=*basic*] stereo. = It's just a ***regular old*** stereo. ▪ He drinks ***regular coffee***. [=coffee that has caffeine]
5 [*more* ~; *most* ~] **a** : having a shape that is smooth or even ▪ a *regular* surface/outline **b** : having parts that are arranged in an even or balanced way ▪ He has very *regular* features.
6 *grammar* : following the normal patterns by which word forms (such as the past tenses of verbs) are usually created ▪ "Talk" is a *regular* verb because its past tense is "talked." ▪ nouns with *regular* plural forms
7 *always used before a noun, informal* — used for emphasis ▪ She's become a *regular* [=*real*] expert on fitness.
8 : able to have normal bowel movements : not constipated ▪ Eating plenty of fiber helps me keep/stay *regular*.
9 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or being menstrual cycles that usually last the same number of days each time ▪ She is very *regular*. = Her cycle is very *regular*.
10 *always used before a noun* : belonging to a country's official army ▪ the *regular* army/troops/soldiers

[2]regular *noun, pl* **-lars**
1 [*count*] : someone who goes somewhere very often ▪ They are *regulars* at the bar/restaurant.
2 [*count*] : someone who often or usually performs, plays, etc. ▪ He is a *regular* on the television show. ▪ the *regulars* on a baseball team
3 *US* : something that is average or usual in quality or size [*noncount*] Do you drink decaf or *regular*? [=regular coffee] ▪ "What kind of gas do you put in your car?" "I use *regular*." [*count*] We'll have one large soda and two *regulars*.
4 [*count*] : a soldier who belongs to a country's permanent army — usually plural ▪ The *regulars* were called to battle. — compare IRREGULAR

reg•u•lar•i•ty /ˌrɛgjə'lerəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**
1 [*noncount*] : the quality of being regular: such as **a** : the quality of something that happens very often or with the same amount of time between each occurrence — often + *of* ▪ the *regularity of* the seasons — often used after *with* ▪ She appears *with regularity* [=appears regularly] on the show. ▪ Fights break out *with* some *regularity*. ▪ Robberies have been occurring *with* increasing/alarming *regularity*. **b** : the quality of something that has parts which are arranged in an even or balanced way ▪ the *regularity* of his features
2 [*count*] : something that happens very often or with the same amount of time between each occurrence ▪ Scientists analyzed *regularities* [=*patterns*] in the sun's emissions.

reg•u•lar•ize *also Brit* **reg•u•lar•ise** /'rɛgjələˌraɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a situation) regular, legal, or officially accepted ▪ Under the program, illegal immigrants would be able to apply to *regularize* their status.

reg•u•lar•ly /'rɛgjələli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : at the same time every day, week, month, etc. : on a regular basis ▪ The sales team meets *regularly*. ▪ We go to church *regularly*. ▪ a *regularly* scheduled program **b** : very often ▪ They play golf *regularly*. ▪ She goes out to dinner quite *regularly*.
2 : with the same amount of space between each thing ▪ a series of *regularly* [=*evenly*] spaced lines

reg•u•late /'rɛgjəˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to set or adjust the amount, degree, or rate of (something) : CONTROL ▪ The dam *regulates* the flow of water into the river. ▪ The thermostat *regulates* the room's temperature. = The room's temperature is *regulated* by the thermostat.
2 a : to bring (something) under the control of authority ▪ We need better laws to *regulate* the content of the Internet. ▪ Laws have been made to *regulate* working conditions. **b** : to make rules or laws that control (something) ▪ The government *regulates* how much lead may be found in our water supply. ▪ The department *regulates* foreign trade.

[1]reg•u•la•tion /ˌrɛgjə'leɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*count*] : an official rule or law that says how something should be done ▪ safety *regulations* [=*codes*] ▪ Builders must comply with the *regulations*. ▪ federal/state/government *regulations* ▪ *regulations* on the disposal of waste ▪ Each agency has its own set of ***rules and regulations***. ***synonyms*** see LAW
2 [*noncount*] : the act of regulating something — + *of* ▪ the *regulation of* gun sales by the government ▪ the body's *regulation of* blood pressure

[2]regulation *adj* : in agreement with the official rules ▪ a *regulation* [=*official*] baseball ▪ Students must wear *regulation* uniforms. ▪ The length of the field is not *regulation*. = The field is not *regulation* size.

reg•u•la•tor /'rɛgjəˌleɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]
1 : a device for controlling the level or amount of something (such as speed or temperature) ▪ a pressure *regulator*
2 : an official who works for the part of the government that controls a public activity (such as banking or insurance) by making and enforcing rules ▪ federal/state *regulators*

reg•u•la•to•ry /'rɛgjələˌtori, *Brit* ˌrɛgjə'leɪtri/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : making or concerned with making official rules about what is acceptable in a particular business, activity, etc. ▪ a *regulatory* agency/authority ▪ They are seeking *regulatory* approval for the merger.

re•gur•gi•tate /ri'gɚʤəˌteɪt/ *verb* **-tates**; **-tat•ed**; **-tat•ing**
1 : to bring food that has been swallowed back to and out of the mouth [*no obj*] The bird *regurgitates* to feed its young. [+ *obj*] The bird *regurgitates* food to feed its young. ▪ *regurgitated* food
2 [+ *obj*] *disapproving* : to repeat (something, such as a fact, idea, etc.) without understanding it ▪ She memorized the his-

torical dates only to *regurgitate* them on the exam. ▪ The speaker was just *regurgitating* facts and figures.
– **re•gur•gi•ta•tion** /riˌgəːʤəˈteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]re•hab /ˈriːˌhæb/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal*
1 : a program for helping people who have problems with drugs, alcohol, etc. — often used after *in* or *into* ▪ He is *in rehab*. ▪ She checked herself *into rehab*. — compare DETOX
2 : the process of helping someone (such as an injured patient or a drug user) to become healthy again : the process of rehabilitating someone ▪ He has had two months of *rehab*. = He has been/gone through two months of *rehab*. ▪ The *rehab* for his leg injury is going well. ▪ a *rehab* center/program

[2]rehab *verb* **-habs**; **-habbed**; **-hab•bing** *US, informal* : REHABILITATE [+ *obj*] It could take him several months to *rehab* his knee. ▪ trying to *rehab* drug addicts ▪ They're planning to *rehab* that old building. [*no obj*] He's still *rehabbing* from the injury.

re•ha•bil•i•tate /ˌriːjəˈbɪləˌteɪt/ *verb* **-tates**; **-tat•ed**; **-tat•ing**
1 : to bring (someone or something) back to a normal, healthy condition after an illness, injury, drug problem, etc. [+ *obj*] The clinic *rehabilitates* drug addicts. ▪ He's still *rehabilitating* the knee he injured last summer. ▪ They try to *rehabilitate* horses that have suffered injuries. [*no obj*] She's still *rehabilitating* [=*recovering*] from her ankle injury.
2 [+ *obj*] : to teach (a criminal in prison) to live a normal and productive life ▪ The program is intended to *rehabilitate* criminals.
3 [+ *obj*] : to bring (someone or something) back to a good condition : RESTORE ▪ The country has *rehabilitated* its image since the war. ▪ The city plans to *rehabilitate* its slum areas.
– **re•ha•bil•i•ta•tion** /ˌriːjəˌbɪləˈteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ His *rehabilitation* was successful. ▪ the *rehabilitation* of drug abusers/criminals ▪ a *rehabilitation* [=*rehab*] center/program

re•hash /riˈhæʃ/ *verb* **-hash•es**; **-hashed**; **-hash•ing** [+ *obj*] *disapproving*
1 : to present (something) again in a slightly different form ▪ You're just *rehashing* the same argument all over again.
2 : to talk about or discuss (something) again ▪ *rehashing* old memories
– **re•hash** /ˈriːˌhæʃ/ *noun, pl* **-hash•es** [*count*] ▪ The newest book is just a *rehash* of her earlier work.

re•hears•al /rɪˈhəsəl/ *noun, pl* **-als** : an event at which a person or group practices an activity (such as singing, dancing, or acting) in order to prepare for a public performance [*noncount*] She was 15 minutes late to *rehearsal*. ▪ The production of *King Lear* has been ***in rehearsal*** for nearly a month. [=the actors have been practicing their parts in the play together for nearly a month] [*count*] There are only three more *rehearsals* before the concert. — often used figuratively ▪ This tournament is a *rehearsal* for the Olympics. — see also DRESS REHEARSAL, WEDDING REHEARSAL

rehearsal dinner *noun, pl* ~ **-ners** [*count*] *US* : a formal meal after a wedding rehearsal for the people participating in a wedding ceremony

re•hearse /rɪˈhəs/ *verb* **-hears•es**; **-hearsed**; **-hears•ing**
1 a : to prepare for a public performance of a play, a piece of music, etc., by practicing the performance [+ *obj*] The orchestra is *rehearsing* a piece by Schumann. ▪ *rehearse* a play/scene/dance [*no obj*] The band stayed up late *rehearsing* for the big show. **b** [+ *obj*] : to direct (a group of people) as they prepare for a public performance ▪ We were allowed to watch the director *rehearse* the dancers.
2 [+ *obj*] : to say or do (something) several times in order to practice ▪ lawyers *rehearsing* their closing arguments ▪ He *rehearsed* his dance moves in front of the mirror.
– **rehearsed** *adj* ▪ well-*rehearsed* dancers [=dancers who have been rehearsed well; dancers who have been directed well during rehearsal] ▪ a *rehearsed* statement ▪ Her story sounded *rehearsed*. [=it seemed like a story she had practiced telling; it did not sound natural or true]

re•heat /riˈhiːt/ *verb* **-heats**; **-heat•ed**; **-heat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (cooked food that has become cool) hot again ▪ I'm just going to *reheat* some leftovers for dinner.

re•hire /riˈhajɚ/ *verb* **-hires**; **-hired**; **-hir•ing** [+ *obj*] : to hire (someone) back into the same company or job ▪ His contract expired, but the company decided to *rehire* him for another project.

re•house /riˈhaʊz/ *verb* **-hous•es**; **-housed**; **-hous•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to give (a person or animal) a different and usually better place to live ▪ The organization is working to *rehouse* families who were displaced in the fire.

[1]reign /ˈreɪn/ *noun, pl* **reigns** [*count*]
1 : the period of time during which a king, queen, emperor, etc., is ruler of a country ▪ She was a popular ruler throughout her *reign*. ▪ the *reign* of Queen Elizabeth
2 : the period of time during which someone is in charge of a group or organization ▪ his *reign* as department chairperson ▪ her *reign* as team president
3 : the period of time during which someone or something is the best or the most important, powerful, etc. ▪ his *reign* as heavyweight boxing champion ▪ the *reign* of digital technology

[2]reign *verb* **reigns**; **reigned**; **reign•ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to rule as a king, queen, emperor, etc. ▪ The king *reigned* in a time of peace and prosperity. — often + *over* ▪ She *reigned over* her kingdom for many decades.
2 : to be the best or the most powerful or important person or thing ▪ The lion *reigns* as king of the jungle. ▪ As a director, he still ***reigns supreme***. [=he is still the best]
3 — used to say that a quality exists to such a degree in a place or situation that it affects everything about that place or situation ▪ Silence *reigns* in the old library's dusty aisles. ▪ Chaos *reigned* in the city [=chaos was everywhere in the city] after the military coup.
– **reigning** *adj* ▪ the *reigning* king/queen ▪ She remains the *reigning* diva of pop music. ▪ the *reigning* champion

re•ig•nite /ˌriːɪgˈnaɪt/ *verb* **-nites**; **nit•ed**; **nit•ing**
1 : to begin to burn again or to cause (something) to begin to burn again [*no obj*] Be careful that the embers don't *reignite*. [+ *obj*] Heat will *reignite* the smoldering rags.
2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to give new life or energy to (someone or something) ▪ The incident *reignited* racial tensions. **b** : to cause (something) to suddenly occur again ▪ The study has *reignited* debate on the issue.

reign of terror *noun, pl* **reigns of terror** [*count*] : a period during which a person or group commits violent acts against many people and causes a lot of fear ▪ The dictator seized power and began a *reign of terror*. ▪ The sheriff put an end to the killer's *reign of terror*. — often used figuratively ▪ a temperamental CEO's *reign of terror*

re•im•burse /ˌriːjəmˈbɚs/ *verb* **-burs•es**; **-bursed**; **-burs•ing** [+ *obj*] : to pay someone an amount of money equal to an amount that person has spent — often + *for* ▪ We will *reimburse* you *for* your travel expenses. = We will *reimburse* your travel expenses. ▪ I should be *reimbursed for* the fees.
– **re•im•burs•able** /ˌriːjəmˈbɚsəbəl/ *adj* ▪ *reimbursable* expenses – **re•im•burse•ment** /ˌriːjəmˈbɚsmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*] ▪ I received a partial *reimbursement* for my travel expenses.

[1]rein /ˈreɪn/ *noun, pl* **reins** [*count*]
1 : a strap that is fastened to a device (called a bridle) placed on the head of an animal (such as a horse) and that is used to guide and control the animal — usually plural ▪ The rider pulled on the *reins* to stop his horse. — see picture at HORSE
2 a : the ability to limit or control something ▪ We need to ***keep a rein on*** our spending. [=we need to limit/control our spending] ▪ He has people working for him, but he ***has/keeps a tight rein on*** every part of the process. **b** : the power to guide or control someone or something — usually plural ▪ They ***held the reins*** of government/power. [=they controlled the government] ▪ She ***handed the reins*** of the company to her successor. = She ***handed over the reins*** of the company to her successor. ▪ The President-elect will officially ***take the reins*** [=take control] in January.
free/full rein : the opportunity to act freely ▪ The studio gave the director *free rein* [=complete control] over the movie. ▪ Give *full rein* to your imagination.

[2]rein *verb* **reins**; **reined**; **rein•ing**
rein in [*phrasal verb*] ***rein (someone or something) in*** *or* ***rein in (someone or something)*** **1** : to limit or control (someone or something) ▪ Congress must *rein in* spending. ▪ You had better *rein* that kid *in* before she gets hurt. **2** : to make (an animal) stop by using reins ▪ The rider *reined in* his horse.

re•in•car•nate /ˌriːjənˈkɑɚˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nat•ing**
be reincarnated : to be born again with a different body after death ▪ Some religions teach that we *are reincarnated* [=*reborn*] many times on the way to enlightenment. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The old mill is *being reincarnated* as a condominium complex.

– **reincarnated** *adj* ▪ They believe that the boy is their *reincarnated* leader.

re•in•car•na•tion /ˌri:jənˌkɑəˈneɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*noncount*] : the idea or belief that people are born again with a different body after death ▪ Many people believe in *reincarnation*.
2 [*count*] : someone who has been born again with a different body after death — often + *of* ▪ They believe that the boy is the *reincarnation of* their leader. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The café is a *reincarnation of* an eatery of the same name that existed across town years ago.

rein•deer /ˈreɪnˌdiə/ *noun, pl* **reindeer** [*count*] : a large type of deer that lives in northern parts of the world : CARIBOU ▪ a large herd of *reindeer*

re•in•force /ˌri:jənˈfoəs/ *verb* **-forc•es**; **-forced**; **-forc•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to strengthen (a group of people) with new supplies or more people ▪ The captain sent out another squad to *reinforce* the troops. ▪ Our camp is *reinforced* with supplies flown in by helicopter.
2 : to strengthen (something, such as clothing or a building) by adding more material for support ▪ She *reinforced* the elbows of the jacket. [=she sewed more material onto the elbows of the jacket] ▪ The soldiers *reinforced* [=*strengthened*] the barricades with sandbags. ▪ The levees will need to be *reinforced*.
3 : to encourage or give support to (an idea, behavior, feeling, etc.) ▪ The bad weather forecast only *reinforces* our decision to leave early tomorrow. ▪ Some critics say that the movie *reinforces* negative stereotypes about the military. ▪ We do our best to *reinforce* good conduct in the classroom.

reinforced concrete *noun* [*noncount*] : concrete that has metal bars inside of it to make it stronger

re•in•force•ment /ˌri:jənˈfoəsmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**
1 ***reinforcements*** [*plural*] : people and supplies that are sent to help or support an army, military force, etc. ▪ "We're outnumbered! Call for *reinforcements*!" ▪ We need to prevent enemy *reinforcements* from reaching the front line.
2 a [*noncount*] : the act of strengthening or encouraging something ▪ The bridge is in need of *reinforcement*. ▪ the *reinforcement* of stereotypes **b** [*count*] : a thing that strengthens or encourages something ▪ The teacher introduced the new vocabulary words and then used a game as a *reinforcement*. [=as something that would help the students understand/remember the words]
3 : a response to someone's behavior that is intended to make that person more likely to behave that way again [*count*] positive/negative *reinforcements* [*noncount*] You should encourage good behavior with positive *reinforcement*.

re•in•state /ˌri:jənˈsteɪt/ *verb* **-states**; **-stat•ed**; **-stat•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to put (someone) back in a job or position that had been taken away ▪ After his name was cleared, he was *reinstated* as committee chairperson. ▪ The company promised to *reinstate* [=*rehire*] the employees that had been laid off.
2 : to begin using or dealing with (a law, policy, system, etc.) again ▪ The school board voted to *reinstate* the school's uniform policy. ▪ the year the death penalty was *reinstated* ▪ The court case was dismissed by the judge but *reinstated* [=*reopened*] on appeal.
– **re•in•state•ment** /ˌri:jənˈsteɪtmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *reinstatement* of the death penalty

re•in•sure /ˌri:jənˈʃə/ *verb* **-sures**; **-sured**; **-sur•ing** [+ *obj*] : to insure (something) again so that the insurance is shared by more than one company
– **re•in•sur•ance** /ˌri:jənˈʃərəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] – **re•in•sur•er** /ˌri:jənˈʃərə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

re•in•ter•pret /ˌri:jənˈtəprət/ *verb* **-prets**; **-pret•ed**; **-pret•ing** [+ *obj*] : to understand and explain or show (something) in a new or different way ▪ New information may force us to *reinterpret* the evidence. ▪ The director wants to *reinterpret* the old play for a modern audience.
– **re•in•ter•pre•ta•tion** /ˌri:jənˌtəprəˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] modern *reinterpretations* of Shakespeare's plays [*noncount*] These works of art are always ***open to reinterpretation***. [=can always be explained or understood in a different way]

re•in•tro•duce /ˌri:jɪntrəˈdu:s, *Brit* ˌri:jɪntrəˈdju:s/ *verb* **-duc•es**; **-duced**; **-duc•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to begin using (something) again ▪ The school has decided to *reintroduce* some of its old policies.
2 : to return (an animal or plant) to the area where it used to live ▪ Several species of endangered fish are being *reintroduced* into the river.
– **re•in•tro•duc•tion** /ˌri:ɪntrəˈdʌkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

re•in•vent /ˌri:jənˈvɛnt/ *verb* **-vents**; **-vent•ed**; **-vent•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make major changes or improvements to (something) ▪ The candidate promised to *reinvent* Social Security.
2 : to present (something) in a different or new way ▪ chefs who *reinvent* regional favorites using exotic ingredients
reinvent the wheel *informal* : to waste time trying to do something that has already been done successfully by someone else ▪ When designing new software, there's no need to *reinvent the wheel*.
reinvent yourself : to become a different kind of person, performer, etc. ▪ She's a classical singer who's trying to *reinvent herself* as a pop artist.
– **re•in•ven•tion** /ˌri:jənˈvɛnʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ the *reinvention* of the education system

re•in•vest /ˌri:jənˈvɛst/ *verb* **-vests**; **-vest•ed**; **-vest•ing**
1 a : to use (the profits of an investment) to buy more investments [+ *obj*] Many investors *reinvest* their dividends. [*no obj*] Before you *reinvest*, consider your options carefully. **b** [+ *obj*] : to use (money that a business has earned) to improve the business ▪ The company *reinvests* a portion of its profits in new products.
2 [*no obj*] *US* : to spend money, time, energy, etc., to make improvements to something valuable — often + *in* ▪ We need to *reinvest in* our neighborhoods.
– **re•in•vest•ment** /ˌri:jənˈvɛstmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*] ▪ the *reinvestment* of earnings/dividends ▪ neighborhood/community *reinvestment*

re•is•sue /riˈɪˌʃu:/ *verb* **-is•sues**; **-is•sued**; **-is•su•ing** [+ *obj*] : to publish or produce (something, such as a book or recording) again : to issue (something) again ▪ The publisher has decided to *reissue* the author's out-of-print books. ▪ My favorite album is being *reissued* on CD. [=my favorite album is being produced again as a CD]
– **reissue** *noun, pl* **-is•sues** [*count*] ▪ That's not the original album—it's a *reissue*.

re•it•er•ate /riˈɪtəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to repeat something you have already said in order to emphasize it ▪ *reiterate* a claim/view/point ▪ She avoided answering our questions directly, instead *reiterating* that the answers could be found in her book. ▪ Allow me to *reiterate*: if I am elected, I will not raise taxes.
– **re•it•er•a•tion** /riˌɪtəˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] The report was nothing more than a *reiteration* of statements by officials. [*noncount*] the *reiteration* of certain themes in the author's books

[1]re•ject /rɪˈʤɛkt/ *verb* **-jects**; **-ject•ed**; **-ject•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to refuse to believe, accept, or consider (something) ▪ My teacher *rejected* my excuse for being late. ▪ The committee *rejected* my proposal/idea/suggestion/motion. ▪ I agree with several points of her argument, while *rejecting* [=disagreeing with] her conclusions. ▪ She *rejected* the package/letter [=she did not accept the delivery of the package, letter, etc.] and returned it unopened.
2 : to decide not to publish (something) or make (something) available to the public because it is not good enough ▪ My article/book/paper was *rejected*. ▪ The produce inspector *rejected* several crates of berries that had begun to grow mold.
3 a : to refuse to allow (someone) to join a club, to attend a school, etc. ▪ The college *rejects* hundreds of applicants each year. **b** : to decide not to offer (someone) a job or position ▪ We *rejected* 5 of the 10 job applicants right away.
4 : to refuse to love, care for, or give attention to (someone) ▪ The mother cat *rejected* the smallest kitten and refused to feed it. ▪ *Rejected* by society, these street kids have to fend for themselves. ▪ He still loves her even though she's *rejected* him before. ▪ He wanted to ask her on a date, but he was afraid of being *rejected*.
5 *medical, of a person's body* : to produce substances that try to harm or destroy (a transplanted organ, a skin graft, etc.) ▪ The patient's immune system *rejected* the transplanted heart. = The patient *rejected* the transplanted heart.
– **re•jec•tion** /rɪˈʤɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] The committee was unanimous in its *rejection* of my proposal. ▪ After many *rejections*, her novel was finally accepted for publication. [*noncount*] In any transplant operation, there is a risk of organ *rejection*. ▪ a ***rejection letter*** [=a letter say-

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ing that you or something you have written, made, etc., has been rejected]

[2]re•ject /ˈriːˌʤɛkt/ *noun, pl* **-jects** [*count*]
1 : something that is not good enough for some purpose : something that cannot be used or accepted ▪ Stack the promising applications here, and put the *rejects* over there. ▪ One way to save on clothing costs is to buy (factory) *rejects*. [=clothes that are sold for a lower price because they have flaws]
2 : a person who is not accepted or liked by other people ▪ the *rejects* of society = society's *rejects* ▪ (*informal*) Ignore him, he's a (total/complete) *reject*.

re•jig /riˈʤɪg/ *verb* **-jigs**; **-jigged**; **-jig•ging** [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : REJIGGER

re•jig•ger /riˈʤɪgɚ/ *verb* **-jig•gers**; **-jig•gered**; **-jig•ger•ing** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to change or adjust (something) : REARRANGE ▪ We'll have to *rejigger* [=(*Brit*) *rejig*] the family finances to pay for the new car. ▪ The TV network is *rejiggering* its schedule.

re•joice /rɪˈʤɔɪs/ *verb* **-joic•es**; **-joiced**; **-joic•ing** [*no obj*] : to feel or show that you are very happy about something ▪ We all *rejoiced* over/about/in/at our friend's good luck. ▪ The fans *rejoiced* when their team finally won the World Series. = The fans *rejoiced* in their team's World Series victory.
rejoice in the name/title of *Brit, humorous* : to have a name/title that makes people laugh or smile ▪ a woman who *rejoices in the name of* Eugenia Whelpbottom
– **rejoicing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ There was much *rejoicing* when the soldiers returned home.

re•join *verb* **-joins**; **-joined**; **-join•ing**
1 /ˌriːˈʤɔɪn/ : to become a member of (a group or organization) again [+ *obj*] I'll be *rejoining* my family for the last part of our vacation. ▪ Now that the kids are in school, I'm ready to *rejoin* the workforce. [*no obj*] The original drummer left the band in 2000 but *rejoined* two years later.
2 /rɪˈʤɔɪn/ : to come together with (something) again [+ *obj*] This trail eventually *rejoins* the main trail. [*no obj*] The river divides here, but the two streams *rejoin* downstream.
3 /ˌriːˈʤɔɪn/ [+ *obj*] *formal* : to reply to (something said or written) especially in a rude or angry way ▪ "You're a fine one to talk," she *rejoined*. [=*replied*, *retorted*]

re•join•der /rɪˈʤɔɪndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count*] *formal* : a usually rude or angry reply to something written or said ▪ The article was a stinging *rejoinder* to her critics. ▪ a witty *rejoinder*

re•ju•ve•nate /rɪˈʤuːvəˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nating** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (someone) feel or look young, healthy, or energetic again ▪ The spa treatment *rejuvenated* me.
2 : to give new strength or energy to (something) ▪ Each candidate claims to have a plan to *rejuvenate* the sagging economy. ▪ Her efforts to *rejuvenate* her career have so far been unsuccessful.
– **rejuvenated** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ I felt *rejuvenated* [=*refreshed*] after a nap and a shower. ▪ a *rejuvenated* economy – **rejuvenating** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *rejuvenating* face cream ▪ The swim was very *rejuvenating*. – **re•ju•ve•na•tion** /rɪˌʤuːvəˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] physical/economic *rejuvenation* [*singular*] The city has experienced a *rejuvenation*.

re•kin•dle /riˈkɪndl̩/ *verb* **-kin•dles**; **-kin•dled**; **-kin•dling** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something, such as a feeling) to be strong or active again ▪ The movie has *rekindled* public interest in the trial. ▪ The court's controversial decision is sure to *rekindle* debate about this issue. ▪ *rekindle* an old romance
– **rekindling** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ a *rekindling* of interest/debate

[1]re•lapse /ˈriːˌlæps/ *noun, pl* **-laps•es**
1 : the return of an illness after a period of improvement [*count*] Everyone thought she was well until a sudden *relapse* sent her back to the hospital. [*noncount*] Patients who stop taking the medication have a higher risk of *relapse*. [=they are more likely to get sick again]
2 : a return to bad behavior that you had stopped doing [*count*] a drug addict who has had a *relapse* [*noncount*] a drug addict who has a history of *relapse* ▪ The program has a low rate of *relapse*. [=most people who use the program do not return to the bad behavior they had stopped doing]

[2]re•lapse /rɪˈlæps/ *verb* **-laps•es**; **-lapsed**; **-laps•ing** [*no obj*]
1 a : to become ill again after a period of improvement in health ▪ If you don't continue your treatment, you could *relapse*. **b** *of an illness* : to return or become worse after leaving or improving for a period of time ▪ Malaria can *relapse* years after the original infection.
2 : to return to a bad condition, form of behavior, etc. ▪ The country soon *relapsed* into chaos. ▪ She stayed out of trouble for a long time, but then she *relapsed* into her old ways. ▪ Many former smokers *relapse* [=begin smoking again] in times of stress.

re•lat•able /rɪˈleɪtəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US* : possible to understand because of being like something you have known, experienced, etc. ▪ The show has likable characters in *relatable* situations. [=in situations that people can relate to]

re•late /rɪˈleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to show or make a connection between (two or more things) ▪ *relate* cause and effect — often + *to* ▪ Few of the people who became sick *related* their symptoms *to* the food they'd eaten the day before.
2 [*no obj*] : to understand and like or have sympathy for someone or something ▪ You must be feeling awful. I went through something similar myself last year, so I can *relate*. — usually + *to* ▪ I can *relate to* your feelings. ▪ I've never been able to *relate to* him very well. ▪ The audience needs to be able to *relate to* the characters in the story. ▪ He writes songs that people can really *relate to*.
3 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to tell (something, such as a story) ▪ The book *relates* [=*recounts*] a tale of jealousy and heartache. ▪ We listened eagerly as she *related* the whole exciting story.
4 [*no obj*] — used to describe how people talk to, behave toward, and deal with each other; usually + *to* or *with* ▪ The way a child *relates to* [=*interacts with*] her teacher can affect her education. ▪ They are very formal in the way they *relate* [=*interact*] *with* each other.
relate to [*phrasal verb*] ***relate to (someone or something)*** : to be connected with (someone or something) : to be about (someone or something) ▪ The readings *relate to* the class discussions. ▪ Their grudge *relates* back *to* a misunderstanding that took place years ago. ▪ other information *relating to* his performance — often used as *(be) related to* ▪ The survey suggests that financial success *is* closely/strongly/directly *related to* a person's level of education. — see also RELATE 1, 2, 4 (above)

related *adj*
1 : connected in some way ▪ ancient history and other *related* subjects/areas/fields ▪ drug-*related* crimes [=crimes that are connected to illegal drugs]
2 *not used before a noun* : in the same family ▪ I just found out that my best friend and I are *related* through distant cousins. ▪ We all call her "auntie," but we're not actually *related*. [=we're not in the same family] ▪ My stepmother and I are not ***related by blood***. [=my stepmother and I do not share biological ancestors; our biological families are different] ▪ My sister-in-law and I are ***related by marriage***. [=my sister-in-law is married to someone in my family]
3 : belonging to the same group because of shared characteristics, qualities, etc. ▪ Horses and donkeys are *related*. ▪ closely/distantly *related* species ▪ The words "play" and "playful" are *related*.

re•la•tion /rɪˈleɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 *relations* [*plural*] **a** : the way in which two or more people, groups, countries, etc., talk to, behave toward, and deal with each other ▪ The incident led to tense international *relations*. — see also INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS **b** *formal* : SEXUAL INTERCOURSE ▪ ***sexual relations*** outside of marriage
2 : the way in which two or more people or things are connected [*count*] the *relations* [=(more commonly) *relationships*] between weather events and erosion [*noncount*] This movie ***bears no relation to*** the book by the same title. [=it is not connected to the book at all; the movie and the book do not tell the same story, have the same characters, etc.]
3 : a person who is a member of your family [*count*] We threw a big party for all our friends and *relations*. [=*relatives*] ▪ Is he a *relation* of yours? [=are you related to him?] [*noncount*] I'm Jill Jones, and this is Mike Jones—***no relation***. [=we have the same last name but we are not related; we are not members of the same family]
in relation to *formal* **1** — used to talk about what something is like by comparing it to something else or by seeing how it is related to something else ▪ The monkey's eyes are large *in relation to* its head. ▪ understanding literature *in relation to* history **2** : about (something or someone) ▪ I have several comments to make *in relation to* [=*in/with reference to*, *regarding*] the subject at hand.

re•la•tion•ship /rɪˈleɪʃənˌʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships**
1 [*count*] : the way in which two or more people, groups, countries, etc., talk to, behave toward, and deal with each other ▪ The *relationship* between the two countries has improved. ▪ She has a close *relationship* with her sister. ▪ We have a good ***working relationship***. [=we work well together] ▪ I have a ***love-hate relationship*** with my ex. [=I have strong feelings of both love and hatred for my ex]
2 [*count*] : a romantic or sexual friendship between two people ▪ She has had many bad *relationships*. ▪ I am not in a *relationship* right now.
3 : the way in which two or more people or things are connected [*count*] the *relationship* between mental and physical health ▪ the doctor-patient *relationship* [*noncount*] "What is your *relationship* to the witness?" "He is my father/friend/boss." ▪ Her earlier paintings ***bear little relationship*** to her later work. [=her earlier paintings are very different from her later work; her earlier paintings are not obviously connected to her later work]

[1]rel•a•tive /ˈrɛlətɪv/ *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*]
1 : a member of your family ▪ At the family reunion, I saw *relatives* I haven't seen in years. ▪ He inherited a small piece of land from a distant *relative*.
2 : something that belongs to the same group as something else because of shared characteristics, qualities, etc. ▪ The donkey is a *relative* of the horse.

[2]relative *adj*
1 a : compared to someone or something else or to each other ▪ the *relative* value of two houses ▪ What are the *relative* advantages of the different methods? [=what are the advantages of each method compared to the others?] ▪ the *relative* positions of the islands ▪ We discussed the ***relative merits*** of each school. ▪ The car might seem expensive, but ***it's all relative***. [=the car is expensive compared to some cars but not to other cars] **b** : seeming to be something when compared with others ▪ I'm a *relative* newcomer to the area. [=I am not really new to the area but I am more of a newcomer than many people] ▪ We did it with *relative* [=*comparative*] ease.
2 *grammar* : referring to a noun, a part of a sentence, or a sentence that was used earlier ▪ "Who," "whom," "whose," "which," and "that" are all ***relative pronouns***. ▪ The phrase "that won" in "the book that won" is a ***relative clause***.
relative to *formal* **1** — used to describe what someone or something is like when compared with or measured against someone or something else ▪ Dolphins have large brains *relative to* their body size. ▪ The value of the house is low *relative to* similar houses in the area. **2** : concerning or about (something) : referring to (something) ▪ We will discuss matters *relative to* peace and security.

rel•a•tive•ly /ˈrɛlətɪvli/ *adv* : when compared to others ▪ The car's price is *relatively* high/low. [=the car's price is fairly/somewhat high/low when compared to the price of other cars] ▪ We've had a *relatively* [=*comparatively*] warm/cool/dry spring. ▪ There were *relatively* few people [=a fairly small number of people] at the meeting last night. ▪ The house is *relatively* [=*fairly*] new.
relatively speaking **1** : when compared to others that are similar ▪ The procedure was quick, *relatively speaking*. ▪ This is a pretty good college, *relatively speaking*. ▪ *Relatively speaking*, the movie wasn't bad. **2** — used to say that something is true or correct as a general statement even if it is not entirely true or correct ▪ The trip was, *relatively speaking*, a disaster.

rel•a•tiv•ism /ˈrɛlətɪˌvɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the belief that different things are true, right, etc., for different people or at different times ▪ moral/cultural *relativism*
– **rel•a•tiv•ist** /ˈrɛlətɪvɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] ▪ cultural *relativists* – **relativist** *also* **rel•a•tiv•is•tic** /ˌrɛlətɪˈvɪstɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *relativist* view

rel•a•tiv•i•ty /ˌrɛləˈtɪvəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *physics* : a theory developed by Albert Einstein which says that the way that anything except light moves through time and space depends on the position and movement of someone who is watching

re•launch /riˈlɑːnʧ/ *verb* **-launch•es**; **-launched**; **-launch•ing** [+ *obj*] : to launch (something) again: such as **a** : to send or shoot (something, such as a rocket) into the air or water or into outer space again ▪ *relaunch* the space shuttle **b** : to offer or sell a new version of (something, such as a product) ▪ The company is preparing to *relaunch* its software. ▪ The editor *relaunched* the magazine with a new title and a better format.
– **re•launch** /ˈriːˌlɑːnʧ/ *noun, pl* **-launch•es** [*count*] ▪ The company has announced the *relaunch* of its software.

re•lax /rɪˈlæks/ *verb* **-lax•es**; **-laxed**; **-lax•ing**
1 : to become or to cause (something) to become less tense, tight, or stiff [*no obj*] Her grip on my hand *relaxed* [=*loosened*] only after the roller coaster had come to a complete stop. ▪ The muscles in my neck and shoulders should *relax* after a nice hot shower. [+ *obj*] When the roller coaster stopped, she *relaxed* [=*loosened*] her grip on my hand. ▪ A hot shower *relaxed* the tight muscles in my neck and shoulders. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Winter has finally *relaxed* its grip on the country.
2 [*no obj*] : to stop feeling nervous or worried ▪ I can't *relax* with all this noise! ▪ Just *relax*, there's nothing to worry about. ▪ Try to *relax* and enjoy the ride.
3 [*no obj*] : to spend time resting or doing something enjoyable especially after you have been doing work ▪ After work I like to come home and *relax* [=*unwind*] for a while in front of the television. ▪ She likes to *relax* with a glass of wine [=to have a glass of wine] before bed.
4 : to become or to cause (something, such as a rule or law) to become less severe or strict [+ *obj*] The commission has voted to *relax* industry regulations/restrictions/standards. [*no obj*] Fashion rules have *relaxed* a lot in recent years.
5 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to allow (something, such as your attention or concentration) to become weaker ▪ We mustn't *relax* our vigilance for a moment!
6 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to use a chemical treatment on (hair) in order to make it straight or straighter

re•lax•ant /rɪˈlæksənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count*] : a substance (such as a drug) that relaxes you, your muscles, etc. ▪ a ***muscle relaxant***

re•lax•a•tion /ˌriːˌlækˈseɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*noncount*] **a** : a way to rest and enjoy yourself ▪ I like to play the guitar for *relaxation*. **b** : time that you spend resting and enjoying yourself ▪ What I need is some rest and *relaxation*.
2 : something that you do to stop feeling nervous, worried, etc. [*noncount*] *relaxation* techniques/exercises [*count*] (*Brit*) Her favourite *relaxation* is listening to music.
3 [*noncount*] : the act of making something (such as a muscle) less tense, tight, or stiff ▪ the *relaxation* of muscles = muscle *relaxation* — sometimes used figuratively ▪ the *relaxation* of winter's grip on the country
4 : the act of becoming or causing something to become less severe or strict [*noncount*] Workers demanded the *relaxation* of the company's strict dress code. [*count*] a *relaxation* of rules ▪ *relaxations* of safety regulations

re•laxed /rɪˈlækst/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : calm and free from stress, worry, or anxiety : not worried or tense ▪ Nothing makes me feel more *relaxed* than a nice hot bath. ▪ I used to get really nervous performing, but I'm pretty *relaxed* about it now. ▪ He's a very *relaxed* guy.
2 : informal and comfortable : CASUAL ▪ The restaurant had a *relaxed* atmosphere. ▪ The seminar was very *relaxed*—we met at the professor's house instead of the lecture hall. ▪ We have a *relaxed* dress code at the office.
3 : not strict or carefully controlled ▪ a *relaxed* set of rules ▪ He has a *relaxed* attitude towards his studies. [=he is not very serious about his studies]
4 *chiefly US, of hair* : made straight or straighter with a chemical treatment ▪ *relaxed* hair
5 *of clothing* : not tight ▪ *relaxed* [=loose-fitting] jeans

re•lax•er /rɪˈlæksə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count, noncount*] *chiefly US* : a chemical treatment that is used to make curly hair straight or straighter

re•lax•ing /rɪˈlæksɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : helping you to rest and to feel less tense, worried, nervous, etc. ▪ quiet, *relaxing* music ▪ We spent three *relaxing* days at the beach.

[1]re•lay /ˈriːˌleɪ/ *noun, pl* **-lays** [*count*]
1 : a race between teams in which each team member runs, swims, etc., a different part of the race ▪ I'm running (in) the *relay* at tomorrow's track meet. ▪ the 4x100 *relay* [=a relay with four parts that are 100 meters each] ▪ Our *relay* team is training for next weekend's race.
2 : the act of passing something from one person or device to another ▪ a satellite *relay* of a television signal ▪ (*baseball*) The shortstop's *relay* (throw) from center field was too late to catch the runner at home; *also* : a system for doing this ▪ We set up a *relay* to carry buckets of water to the campsite. ▪ a satellite *relay* system
3 : a group of people, horses, etc., that takes the place of others so that something (such as a job or an activity) is done

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continuously ▪ They worked ***in relays*** to clear the rubble.
4 *technical* : a device that is used to cause a switch to open or close automatically when there is a change in the current that is flowing through a circuit ▪ an electromagnetic *relay*

[2]re•lay /rɪˈleɪ/ *verb* **-lays**; **-layed**; **-lay•ing** [+ *obj*] : to pass (something, such a message or information) from one person or device to another ▪ Messengers on horseback *relayed* battle plans to the front lines. ▪ Please *relay* the news to the rest of the team. — often used as *(be) relayed* ▪ This report is *being relayed* to us by our crew at the scene of the accident. ▪ Data *relayed* from the aircraft will be recorded on the ground.

[1]re•lease /rɪˈliːs/ *verb* **-leas•es**; **-leased**; **-leas•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to allow (a person or animal) to leave a jail, cage, prison, etc. : to set (someone or something) free ▪ The hostages have been *released*. ▪ The judge *released* the prisoner. ▪ The lion was *released* from its cage. ▪ There is a lot of controversy over whether or not wolves should be *released* into the park. **b** : to stop holding (someone or something) ▪ The hot-air balloon pilot signaled the ground crew to *release* [=*let go of*] the ropes. ▪ I *released* my son's hand, and he ran out onto the playground. **c** : to allow (a substance) to enter the air, water, soil, etc. ▪ Plastic *releases* [=*emits*] dangerous chemicals when it burns. ▪ The factory faced serious fines for *releasing* dangerous chemicals into the river. ▪ Heat is *released* into the atmosphere by cars. ▪ During exercise, the body *releases* chemicals in the brain that make you feel better. **d** : to cause (an emotion, a feeling, etc.) to go away by expressing it or dealing with it in some way ▪ She started to cry, *releasing* all of her repressed emotion. ▪ Exercise is a good way to *release* stress/tension.
2 : to free (someone) from a duty, responsibility, etc. ▪ The contract was declared null, and we were *released* from our agreement/obligation. ▪ I *released* him from his promise. [=I said that he did not have to do what he had promised to do]
3 : to give up control or possession of (something) ▪ The local police *released* the evidence to the FBI.
4 : to make (something) available to the public ▪ The band hopes to *release* their new album by next summer. ▪ The police will not *release* the names of the teenagers involved in the robbery. ▪ They *released* a statement this afternoon.
5 : to allow (part of a machine, device, etc.) to go back to its normal position ▪ The camera's shutter will stay open until the button is *released*. ▪ *release* [=*disengage*] the parking brake

[2]release *noun, pl* **-leases**
1 : the act of releasing someone or something: such as **a** : the act of allowing a person or animal to leave a jail, cage, prison, etc. [*noncount*] the *release* of the hostages ▪ The prisoner is eligible for early *release*. ▪ There was a controversy over the *release* of wolves into the park. [*count*] The prisoner was given an early *release*. **b** : the act of allowing a substance to enter the air, water, soil, etc. [*noncount*] the *release* of heat into the atmosphere ▪ Exercise triggers the *release* of chemicals in the brain that make you feel better. [*count*] an accidental *release* of pollutants into the river **c** : the act of freeing someone from a duty, responsibility, etc. [*noncount*] They've filed a request for *release* from the contract. [*count*] They're requesting a *release* from their contractual obligations. **d** [*noncount*] : the act of making something available to the public ▪ The *release* of the book is scheduled for next month. ▪ The government has tried to bar the *release* of the documents. ▪ The film's ***general release*** is Friday. [=the film will begin to be shown in theaters on Friday] ▪ (*Brit*) The film is ***on general release***. [=the film is being shown in theaters]
2 a [*singular*] : a way of dealing with and getting rid of unpleasant emotions, feelings, etc. ▪ Dancing is a great *release* (from stress). ▪ activities that offer a *release* from stress **b** *formal* : an end to pain, distress, etc. [*noncount*] We mourned her death, but were glad it brought her *release* from pain. ▪ a feeling of *release* [*singular*] Her death brought her a *release* from pain.
3 [*count*] : something (such as a new product or an official statement) that is made available to the public ▪ new product *releases* ▪ the band's latest *release* ▪ the year's top CD *releases* ▪ The company has issued a *release* about the new software. — see also PRESS RELEASE
4 [*count*] : an official document which states that a company, person, etc., is not responsible if you are hurt while doing something ▪ The company requires visitors to the mine to sign a *release* before they go below ground. ▪ a *release* form
5 [*count*] : a device that allows a part of a machine to move freely ▪ the shutter *release* on a camera
6 [*count*] *US, sports* : the action or manner of throwing a ball — usually singular ▪ The quarterback has a quick *release*.

rel•e•gate /ˈrɛləˌgeɪt/ *verb* **-gates**; **-gat•ed**; **-gat•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *formal* : to put (someone or something) in a lower or less important position, rank, etc. — usually used as *(be) relegated*; usually + *to* ▪ an important historical figure who *is* usually *relegated to* footnote status ▪ The team's best player has *been relegated to* a backup role because of injuries. ▪ old books *relegated to* the attic
2 *formal* : to give (something, such as a job or responsibility) *to* another person or group ▪ The bill has been *relegated to* committee for discussion.
3 *Brit* : to move (a sports team) to a lower position in a league — usually used as *(be) relegated*; usually + *to* ▪ The team have *been relegated to* the Second Division. — opposite PROMOTE
— **rel•e•ga•tion** /ˌrɛləˈgeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ her *relegation* to a backup role

re•lent /rɪˈlɛnt/ *verb* **-lents**; **-lent•ed**; **-lent•ing** [*no obj*] *somewhat formal*
1 : to agree to do or accept something that you have been resisting or opposing ▪ Our application was initially refused, but the city *relented* in the end and the permit was issued. ▪ They had refused to pay and *relented* only after being threatened with a lawsuit.
2 : to become less severe, harsh, strong, determined, etc. ▪ He will not *relent* [=*give up*] in his effort to clear his name. ▪ The winds would not *relent*.

re•lent•less /rɪˈlɛntləs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : continuing without becoming weaker, less severe, etc. ▪ Her *relentless* optimism held the team together. ▪ *relentless* winds
2 : remaining strict or determined ▪ The hunter was *relentless* in pursuit of his prey. ▪ a *relentless* opponent of deregulation
— **re•lent•less•ly** *adv* ▪ She is *relentlessly* optimistic. ▪ a hunter *relentlessly* pursuing his prey [=pursuing without stopping]

rel•e•vant /ˈrɛləvənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : relating to a subject in an appropriate way ▪ a *relevant* [=*pertinent*] question ▪ The ideas and observations expressed in the book are still *relevant* today. — often + *to* ▪ Her comments were not *relevant* [=(more formally) *germane*] *to* the discussion. ▪ Do you have any experience that is *relevant to* this job? — opposite IRRELEVANT
— **rel•e•vance** /ˈrɛləvəns/ *or* **rel•e•van•cy** /ˈrɛləvənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The question lacks *relevance*. — **rel•e•vant•ly** *adv* ▪ It's a funny story, and more *relevantly*, it's true.

re•li•able /rɪˈlajəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : able to be trusted to do or provide what is needed : able to be relied on ▪ a *reliable* car ▪ a *reliable* source of safe drinking water [=a way to get safe drinking water every time you need it] ▪ He's not very *reliable*. You can't always count on him to do what he says he'll do.
2 : able to be believed : likely to be true or correct ▪ a *reliable* witness ▪ It's a rumor, but I heard it from a *reliable* source. [=someone who is likely to have accurate information] ▪ We can't write a report without *reliable* data. ▪ We need more *reliable* information before we can take action.
— **re•li•abil•i•ty** /rɪˌlajəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ These cars are known for their *reliability*. — **re•li•ably** /rɪˈlajəbli/ *adv* ▪ How can I get my computer to work *reliably*? ▪ Few analysts can *reliably* estimate corporate profits.

re•li•ance /rɪˈlajəns/ *noun* [*singular*] : the state of needing someone or something for help, support, etc. — usually + *on* or *upon* ▪ The region's *reliance on* tourism has only grown in recent years. ▪ Some farmers are taking steps to reduce their *reliance on* pesticides.

re•li•ant /rɪˈlajənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : needing someone or something for help, support, etc. : DEPENDENT — usually + *on* or *upon* ▪ Most college students remain *reliant on* their parents' support. ▪ Students have become too *reliant on/upon* calculators and don't truly understand basic mathematical principles. — see also SELF-RELIANT

rel•ic /ˈrɛlɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*]
1 : something that is from a past time, place, culture, etc. — often + *of* or *from* ▪ *relics of* ancient China ▪ *relics from* the war ▪ This law is a *relic of* a bygone era. ▪ Typewriters are a ***relic of the past***. [=typewriters are no longer used or considered modern]
2 : an object (such as a piece of clothing or the bone of a

R

saint) that is considered holy ▪ holy/sacred *relics*

re•lief /rɪ'li:f/ *noun, pl* **-liefs**

1 : a pleasant and relaxed feeling that someone has when something unpleasant stops or does not happen [*noncount*] I felt such a sense of *relief* after I finished my thesis. ▪ He expressed *relief* that the crisis was finally over. ▪ Much to everyone's *relief*, the airplane took off without any problems. ▪ She ***breathed a sigh of relief***. [=she no longer felt tension, worry, fear, etc.] [*singular*] What a *relief* it is to be back home.

2 [*noncount*] : the removal or reducing of something that is painful or unpleasant ▪ I want *relief* from my headaches. [=I want my headaches to stop] ▪ pain *relief* ▪ Exercise is an excellent source of stress *relief*. ▪ Both candidates promised tax *relief* for middle-class families.

3 [*noncount*] **a** : things (such as food, money, or medicine) that are given to help people who are victims of a war, earthquake, flood, etc. ▪ disaster/famine *relief* ▪ Countries from around the world have been sending *relief* to the flood victims. ▪ *Relief* workers [=people whose job it is to provide aid] delivered medical supplies. ▪ We donated to the *relief* effort for the hurricane victims. **b** *chiefly US, old-fashioned* : money that is given by the government to poor people : WELFARE ▪ My father lost his job and we had to go on *relief*.

4 [*noncount*] : a person or group that replaces another person or group that needs rest or has finished a period of work ▪ 30,000 troops will be sent abroad as *relief* for the deployed soldiers. — often used before another noun ▪ The *relief* driver took over after the midway point of the race. ▪ a *relief* crew

5 : something that is enjoyable and that replaces for a short time something that is boring, unpleasant, or difficult [*singular*] Just one day of sunshine would be a welcome *relief* from the rainy weather we've been having lately. [*noncount*] His character provides a little ***comic relief*** in what is otherwise a very serious and dramatic movie.

6 a [*noncount*] : a way of decorating wood, stone, metal, etc., with designs that stick out above the surface ▪ Each gold coin depicts the queen's head in *relief* on the front. **b** [*count*] : a work of art with designs that stick out above the surface ▪ ancient marble *reliefs* — see also BAS-RELIEF

7 [*noncount*] : a situation in which something is more noticeable when it is compared to something else ▪ The trees stood in stark *relief* against the sky. ▪ Her political activism throws the apathy of others into sharp *relief*. [=makes the apathy of others very noticeable]

relief map *noun, pl* ~ **maps** [*count*] : a map that uses different colors or textures to show the height or depth of mountains, hills, valleys, etc.

relief pitcher *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *baseball* : a pitcher who comes into a game when another pitcher is removed from the game — called also *reliever*

relief road *noun, pl* ~ **roads** [*count*] *Brit* : a road that can be used to avoid a busy area, another road with heavy traffic, etc.

re•lieve /rɪ'li:v/ *verb* **-lieves; -lieved; -liev•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to reduce or remove (something, such as pain or an unpleasant feeling) ▪ I took a pill to *relieve* my headache. ▪ I wish I could *relieve* your suffering. ▪ What's the best way to *relieve* stress? ▪ She tried to *relieve* the tension by making a joke.

2 : to make (a problem) less serious ▪ an effort to *relieve* traffic congestion ▪ *relieve* poverty ▪ We need to find ways to *relieve* overcrowding in our schools.

3 : to take the place of (someone who has been working, fighting, etc.) ▪ I've come to *relieve* the guard on duty. ▪ The soldiers were *relieved* by 30,000 fresh troops. ▪ (*baseball*) He *relieved* the starting pitcher in the sixth inning.

4 : to make (something) less boring, dull, etc., by including a part that is different ▪ His latest book is a long, serious novel *relieved* only by the occasional joke.

relieve of [*phrasal verb*] ***relieve (someone) of (something)*** **1** *formal* : to take (something that is difficult or unpleasant) from (someone) ▪ She signed a contract that *relieved* him *of* all responsibility regarding the business. ▪ The law *relieves* you *of* any liability. [=under the law, you will not be liable] **2** *informal + humorous* : to steal (something) from (someone) ▪ Someone *relieved* him *of* his wallet. [=someone stole his wallet] **3** : to remove (someone who has done something wrong) from (a post, duty, job, etc.) ▪ The general was *relieved of* his command.

relieve yourself : to pass waste from your body ▪ He stopped the car and went out into the woods to *relieve himself*. [=*urinate*] ▪ The puppy *relieved himself* on the carpet.

relieved *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : feeling relaxed and happy because something difficult or unpleasant has been stopped, avoided, or made easier : feeling relief ▪ I was *relieved* to hear that you're feeling better. ▪ He was greeted at the door by his much *relieved* mother.

re•liev•er /rɪ'li:vɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : something that relieves pain, stress, etc. ▪ pain *relievers* like aspirin and ibuprofen ▪ Exercise is a good stress *reliever*.

2 *baseball* : RELIEF PITCHER

re•li•gion /rɪ'lɪʤən/ *noun, pl* **-gions**

1 [*noncount*] : the belief in a god or in a group of gods ▪ Many people turn to *religion* for comfort in a time of crisis.

2 : an organized system of beliefs, ceremonies, and rules used to worship a god or a group of gods [*count*] There are many *religions*, such as Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism. ▪ Shinto is a *religion* that is unique to Japan. ▪ I think that children should be taught about different *religions*. [=*faiths*] ▪ It is against my *religion* [=my beliefs do not allow me] to drink alcohol. [*noncount*] They advocated for ***freedom of religion***. [=the right to choose what religion to follow and to worship without interference] ▪ She no longer participates in ***organized religion***. [=a belief system that has large numbers of followers and a set of rules that must be followed]

3 *informal* : an interest, a belief, or an activity that is very important to a person or group [*count*] Hockey is a *religion* in Canada. ▪ Politics are a *religion* to him. [*noncount*] Where I live, high school football is *religion*. ▪ Food is *religion* in this house.

find/get religion *informal + sometimes disapproving* **1** : to become religious : to decide to follow a particular religion ▪ Lots of people *get religion* in prison. ▪ My dad *found religion* after surviving a car accident. **2** : to stop doing something that others think is wrong and begin to do something others think is good or correct ▪ Automakers have *found religion*, finally bringing more hybrid vehicles to market. ▪ The mayor *got religion* on public transit and is now pushing plans to build a new subway.

re•li•gi•os•i•ty /rɪˌlɪʤi'ɑ:səti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *sometimes disapproving* : the state of being religious ▪ a man of deep *religiosity* [=a very/deeply religious man]

re•li•gious /rɪ'lɪʤəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : of or relating to religion ▪ My *religious* beliefs forbid the drinking of alcohol. ▪ *religious* groups/organizations/schools ▪ *Religious* leaders called for an end to the violence.

2 : believing in a god or a group of gods and following the rules of a religion ▪ She is very *religious*. ▪ My grandfather was a deeply *religious* [=*spiritual*] man. ▪ His wife is very active in the church, but he's not *religious* himself.

3 *informal* **a** : very careful to do something whenever it can or should be done — usually + *about* ▪ She's *religious about* using her seatbelt [=she always uses her seatbelt] when she drives. **b** : very interested in or involved with something — usually + *about* ▪ The people here are *religious about* college football.

re•li•gious•ly /rɪ'lɪʤəsli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : concerned or connected with religion ▪ He is *religiously* observant. ▪ Voters in this part of the country tend to be *religiously* and socially liberal.

2 : very regularly or carefully ▪ She swims and lifts weights *religiously*. ▪ I read the classified ads *religiously*. ▪ This recipe must be followed *religiously*.

re•lin•quish /rɪ'lɪŋkwɪʃ/ *verb* **-quish•es; -quished; -quish•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to give up (something) : to give (something, such as power, control, or possession) to another person or group ▪ I will not *relinquish* my rights. ▪ She was forced to *relinquish* control of the project. ▪ The court ordered him to *relinquish* custody of his child.

– **re•lin•quish•ment** /rɪ'lɪŋkwɪʃmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

rel•i•quary /'rɛləˌkweri/ *noun, pl* **-quar•ies** [*count*] : a container that is used to hold holy objects (called relics)

[1]rel•ish /'rɛlɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **-ish•es**

1 [*count, noncount*] : a seasoned sauce that is used to add flavor to other foods and that is made of chopped fruit or vegetables ▪ mango *relish*; *especially* : such a sauce made from pickles ▪ I like to eat hot dogs with mustard and *relish*.

2 a [*noncount*] : enjoyment of or delight in something ▪ She plays the role with great *relish*. ▪ He took particular *relish* in pointing out my error. **b** [*singular*] : a feeling of liking

something ▪ He showed little *relish* for the job. [=he did not like the job]

²relish *verb* **-ishes**; **-ished**; **-ish•ing** [+ *obj*] : to enjoy or take pleasure in (something) ▪ I *relish* traveling to new places. ▪ I don't *relish* the idea/prospect/thought of working late tonight. ▪ He *relishes* the chance/opportunity to compete again.

re•live /ri'lɪv/ *verb* **-lives**; **-lived**; **-liv•ing** [+ *obj*] : to experience (something) again in your imagination : to remember (something) so clearly that the same emotions you felt in the past are felt again ▪ an athlete trying to *relive* his glory days ▪ He would sometimes *relive* the battle in his dreams.

re•load /ri'loʊd/ *verb* **-loads**; **-load•ed**; **-load•ing**

1 : to put bullets, film, etc., into something (such as a gun or camera) again [+ *obj*] They *reloaded* their rifles. ▪ I need to *reload* the camera. [*no obj*] The soldiers *reloaded*.

2 : to put data into a computer's memory again [+ *obj*] If the images don't display, *reload* the page. [*no obj*] Exit the program and *reload*.

re•lo•cate /ri'loʊ,keɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing** : to move to a new place [*no obj*] He *relocated* to Los Angeles for his new job. ▪ How can we convince more businesses to *relocate* to/in this city? [+ *obj*] The company decided to *relocate* its headquarters.

– **re•lo•ca•tion** /,ri:loʊ'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ corporate *relocations*

re•luc•tant /rɪ'lʌktənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : feeling or showing doubt about doing something : not willing or eager to do something ▪ We were *reluctant* to get involved. ▪ He might agree but seems *reluctant* to admit it. ▪ a *reluctant* participant

– **re•luc•tance** /rɪ'lʌktəns/ *noun* [*singular*] They have shown a *reluctance* to take risks. [*noncount*] He agreed to help us with much/great *reluctance*. – **re•luc•tant•ly** *adv* ▪ She *reluctantly* agreed to pay the fine.

re•ly /rɪ'laɪ/ *verb* **-lies**; **-lied**; **-ly•ing**

rely on/upon [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***rely on/upon (someone or something)*** **a** : to need (someone or something) for support, help, etc. : to depend on (someone or something) ▪ My mother *relied on* me for financial support. ▪ They *rely on* a well for all their water. ▪ She *relies on* her sister to drive her to school. ▪ He no longer *relies upon* his parents for money. **b** : to trust or believe (someone or something) ▪ She's someone you can *rely on*. ▪ You can *rely on* him to do it right. ▪ I *relied* heavily *upon* your advice. ▪ You could always *rely on* [=*count on*] him to disagree. [=you could always be sure that he would disagree] **2** ***rely on/upon (something)*** : to expect (something) with confidence : to be certain that (something) will happen or exist ▪ The economy may improve next year, but it's not something you can *rely on*.

REM /'rɛm, ,ɑɚ,i:'ɛm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : REM SLEEP

re•main /rɪ'meɪn/ *verb* **-mains**; **-mained**; **-main•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to be left when the other parts are gone or have been used ▪ Little *remained* after the fire. ▪ Only two minutes still *remain* in the game. ▪ The memory of that day will *remain* [=*stay*] with me for the rest of my life.

2 *not used in progressive tenses* [*no obj*] : to be something that still needs to be done, dealt with, etc. ▪ The question/mystery *remains*: who fired the shot? — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ Much work *remains to be* done. [=there is much work still to be done] ▪ It ***remains to be seen*** [=it is uncertain] whether or not she was lying.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] *somewhat formal* : to stay in the same place or with the same person or group : to stay after others have gone ▪ She *remained* in Boston after she finished college. ▪ The soldiers were ordered to *remain* at their posts. ▪ I *remained* behind after the class had ended. ▪ He *remained* with the team.

4 *not used in progressive tenses* [*linking verb*] : to continue in a specified state, condition, or position ▪ She *remained* [=*kept, stayed*] calm. ▪ Please *remain* standing/seated. : to continue to be something specified ▪ It *remains* true that the best wines are not always the most expensive. ▪ The weather *remained* cold. ▪ The victim's identity *remains* a mystery. ▪ They have *remained* friends. [=they are still friends]

the fact remains see FACT

– **remaining** *adj* ▪ Add the *remaining* ingredients to the sauce. ▪ a few *remaining* guests

¹re•main•der /rɪ'meɪndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders**

1 ***the remainder*** : the part that is left when the other people or things are gone, used, etc. ▪ Most of the university's students live on campus and *the remainder* [=*the rest*] rent apartments in town. — often + *of* ▪ The players will be suspended for *the remainder of* the season. ▪ The *remainder of* the money will be donated to charity.

2 [*count*] *mathematics* **a** : the number that is left when one number is subtracted from another number ▪ 2 subtracted from 5 gives a *remainder* of 3. **b** : the number that is left over when one number does not divide evenly into another number ▪ 5 goes into 29 five times with a *remainder* of 4.

3 [*count*] : a book that is sold at a reduced price by the publisher : a book that is remaindered

²remainder *verb* **-ders**; **-dered**; **-der•ing** [+ *obj*] : to sell (a book) at a reduced price because not many copies are being sold and no more copies will be produced ▪ The book did not sell well and ended up being *remaindered*.

re•mains /rɪ'meɪnz/ *noun* [*plural*]

1 : the dead body of a person or animal ▪ Her *remains* will be returned to her family for burial. ▪ fossil *remains* of prehistoric animals ▪ human *remains*

2 : the parts of something that are left when the other parts are gone or used ▪ These photos show the *remains* of a star that exploded thousands of years ago. ▪ the *remains* of a medieval castle

mortal remains *formal* : the dead body of a person

¹re•make /ri'meɪk/ *verb* **-makes**; **-made** /-'meɪd/; **-mak•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make a new or different version of (something, such as a movie, song, etc.) ▪ They will be *remaking* the film with American actors.

2 : to make (something) into something else ▪ The city is trying to *remake* [=*transform*] itself into a regional center for arts and tourism.

²re•make /'ri:,meɪk/ *noun, pl* **-makes** [*count*] : a new or different version of a movie, song, etc. ▪ The director's next project will be a *remake* of King Kong.

re•mand /rɪ'mænd, *Brit* rɪ'mɑ:nd/ *verb* **-mands**; **-mand•ed**; **-mand•ing** [+ *obj*] *law*

1 *US* : to send (a case) back to another court of law to be tried or dealt with again ▪ The judge *remanded* the case for further consideration.

2 *always followed by a preposition* : to order (someone) to go somewhere — usually used as *(be) remanded* ▪ He *was remanded* into custody [=he was sent to prison to wait for his trial] until the end of the month. ▪ She *was remanded* to drug rehab as part of her sentencing. ▪ (*Brit*) She *was* ***remanded on bail*** [=she was allowed to post bail and wait for her trial at home instead of in prison]

– **remand** *noun, pl* **-mands** [*count, noncount*] ▪ (*US*) The appellate court will hear the case on *remand*. [=the case has been remanded and will be heard by the appellate court] ▪ (*Brit*) He's in prison on *remand* awaiting trial. [=he has been remanded to prison and is awaiting trial]

remand centre *noun, pl* ~ **-tres** [*count*] *Brit, law* : a jail for people who are waiting for trial or sentencing

¹re•mark /rɪ'mɑɚk/ *noun, pl* **-marks**

1 [*count*] : something that someone says or writes to express an opinion or idea : COMMENT ▪ I was offended by his *remark*. ▪ I've heard many disparaging *remarks* about him. ▪ an author known for making witty/clever *remarks*

2 [*noncount*] *formal* : the act of noticing or making a comment about something ▪ The incident passed without *remark*.

3 ***remarks*** [*plural*] : a short speech or a part of a speech ▪ opening/closing *remarks*

synonyms REMARK, OBSERVATION, and COMMENT mean something that is said or written and that gives an opinion. REMARK often suggests a quick thought or an informal judgment. ▪ He made a casual *remark* about the food. OBSERVATION often suggests an opinion expressed after looking closely at and thinking about something. ▪ She published her *observations* on whales after 10 years of study. COMMENT often suggests a remark that is meant to explain or criticize. ▪ I asked her to give me her *comments* on the book when she finished it.

²remark *verb* **-marks**; **-marked**; **-mark•ing** : to make a statement about someone or something : to make a remark [+ *obj*] "It's so hot today," she *remarked*. ▪ He *remarked* [=*commented*] that the movie was disappointing. [*no obj*] — + *on* or *upon* ▪ The mayor *remarked on/upon* how quickly the construction of the new civic center was progressing.

re•mark•able /rɪ'mɑɚkəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : unusual or surprising : likely to be noticed ▪ Competing in the

Olympics is a *remarkable* achievement. ▪ a *remarkable* new theory ▪ The girl has a *remarkable* talent.
– **re•mark•ably** /rɪˈmɑəkəbli/ *adv* ▪ *Remarkably* (enough), no one was hurt. ▪ They were *remarkably* successful.

re•mar•ry /riˈmeri/ *verb* **-ries**; **-ried**; **-ry•ing** : to marry again [*no obj*] I'm not sure if I'll ever *remarry*. ▪ She never *remarried* after her husband died. [+ *obj*] Is he going to *remarry* his ex-wife?
– **re•mar•riage** /riˈmerɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-riag•es** [*count, noncount*]

re•mas•ter /riˈmæstɚ, *Brit* riˈmɑːstə/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to make a new copy of (a recording or film) with the sound or image improved ▪ The movie was ***digitally remastered*** [=improved using digital technology] for release on DVD.

re•match /ˈriːˌmæʧ/ *noun, pl* **-match•es** [*count*] : a match or game that is played by the same people or teams after an earlier match or game — usually singular ▪ After he lost the first game he demanded a *rematch*.

re•me•di•a•ble /rɪˈmiːdijəbəl/ *adj, formal* : capable of being solved or cured ▪ This problem is easily *remediable*.

re•me•di•al /rɪˈmiːdijəl/ *adj*
1 a : done to correct or improve something : done to make something better ▪ Officials have pledged *remedial* action/measures to repair damaged bridges. **b** : done to cure or treat someone ▪ *remedial* therapy
2 : involving students who need special help to improve in a particular subject ▪ Thirty percent of the new students need *remedial* classes/courses in math. ▪ *remedial* education ▪ He's taking a course in *remedial* reading. ▪ (*US*) a *remedial* student [=a student who is taking a remedial class]

[1]rem•e•dy /ˈrɛmədi/ *noun, pl* **-dies**
1 [*count*] : a medicine or treatment that relieves pain or cures a usually minor illness ▪ a *remedy* for fever ▪ The store now sells ***herbal remedies***. [=medicines made from plants] ▪ a shelf of ***cold remedies*** [=medicines to take when you have a cold] ▪ Do you know of a good ***home remedy*** [=a medicine made at home] for heartburn? ▪ ***folk remedies*** [=traditional medicines that are not prescribed by a doctor]
2 : a way of solving or correcting a problem [*count*] Building more roads isn't always the best *remedy* for traffic congestion. ▪ You may have no ***legal remedy*** [=way of finding a solution using the law] in this dispute. [*noncount*] The problem was beyond *remedy*. ▪ She was left without *remedy* since the court did not recognize her claim.

[2]remedy *verb* **-dies**; **-died**; **-dy•ing** [+ *obj*] : to solve, correct, or improve (something) ▪ Something must be done to *remedy* the problem/situation. ▪ The conflict can be *remedied* by scheduling the meeting for next week.

re•mem•ber /rɪˈmɛmbɚ/ *verb* **-bers**; **-bered**; **-ber•ing**
1 : to have or keep an image or idea in your mind of (something or someone from the past) : to think of (something or someone from the past) again [+ *obj*] I *remember* my first day of school like it was yesterday. ▪ Do you *remember* me? I used to work with you many years ago. ▪ *Remember* when we went hiking last summer? ▪ I *remember* telling him not to do it, but he did it anyway. ▪ I *remember* what that felt like. ▪ It was a day ***to remember***. [=it was a special/memorable day] [*no obj*] ***As far as I can remember***, I've never been late to a meeting. ▪ My family has lived in New York ***for as long as I can remember***. [=for a very long time]
2 : to cause (something) to come back into your mind [+ *obj*] I couldn't *remember* how to spell her name. ▪ I can't *remember* where I put that book. ▪ I *remembered* that I had left my wallet at home. ▪ Sorry, I don't *remember* your name. [=I have forgotten your name] [*no obj*] What was it that I was going to ask him? I can't *remember*.
3 : to keep (information) in your mind : to not forget (something) [+ *obj*] *Remember* the dates for the test. ▪ Thank you for *remembering* my birthday. ▪ I *remembered* to feed the cat. ▪ *Remember*, the trains stop running at 12:30 a.m. ▪ Please *remember* to take out the trash tomorrow. ▪ (*formal*) ***It should be remembered*** [=it is important to keep in mind] that he made many important contributions to the campaign. [*no obj*] I don't need to write it down, I'll *remember*. — see also *remember your manners* at MANNER
4 [+ *obj*] : to think about (someone who has died) in a respectful way ▪ On this day, let us *remember* our nation's veterans. ▪ We should *remember* the victims of the tragedy. ▪ She is *remembered* for her contributions to physics.
5 [+ *obj*] : to give money or a gift to (someone) ▪ Her brother was *remembered* in her will. [=she wrote in her will that her brother should receive some of her things after her death] ▪ They *remembered* him on his birthday.
remember me to *old-fashioned* — used to ask someone to give your greetings to another person ▪ *Remember me to* your aunt when you see her today.

re•mem•brance /rɪˈmɛmbrəns/ *noun, pl* **-branc•es** *literary*
1 [*noncount*] : the act of remembering a person, thing, or event ▪ a time for *remembrance* — often + *of* ▪ The *remembrance of* his loss seemed to darken his mood.
2 [*noncount*] : something that is done or made to honor the memory of a person, thing, or event — often + *of* ▪ The dinner was held ***in remembrance of*** my mother.
3 [*count*] : a memory of a person, thing, or event — often + *of* ▪ I have many fond *remembrances of* my youth.

Remembrance Sunday *noun, pl* ~ **-days** [*count, noncount*] *Brit* : a holiday that is observed on the Sunday closest to November 11 to honor the people who were killed in the two World Wars — called also *Remembrance Day*

re•mind /rɪˈmaɪnd/ *verb* **-minds**; **-mind•ed**; **-mind•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) think about something again : to cause (someone) to remember something ▪ She'll forget to call the doctor if you don't *remind* her. ▪ *Remind* me to buy some groceries after work. ▪ I constantly have to be *reminded* how to pronounce her name. ▪ I had to *remind* him that we were supposed to leave early. ▪ The audience was *reminded* to turn their cell phones off in the theater. ▪ (*humorous*) "We have a test tomorrow." "***Don't remind me***." [=I don't want to hear about it because it's something unpleasant that I'm trying not to think about] ▪ The mail just arrived. ***That reminds me***, did you mail that letter I gave you yesterday?
remind of [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***remind (someone) of (something)*** : to cause (someone) to remember (something) ▪ I *reminded* him *of* his promise to help me. [=I reminded him that he had promised to help me] ▪ This song *reminds* me *of* our wedding day. **2** ***remind (someone) of (someone or something)*** : to cause (someone) to think of (a similar person or thing) ▪ He *reminds* me *of* my uncle. [=he is like my uncle; he looks/acts like my uncle] ▪ This painting *reminds* me *of* a picture I saw at the Metropolitan Museum.

re•mind•er /rɪˈmaɪndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : something that causes you to remember or to think about something ▪ The accident was a sobering *reminder* of the dangers of climbing. ▪ a constant *reminder* of his past ▪ She sent him an e-mail *reminder* about the meeting. ▪ I wrote myself a *reminder* to take out the trash.

rem•i•nisce /ˌrɛməˈnɪs/ *verb* **-nisc•es**; **-nisced**; **-nisc•ing** [*no obj*] : to talk, think, or write about things that happened in the past ▪ He *reminisced* with old buddies at his high school reunion. ▪ She *reminisced* about her time in Europe.

rem•i•nis•cence /ˌrɛməˈnɪsn̩s/ *noun, pl* **-cenc•es** *formal*
1 [*count*] : a story that someone tells about something that happened in the past — usually plural; often + *of* ▪ I listened to my grandmother's *reminiscences of* her childhood.
2 [*noncount*] : the act of remembering or telling about past experiences ▪ a time for *reminiscence*

rem•i•nis•cent /ˌrɛməˈnɪsn̩t/ *adj*
1 : reminding you of someone or something else : similar to something else — often + *of* ▪ His singing is *reminiscent of* the crooners of the '40s and '50s. ▪ It had a taste *reminiscent of* spinach.
2 *always used before a noun, literary + formal* : thinking about the past : having many thoughts of the past ▪ I'm in a *reminiscent* mood.

re•miss /rɪˈmɪs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : not showing enough care and attention ▪ It would be *remiss* (of me) if I forgot to mention them in my lecture. ▪ I was *remiss* in paying my bills. [=I neglected to pay my bills]

re•mis•sion /rɪˈmɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**
1 : a period of time during a serious illness when the patient's health improves [*noncount*] Her cancer has ***gone into remission***. = Her cancer is ***in remission***. [=the symptoms of her cancer have become much less severe] ▪ The patient is *in remission*. [*count*] a temporary *remission* of symptoms
2 *formal* : the act of reducing or canceling the amount of money that you owe [*noncount*] The university offers tuition *remission* to teaching assistants. [=teaching assistants do not have to pay tuition] [*count*] tax *remissions* ▪ fee *remissions*
3 [*noncount*] *Brit* : the reduction of a prison sentence ▪ He was given *remission* for good behavior.

[1]re•mit /rɪˈmɪt/ *verb* **-mits**; **-mit•ted**; **-mit•ting** [+ *obj*] *formal*

R

1 : to send (money) as a payment ▪ Please *remit* $1,000 upon receipt of this letter. ▪ Payment can be *remitted* by check.
2 : to cancel or free someone from (a punishment, debt, etc.) ▪ The governor *remitted* the remainder of her life sentence.
remit to [*phrasal verb*] ***remit (something) to (someone or something)*** : to send (something, such as a dispute or a court case) to an authority that can make a decision about it — often used as *(be) remitted to* ▪ The matter *was remitted to* a new committee for discussion. ▪ The case *was remitted to* the state court.

[2]remit *noun, pl* **-mits** [*count*] *Brit, formal* : an area of responsibility and authority — usually singular ▪ The problem was outside/beyond our *remit*. ▪ She will have a wide *remit* to reform the company.

re•mit•tance /rɪ'mɪtn̩s/ *noun, pl* **-tanc•es** *formal*
1 [*count*] : an amount of money that is sent as a payment for something ▪ Please return the form with your *remittance*. [=*payment*]
2 [*noncount*] : the act of sending money as a payment for something ▪ *Remittance* can be made by check or credit card.

re•mix /'ri:ˌmɪks/ *noun, pl* **-mix•es** [*count*] : a new or different version of a recorded song that is made by changing or adding to the original recording of the song ▪ dance *remixes* of rock songs
– **re•mix** /ri'mɪks/ *verb* **-mix•es**; **-mixed**; **-mix•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ He *remixed* the song for the new album. – **re•mix•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ He is the band's *remixer*.

rem•nant /'rɛmnənt/ *noun, pl* **-nants** [*count*]
1 : the part of something that is left when the other parts are gone — usually plural; often + *of* ▪ These villages are the last surviving *remnants of* a great civilization. ▪ A new police force was formed from the *remnants of* the army.
2 : a small piece of cloth that is left after the rest of the cloth has been sold ▪ *Remnants* go on sale next week.

re•mod•el /ri'mɑ:dl̩/ *verb* **-els**; *US* **-eled** *or Brit* **-elled**; *US* **-el•ing** *or Brit* **-el•ling** [+ *obj*] : to change the structure, shape, or appearance of (something) ▪ We *remodeled* the kitchen last year.
– **remodeled** (*US*) *or Brit* **remodelled** *adj* ▪ newly *remodeled* [=*renovated*] bathrooms – **remodeling** (*US*) *or Brit* **remodelling** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The office will be closed during *remodeling*.

re•mold (*US*) *or Brit* **re•mould** /ri'moʊld/ *verb* **-molds**; **-mold•ed**; **-mold•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to change (something, such as an idea, a system, or a habit) ▪ She resisted the efforts to *remold* her image. ▪ The company needs to ***remold itself*** [=transform itself] into a smaller and more competitive business.

re•mon•strance /rɪ'mɑ:nstrəns/ *noun, pl* **-stranc•es** *formal* : a protest or complaint about something [*count*] an angry *remonstrance* [*noncount*] Many residents wrote letters of *remonstrance* to city officials.

re•mon•strate /'rɛmənˌstreɪt, rɪ'mɑ:nˌstreɪt/ *verb* **-strates**; **-strat•ed**; **-strat•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to disagree and argue or complain about something ▪ He got angry when I politely *remonstrated* with him about littering.
– **re•mon•stra•tion** /ˌrɛmən'streɪʃən, rəˌmɑ:n'streɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] an official *remonstration* [=*protest, complaint*] [*noncount*] letters of *remonstration*

re•morse /rɪ'moəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling of being sorry for doing something bad or wrong in the past : a feeling of guilt ▪ I could forgive him for what he did if he showed some *remorse*. — often + *for* ▪ She was filled with *remorse for* not visiting her father more often. [=she was very sorry that she did not visit her father more often] ▪ I felt a bit of *remorse* [=*regret*] *for* being so impatient.
– **re•morse•ful** /rɪ'moəsfəl/ *adj* ▪ She seemed truly *remorseful* for what she had done. – **re•morse•ful•ly** /rɪ'moəsfəli/ *adv* ▪ She *remorsefully* pleaded guilty.

re•morse•less /rɪ'moəsləs/ *adj*
1 : very cruel and showing no pity or sympathy for other people : MERCILESS ▪ a *remorseless* murderer
2 : continuing in a way that does not end or that seems impossible to stop ▪ his *remorseless* pursuit of justice
– **re•morse•less•ly** *adv* ▪ She attacked her opponent's position *remorselessly*.

re•mort•gage /ri'moəgɪʤ/ *verb* **-gag•es**; **-gaged**; **-gag•ing** : to get a second mortgage on a house or to change the mortgage that you have [+ *obj*] We had to *remortgage* our house. [*no obj*] I'd like to *remortgage* at a lower rate.

[1]re•mote /rɪ'moʊt/ *adj* **re•mot•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : far away : DISTANT ▪ She enjoys reading about *remote* lands. ▪ *remote* galaxies **b** : far away from other people, houses, cities, etc. ▪ a *remote* island/village ▪ The mission is to transport medical supplies to *remote* areas/places/regions of the globe.
2 *always used before a noun* : far away in time : happening a long time ago or far into the future ▪ a tradition that dates back to *remote* antiquity ▪ an invention that may be available in the *remote* future
3 : very small : SLIGHT ▪ There is a *remote* possibility that I'll be free Friday night. ▪ a ***remote chance*** [=a very small possibility]
4 *always used before a noun* : not closely related ▪ *remote* ancestors
5 : very different *from* something ▪ Their traditions are *remote from* our own.
6 : not friendly or involved with other people : distant or cold in manner ▪ She became very *remote* in her old age.
7 *always used before a noun* **a** *computers* : connected to a computer system from another place ▪ a *remote* computer/machine/terminal ▪ *Remote* users cannot access these files. ▪ The computer is capable of ***remote access***. [=it is possible to become connected to this computer from another place] **b** : capable of being controlled from a distance ▪ a *remote* camera ▪ *remote* sensors
– **re•mote•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The *remoteness* of his location made it hard for rescuers to reach him. ▪ his *remoteness* as a father

[2]remote *noun, pl* **-motes** [*count*] *informal* : REMOTE CONTROL

remote control *noun, pl* ~ **-trols**
1 [*count*] : a small device that is used to operate electronic equipment (such as a television) from a distance by using electronic signals ▪ Where did you put the *remote control*? — called also (*informal*) *remote*, (*chiefly US, informal*) *clicker*, (*Brit, informal*) *zapper*
2 [*noncount*] : a process or system that makes it possible to control something from a distance by using electronic signals ▪ The bomb was detonated by *remote control*. ▪ a DVD player with *remote control* ▪ a *remote control* camera
– **remote–controlled** *adj* ▪ a *remote-controlled* toy car

re•mote•ly /rɪ'moʊtli/ *adv*
1 : to a very small degree ▪ It's *remotely* [=*barely*] possible that they could have met, but I don't think it's very likely. — usually used in negative statements ▪ I've never seen anything *remotely* like it. [=never seen anything that was like it at all] ▪ I wasn't even *remotely* involved in that decision. ▪ Nothing he said was even *remotely* true. [=nothing he said was at all true]
2 *technical* : from a distance ▪ I can log in *remotely* to my computer. [=I can log in to my computer by using another computer that is connected to it] ▪ a *remotely* operated submarine ▪ They can *remotely* monitor the building. ▪ The door can be unlocked *remotely*.

remote sensing *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : the use of satellites to collect information about and take photographs of the Earth

remould *Brit spelling of* REMOLD

re•mount /ri'maʊnt/ *verb* **-mounts**; **-mount•ed**; **-mount•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to attach (something) to a support again ▪ a diamond *remounted* in a new setting ▪ I had to *remount* the tires on my car. ▪ I had trouble *remounting* the door.
2 : to get on a horse, bicycle, motorcycle, etc., again after getting off or falling off [*no obj*] She fell off her horse but quickly *remounted*. [+ *obj*] She *remounted* her horse and finished her ride.

re•mov•able /rɪ'mu:vəbəl/ *adj* : able to be removed : made to be detached or taken out ▪ The hard drive is *removable*. ▪ I'm looking for a digital camera with a *removable* lens.

re•mov•al /rɪ'mu:vəl/ *noun, pl* **-als**
1 [*noncount*] : the act of moving or taking something away from a place ▪ We arranged for the *removal* of the old car. ▪ The city is having problems with trash/waste/snow *removal*. ▪ Surgical *removal* of the tumor might be necessary.
2 [*noncount*] : the act of making something go away so that it no longer exists ▪ stain *removal* ▪ the *removal* of doubt
3 [*noncount*] : the act of forcing someone to leave a job ▪ *removal* from office ▪ The scandal resulted in the director's *removal*. [=*dismissal*]
4 [*count*] *Brit* : the act of moving furniture and other things from one house to another ▪ Local *removals* [=(*US*) *moves*] can be done cheaply. — often used before another noun ▪ a

removal [=(*US*) *moving*] company ▪ *removal* expenses

removal van *noun, pl* ~ **vans** [*count*] *Brit* : MOVING VAN

[1]re•move /rɪ'mu:v/ *verb* **-moves**; **-moved**; **-mov•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to move or take (something) away from a place ▪ *Remove* the trash from the front yard. ▪ My tonsils were *removed* when I was five years old. ▪ Trees help to *remove* carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

2 : to cause (something) to no longer exist ▪ These new findings should *remove* any doubt about his innocence. ▪ What's a good way to *remove* stains from a silk dress? ▪ The new law would *remove* obstacles to obtaining a work permit.

3 : to force (someone) to leave a job : to dismiss (someone) from a job ▪ He was *removed* from office.

4 *somewhat formal* : to take off (something, such as a piece of your clothing) ▪ Please *remove* your shoes. ▪ He *removed* his sunglasses.

[2]remove *noun, pl* **-moves** *formal* : a distance separating one person or thing from another — used with *at* [*count*] — usually singular ▪ His anger remains, even *at* a *remove* of 20 years. [=even after 20 years have passed] ▪ He keeps the children *at* a safe *remove* from the dangers of the city. [*noncount*] She thrives when she's *at* some *remove* from mainstream society.

removed *adj, not used before a noun*

1 : away from something : DISTANT ▪ We're looking for an apartment somewhat *removed* from the noise of downtown.

2 : of a younger or older generation ▪ The child of your first cousin is your first cousin once *removed*.

far removed from : very different from (something) ▪ a pampered life *far removed from* the poverty of his youth ▪ Hockey and soccer are not that *far removed from* each other.

re•mov•er /rɪ'mu:vɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : something (such as a chemical) that removes something unwanted from something else ▪ paint/stain *remover* ▪ nail polish *remover*

2 *Brit* : a person or company that is hired to take furniture and possessions from one place to another — usually plural ▪ Don't let the *removers* [=(*US*) *movers*] pack your dishes.

REM sleep *noun* [*noncount*] : a stage of sleep during which you dream and your eyes make quick movements — called also *rapid eye movement sleep, REM*

re•mu•ner•ate /rɪ'mju:nə,reɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to pay someone for work that has been done ▪ They were *remunerated* for their services. = Their services were *remunerated*.

re•mu•ner•a•tion /rɪ,mju:nə'reɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal* : an amount of money paid to someone for the work that person has done [*noncount*] an increase in *remuneration* ▪ a *remuneration* package [*count*] She was given generous *remunerations* for her work.

re•mu•ner•a•tive /rɪ'mju:nərətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : paying a lot of money : PROFITABLE ▪ Our investors are seeking more *remunerative* opportunities.

re•nais•sance /'rɛnə,sɑ:ns, *Brit* rɪ'neɪsn̩s/ *noun*

1 ***the Renaissance*** : the period of European history between the 14th and 17th centuries when there was a new interest in science and in ancient art and literature especially in Italy ▪ a book on *the Renaissance* — often used as *Renaissance* before another noun ▪ a *Renaissance* scholar/painter ▪ *Renaissance* art

2 [*singular*] **a** : a situation or period of time when there is a new interest in something that has not been popular in a long time ▪ The magazine began when the country was undergoing a culinary *renaissance*. [=*rebirth*] ▪ The city has experienced a *renaissance* [=*renewal, revival*] of interest in historic preservation. **b** : a period of new growth or activity ▪ the city's economic *renaissance* [=*revival, rebirth*]

Renaissance man *noun, pl* ~ **men** [*count*] : a man who is interested in and knows a lot about many things

Renaissance woman *noun, pl* ~ **-men** [*count*] : a woman who is interested in and knows a lot about many things

re•nal /'ri:nl/ *adj, always used before a noun, medical* : relating to or involving the kidneys ▪ *renal* disease/failure

re•name /ri'neɪm/ *verb* **-names**; **-named**; **-nam•ing** [+ *obj*] : to give a new name to (someone or something) ▪ Ceylon was *renamed* Sri Lanka in 1972. ▪ The bridge is being *renamed* in honor of the city's former mayor.

re•na•scent /rɪ'næsn̩t/ *adj, formal* : existing, happening, or popular again ▪ *renascent* inflation/nationalism

rend /'rɛnd/ *verb* **rends**; **rent** /'rɛnt/ *also US* **rend•ed**; **rend•ing** [+ *obj*] *literary* : to tear (something) into pieces with force or violence ▪ They *rent* the cloth to shreds. ▪ mourners *rending* their clothes/garments in grief — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a family *rent* [=*torn apart*] by divorce

ren•der /'rɛndɚ/ *verb* **-ders**; **-dered**; **-der•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *formal* : to cause (someone or something) to be in a specified condition ▪ Depression can *render* a person helpless. ▪ Both passengers were *rendered* unconscious in the accident. ▪ The sight of her *rendered* him speechless. ▪ The virus *rendered* the computer useless.

2 *formal* : to give (something) to someone ▪ *render* an apology ▪ He witnessed a car accident and stopped to *render* aid/assistance. ▪ a fee/payment ***for services rendered*** [=for something that a person, company, etc., has done for you]

3 *law* : to officially report or declare (a legal judgment, such as a verdict) ▪ The jury *rendered* a verdict of not guilty.

4 *formal* : to present or perform (something) ▪ The novel *renders* a portrait of life in ancient Rome. ▪ poems *rendered* in the original German ▪ perfectly *rendered* songs

5 *formal* : TRANSLATE ▪ *render* Latin into English ▪ The word was incorrectly *rendered* as "light."

6 : to melt (fat) especially as a way of removing it from meat ▪ It's important to *render* the fat from the duck.

7 : to change (something) *into* a different substance by some process ▪ trees *rendered into* wood pulp ▪ animal fat *rendered into* tallow

ren•der•ing /'rɛndɚrɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] *formal*

1 : a performance of a song, play, etc. ▪ She gave an emotional *rendering* [=*rendition*] of the national anthem.

2 : a description, explanation, or translation ▪ The book is a faithful *rendering* of life in a rural community. ▪ a new *rendering* of the text in English

[1]ren•dez•vous /'rɑ:ndɪ,vu:/ *noun, pl* **ren•dez•vous** /'rɑ:ndɪ,vu:z/ [*count*]

1 : a meeting with someone that is arranged for a particular time and place and that is often secret ▪ a romantic *rendezvous* ▪ He was late for their *rendezvous*.

2 a : a place where people agree to meet at a particular time ▪ The restaurant will be our *rendezvous*. **b** : a place where many people go to spend time ▪ This park/café is a popular/favorite *rendezvous* [=*hangout, haunt*] for local teens.

[2]ren•dez•vous /'rɑ:ndɪ,vu:/ *verb* **-vouses** /-,vu:z/; **-voused** /-,vu:d/; **-vous•ing** /-,vu:wɪŋ/ [*no obj*] : to meet at a particular time and place ▪ The cousins *rendezvoused* in New York before they flew to London.

ren•di•tion /rɛn'dɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]

1 : a performance of something ▪ a moving *rendition* of an old gospel song

2 : TRANSLATION ▪ a new *rendition* of the text in English

ren•e•gade /'rɛnɪ,geɪd/ *noun, pl* **-gades** [*count*]

1 : a person who leaves one group, religion, etc., and joins another that opposes it ▪ *renegades* from the Republican/Democratic Party — usually used before another noun ▪ a *renegade* Republican/Democrat

2 : someone or something that causes trouble and cannot be controlled ▪ stories about pirates and *renegades* on the high seas — often used before another noun ▪ drugs that attack *renegade* cells in cancer patients

re•nege /rɪ'nɛg, *Brit* rɪ'ni:g/ *verb* **-neges**; **-neged**; **-neging** [*no obj*] : to refuse to do something that you promised or agreed to do ▪ They had promised to pay her tuition but later *reneged*. — usually + *on* ▪ They *reneged on* their promise to pay her tuition.

re•ne•go•ti•ate /,ri:nə'goʊʃi,eɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** : to discuss again the details of a formal agreement especially in order to change them : to negotiate (something) again [+ *obj*] *renegotiate* a contract/lease/agreement [*no obj*] The deal is done. I won't *renegotiate*.

– **re•ne•go•ti•a•tion** /,ri:nɪ'goʊʃi,eɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

re•new /rɪ'nu:, *Brit* rɪ'nju:/ *verb* **-news**; **-newed**; **-new•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (something) new, fresh, or strong again ▪ When you sleep, your body has a chance to *renew* itself. ▪ This discussion has *renewed* my hope of finding a solution to the problem. ▪ At the start of each school year, we *renew* our commitment to helping students succeed.

2 : to make (a promise, vow, etc.) again ▪ She *renewed* her promise to come see me. ▪ They celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary by *renewing* their wedding vows.

3 : to begin (something) again especially with more force or enthusiasm ▪ They have *renewed* their efforts to find a peace-

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ful solution. ▪ The incident has *renewed* hostilities between the groups. ▪ We hope to *renew* [=(more commonly) *resume*] negotiations soon. ▪ They recently ***renewed their acquaintance/friendship*** after more than 10 years apart. ▪ If you haven't listened to this music since the 1960s, it's time to *renew your acquaintance* with these songs.

4 : to put in a fresh supply of (something) : REPLACE ▪ You should *renew* the water in the fish tank once a week.

5 : to cause (something) to continue to be effective or valid for an additional period of time ▪ The landlord agreed to *renew* our lease for another year. ▪ You can *renew* your driver's license online. ▪ He forgot to *renew* his passport and now it's expired. ▪ You should *renew* your magazine subscription before it runs out. ▪ She *renewed* the library book. [=she had the library extend the period of time that she can borrow the book]

– **renewed** *adj* ▪ She wrote with *renewed* [=*fresh*] enthusiasm after meeting with her editor. ▪ We felt *renewed* [=*restored, revived*] after a good night's sleep. ▪ There was more violence in spite of *renewed* efforts to make peace. ▪ We have a *renewed* sense of pride in our town. ▪ High fuel prices have led to *renewed* interest in electric cars.

re•new•able /rɪˈnuːwəbəl, *Brit* rɪˈnjuːwəbəl/ *adj*

1 : able to be extended for another time period : able to be renewed ▪ a *renewable* life insurance policy ▪ a *renewable* lease

2 : restored or replaced by natural processes : able to be replaced by nature ▪ Forests are *renewable* natural resources, but they must be treated with care. ▪ Wind and water are *renewable* fuel sources. — opposite NONRENEWABLE

re•new•al /rɪˈnuːwəl, *Brit* rɪˈnjuːwəl/ *noun, pl* **-als**

1 : the act of extending the period of time when something is effective or valid : the act of renewing something [*count*] The lease calls for yearly *renewals*. ▪ License *renewals* can be done online. ▪ You can get a 10 percent savings on subscription *renewals*. [*noncount*] His contract is ***up for renewal*** at the end of the season. [=it will be time to consider renewing his contract at the end of the season]

2 : the state of being made new, fresh, or strong again : the state of being renewed [*singular*] High fuel prices have led to a *renewal* of interest in electric cars. [*noncount*] She uses flowers in her art as symbols of rebirth and *renewal*. — see also URBAN RENEWAL

re•nom•i•nate /riˈnɑːməˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to nominate (someone) again ▪ The President is likely to be *renominated* for a second term. ▪ The President has *renominated* a judge that Congress previously rejected.

– **re•nom•i•na•tion** /riˌnɑːməˈneɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

re•nounce /rɪˈnaʊns/ *verb* **-nounc•es**; **-nounced**; **-nounc•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to say especially in a formal or official way that you will no longer have or accept (something) : to formally give up (something) ▪ The king *renounced* [=*abdicated*] the throne. ▪ She *renounced* her inheritance. ▪ We will not deal with them until they *renounce* (the use of) violence/terrorism.

2 : to say in a formal or definite way that you refuse to follow, obey, or support (someone or something) any longer ▪ Many of his former supporters have *renounced* him. ▪ He *renounced* his old way of life. ▪ psychiatrists who *renounce* [=*reject*] the teachings of Freud

ren•o•vate /ˈrɛnəˌveɪt/ *verb* **-vates**; **-vat•ed**; **-vat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make changes and repairs to (an old house, building, room, etc.) so that it is back in good condition ▪ *renovate* an old farmhouse ▪ a newly *renovated* theater ▪ It's an old factory that has been *renovated* as office space. ▪ We *renovated* the kitchen three years ago.

– **ren•o•va•tion** /ˌrɛnəˈveɪʃən/ *noun, pl* ~ **tions** [*count*] a costly *renovation* — often plural ▪ The restaurant is closed for *renovations*. [*noncount*] The park will be closed during *renovation*. – **ren•o•va•tor** /ˈrɛnəˌveɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] ▪ good advice for home *renovators*

re•nown /rɪˈnaʊn/ *noun* [*noncount*] *somewhat formal* : great fame and respect ▪ He achieved/gained/won great *renown* for his discoveries. ▪ Her photographs have earned her international *renown*. ▪ writers ***of renown*** [=renowned writers]

re•nowned /rɪˈnaʊnd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : known and admired by many people for some special quality or achievement ▪ a restaurant *renowned* for its wine list ▪ a *renowned* scientist

[1]rent /ˈrɛnt/ *noun, pl* **rents** : money that you pay in return for being able to use property and especially to live in an apartment, house, etc., that belongs to someone else [*noncount*] How much do you pay in *rent*? ▪ *Rent* is due on the first of the month. [*count*] Our landlord raised the *rent*. ▪ *Rents* near the college have risen.

for rent *chiefly US* : available for use in return for payment : available to be rented ▪ houses *for rent* [=*to let*] ▪ bicycles/costumes/rooms *for rent*

– compare [4]RENT

[2]rent *verb* **rents**; **rent•ed**; **rent•ing**

1 : to pay money in return for being able to use (something that belongs to someone else) [+ *obj*] We *rented* our friends' cottage for the month of August. ▪ (*US*) We *rented* tables and chairs for the wedding. ▪ (*US*) We *rented* [=(*Brit*) *hired*] a car at the airport. ▪ (*US*) Do you want to *rent* a movie/DVD/video tonight? [*no obj*] When they first moved to town, they *rented*. [=they lived in a house, apartment, etc., that was rented] ▪ Do you own or *rent*?

2 [+ *obj*] : to allow someone to use (something) in return for payment ▪ They *rented* [=*let*] their cottage to friends. ▪ We *rented* them the upstairs apartment in our house. ▪ We *rent* (out) a room in our house to a college student.

3 [*no obj*] : to be available for use in return for payment : to be for rent ▪ The cottage *rents* for $400 a week.

– **rent•able** /ˈrɛntəbəl/ *adj* ▪ *rentable* storage space ▪ The house is *rentable* in the winter. – **rent•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ *Renters* don't get the tax breaks that home owners get. ▪ The company is the largest car *renter* in the area.

[3]rent *past tense and past participle of* REND

[4]rent *noun, pl* **rents** [*count*] *formal + literary* : a hole made by tearing something ▪ a *rent* in the fabric — compare [1]RENT

rent•al /ˈrɛntl/ *noun, pl* **-als**

1 : the amount of money paid or collected as rent [*count*] — usually singular ▪ The average *rental* is $400 per month. [*noncount*] thousands of dollars paid in *rental* ▪ *rental* fees/income ▪ (*Brit*) ***line rental*** [=money that you pay to use a telephone line]

2 : the act of renting something [*count*] There are restrictions against *rentals* to people with pets. [*noncount*] The movie is available for *rental*. ▪ a *rental* agreement

3 [*count*] *chiefly US* : something that can be rented ▪ Boat *rentals* are available on the island. ▪ a two-bedroom *rental* ▪ I had a *rental* while my car was being repaired. ▪ a *rental* car

rent control *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : a system in which the government determines how much rent can be charged for an apartment, house, etc.

– **rent–controlled** *adj* ▪ *rent-controlled* housing ▪ a *rent-controlled* apartment

re•nun•ci•a•tion /rɪˌnʌnsiˈeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : the act of renouncing something or someone [*count*] the king's *renunciation* of the throne [*noncount*] *renunciation* of violence ▪ Their vows include *renunciation* of all wealth.

re•open /riˈoʊpən/ *verb* **-opens**; **-opened**; **-open•ing**

1 : to open again after being closed [*no obj*] The restaurant will *reopen* in April. ▪ I'm sorry, but the store is closed. We *reopen* at nine on Monday. ▪ The cut on his knee *reopened* when he tried to run. [+ *obj*] The company announced plans to *reopen* its Detroit factory. ▪ a procedure to *reopen* a clogged artery — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Telling that story will only ***reopen old wounds***. [=cause people to think of things from the past that make them sad, angry, etc.]

2 a : to start (something) again after a period without activity [+ *obj*] They *reopened* [=*resumed*] the negotiations. ▪ The district attorney *reopened* the murder case because new evidence was found. [*no obj*] The negotiations have *reopened*.

b [+ *obj*] *US* : to discuss and make changes to (something that had been considered finished) again ▪ He wants the team to *reopen* his contract.

– **reopening** *noun* [*singular*] The mayor was present for the library's official *reopening*. ▪ a *reopening* of negotiations [*noncount*] The factory is set for *reopening*.

re•or•der /riˈoɚdɚ/ *verb* **-ders**; **-dered**; **-der•ing**

1 : to order (something) again [+ *obj*] I had to *reorder* the shirt because they sent the wrong size. ▪ The book sold out the first day, and the store *reordered* 500 copies. [*no obj*] Call us when you're ready to *reorder*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to arrange (something) in a different order ▪ You need to *reorder* your priorities. ▪ The coach *reordered* the batting lineup. ▪ After her husband's death, she *reordered* her life.

re•or•ga•nize *also Brit* **re•or•ga•nise** /riˈoɚgəˌnaɪz/ *verb* **-niz•es**; **-nized**; **-niz•ing** : to organize (something) again or in a different way [+ *obj*] The staff is still *reorganizing* the

files according to the new system. ▪ The company was *reorganized* after it went bankrupt. [*no obj*] The company is *reorganizing* as a corporation. ▪ The club had to *reorganize* when most of its members moved away.
– **re•or•ga•ni•za•tion** *also Brit* **re•or•ga•ni•sa•tion** /riˌoəgənəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* riˌɔːgəˌnaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]rep /ˈrɛp/ *noun, pl* **reps** [*count*] *informal* : REPRESENTATIVE ▪ sales *reps* — compare [2]REP, [3]REP

[2]rep *noun, pl* **reps** [*count*] *informal* : a motion or exercise that is repeated — usually plural ▪ When he does push-ups, he does 3 sets of 12 *reps*. [=*repetitions*] — compare [1]REP, [3]REP

[3]rep *noun, pl* **reps** [*count*] *US slang* : REPUTATION ▪ He's worried about protecting his *rep*. — compare [1]REP, [2]REP

Rep. *abbr* **1** Republican **2** representative ▪ a letter to *Rep.* Richard Jones

re•pack•age /riˈpækɪʤ/ *verb* **-ag•es**; **-aged**; **-ag•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to put (something) into a new package ▪ Large pieces of meat are cut and *repackaged* at the butcher's shop.
2 : to present (something) to the public in a new or more attractive way ▪ *repackage* newspaper comic strips as books ▪ TV studios *repackage* real-life dramas as entertainment.

[1]re•pair /rɪˈpeəˈ/ *verb* **-pairs**; **-paired**; **-pair•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to put (something that is broken or damaged) back into good condition : FIX ▪ He *repairs* clocks. ▪ This old lawn mower isn't worth *repairing*. ▪ She *repaired* an old chest that was coming apart. ▪ He underwent surgery to *repair* a torn ligament in his knee. ▪ There was no hope of *repairing* the damage—she had to buy a new car.
2 : to correct or improve (something, such as a relationship or reputation) ▪ The school is trying to *repair* its damaged reputation. ▪ Can their marriage be *repaired*?
– compare [3]REPAIR
– **re•pair•able** /rɪˈperəbəl/ *adj* ▪ The computer is not *repairable*. – **re•pair•er** /rɪˈperəˈ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a *repairer* of clocks

[2]repair *noun, pl* **-pairs**
1 : the act or process of repairing something [*noncount*] The roof is in need of *repair*. [=the roof needs to be repaired; the roof is damaged, in poor condition, etc.] ▪ a shoe/car *repair* shop ▪ The car was damaged ***beyond repair***. [=the car was so damaged that it could not be repaired] [*count*] The *repairs* were expensive. ▪ We had to ***make repairs*** to the roof. ▪ He *made* a few *repairs* to the stairs.
2 [*noncount*] : a specified physical condition ▪ His job is to keep the buildings in good *repair*. [=in good condition] ▪ The roof is in poor *repair*. ▪ The fence is in excellent *repair*.

[3]repair *verb* **-pairs**; **-paired**; **-pairing**
repair to [*phrasal verb*] ***repair to (a place)*** *old-fashioned + formal* : to go to (a place) ▪ After dinner, the guests *repaired to* the drawing room for coffee. ▪ (*humorous*) Shall we *repair to* the coffee shop?
– compare [1]REPAIR

re•pair•man /rɪˈpeəˌmæn/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a person (especially a man) whose job is to repair things ▪ a TV *repairman*

rep•a•ra•ble /ˈrɛpərəbəl/ *adj, formal* : capable of being repaired ▪ The roof is *reparable*. [=(more commonly) *repairable*] ▪ The situation is serious but *reparable*. — opposite IRREPARABLE

rep•a•ra•tion /ˌrɛpəˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 ***reparations*** [*plural*] : money that a country or group that loses a war pays because of the damage, injury, deaths, etc., it has caused ▪ The country paid millions in *reparations*.
2 *formal* : something that is done or given as a way of correcting a mistake that you have made or a bad situation that you have caused [*noncount*] They've offered no apologies and seem to have no thoughts of *reparation*. [*plural*] She says she's sorry and wants to ***make reparations***.

rep•ar•tee /ˌrɛpəˈtiː, *Brit* ˌrɛpɑːˈtiː/ *noun* [*noncount*] : conversation in which clever statements and replies are made quickly ▪ The two comedians engaged in witty *repartee*.

re•past /rɪˈpæst, *Brit* rɪˈpɑːst/ *noun, pl* **-pasts** [*count*] *literary* : MEAL ▪ our traditional Thanksgiving *repast* ▪ She offered us a light *repast* before we set out on our trip.

re•pa•tri•ate /riˈpeɪtriˌeɪt, *Brit* riˈpætriˌeɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to return (someone) to his or her own country ▪ Countries are required to *repatriate* prisoners of war when conflict has ended. ▪ *repatriated* refugees
2 *business* : to send (money) back to your own country ▪ *repatriate* capital/profits
– **re•pa•tri•a•tion** /riˌpeɪtriˈeɪʃən, *Brit* riˌpætriˈeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] forced *repatriations* of political refugees [*noncount*] displaced persons seeking *repatriation*

re•pay /riˈpeɪ/ *verb* **-pays**; **-paid** /-ˈpeɪd/; **-pay•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to pay back (money that you have borrowed) ▪ *repay* a loan/debt ▪ You can *repay* the mortgage over 30 years. **b** : to make a payment to (a person or organization that has loaned you money) ▪ She would rather have to *repay* the bank than borrow from her parents and have to *repay* them.
2 a : to do or give something in return for (something) ▪ How can I ever *repay* your kindness? ▪ He *repaid* her kindness with cruelty. [=he was cruel to her after she had been kind to him] : to provide something in return for (work, effort, etc.) ▪ Our efforts will be *repaid* [=our effort will have been worthwhile] if even one person who has never voted before votes on election day. **b** : to do something for (someone) in return for what that person has done for you ▪ How can I ever *repay* you for your kindness?

re•pay•able /riˈpejəbəl/ *adj, not used before a noun* — used to describe how a loan can be or should be repaid ▪ The loan is *repayable* in monthly installments. ▪ These loans are *repayable* over 10 years.

re•pay•ment /riˈpeɪmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**
1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of paying back money that you have borrowed ▪ *Repayment* on education loans begins when you are no longer a student. ▪ The company will use the money for debt *repayment*. ▪ a *repayment* plan/program
2 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : an amount of money that is paid regularly in order to pay back a loan ▪ monthly *repayments* [=*payments*]

re•peal /rɪˈpiːl/ *verb* **-peals**; **-pealed**; **-peal•ing** [+ *obj*] : to officially make (a law) no longer valid ▪ The state legislature eventually *repealed* [=*rescinded*] the tax (law).
– **repeal** *noun, pl* **-peals** [*count, noncount*] ▪ Most voters oppose the *repeal* of the law.

[1]re•peat /rɪˈpiːt/ *verb* **-peats**; **-peat•ed**; **-peat•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to say (something) again ▪ Will you *repeat* the question? ▪ He kept *repeating* the same thing over and over. ▪ He often has to ask people to *repeat themselves* because he's a little deaf. ▪ The group's message is one that ***bears repeating***. [=is important enough to state more than once] — sometimes used in speech to emphasize a word or phrase ▪ "There are five—(I) *repeat*—five ways to do this." **b** : to say (something) after someone else has said it ▪ *Repeat* after me: "I promise to do my best . . . " ▪ You are simply *repeating*, in slightly different words, what has been said already.
2 [+ *obj*] : to say (something that you have memorized) : RECITE ▪ My five-year-old can *repeat* her favorite stories word for word.
3 [+ *obj*] : to tell (something that you have heard) to someone else ▪ Please don't *repeat* what I've told you (to anyone).
4 a : to make, do, or achieve (something) again [+ *obj*] The doctors had to *repeat* the operation. ▪ We need to avoid *repeating* the mistakes of the past. ▪ I'm not so sure the team can *repeat* the success they had last season. ▪ I had trouble in school when I was young and had to *repeat* (the) third grade. [=I had to stay in the third grade for another year] ▪ She's been absent so much that she is going to have to *repeat* her sophomore year. ▪ They won the championship last year. Will ***history repeat itself*** this year? [=will the same thing happen again?; will they win the championship again this year?] [*no obj*] (*US*) ▪ They're trying to *repeat* as champions this year. [=to win the championship again after winning it last year] **b** [+ *obj*] : to present (something) again ▪ The workshop will be *repeated* in the fall. ▪ The radio station broadcasts the show live on Saturday mornings, and then *repeats* it on Wednesday nights.
5 [*no obj*] : to begin again ▪ The cycle *repeats* every 24 hours. ▪ The pattern on the wallpaper *repeats* every foot or so.
repeat yourself : to say again what you have already said ▪ I've already told you what to do, and I'm not going to *repeat myself*.

[2]re•peat /rɪˈpiːt, ˈriːˌpiːt/ *noun, pl* **-peats** [*count*]
1 a : an occurrence in which something happens or is done again — usually + *of* ▪ We're hoping to avoid a *repeat of* last year's budget problems. **b** : something that happens or is done again — usually used before another noun ▪ a *repeat* win ▪ The company gets a lot of *repeat* business. [=business from customers who have bought something from the company before] **c** : someone who does something again ▪ Most of the customers are *repeats*. — usually used before another noun ▪ *repeat* customers ▪ There are tougher penalties for ***re-***

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peat offenders [=people who have committed a crime more than once]

2 : a radio or television show that is broadcast again ▪ No, I don't want to watch that. It's a *repeat*.

3 *music* **:** a section of music that is repeated; *also* **:** the symbol in written music that shows that a section should be repeated

re•peat•able /rɪ'pi:təbəl/ *adj*

1 : appropriate to say again to someone else ▪ He said things that aren't *repeatable* in front of the children. [=things that are too impolite, offensive, etc., to say again in front of the children]

2 : possible to do or make again ▪ *repeatable* test results

re•peat•ed /rɪ'pi:təd/ *adj, always used before a noun* **:** said, done, or happening again and again ▪ The landlord ignored her *repeated* requests to have the stove repaired. ▪ He never succeeded in spite of *repeated* attempts. ▪ *repeated* failures

– re•peat•ed•ly *adv* ▪ I've told her *repeatedly* [=many times] to shut the gate when she goes out.

re•peat•er /rɪ'pi:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] **:** a gun that fires several times without needing to be reloaded

re•pel /rɪ'pɛl/ *verb* **-pels; -pelled; -pel•ling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to keep (something) out or away ▪ a fabric that *repels* water ▪ The candle *repels* insects.

2 : to force (an enemy, attacker, etc.) to stop an attack and turn away ▪ Their superior forces *repelled* the invasion.

3 *physics* **:** to force (something) to move away or apart ▪ one electron *repelling* another ▪ Two positive electrical charges *repel* each other. ▪ Magnets can both *repel* and attract one another. — opposite ATTRACT 5

4 : to cause (someone) to feel disgust ▪ Everyone was *repelled* [=*repulsed*] by the sight.

[1]re•pel•lent *also* **re•pel•lant** /rɪ'pɛlənt/ *adj*

1 : keeping something out or away ▪ The candle has a *repellent* effect on insects. — often used in combination ▪ a water-*repellent* fabric [=a fabric that repels water]

2 [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* **:** causing someone to feel disgust **:** REPULSIVE ▪ a *repellent* sight ▪ ideas that are *repellent* to me [=ideas that disgust me]

– re•pel•len•cy /rɪ'pɛlənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a fabric known for its water *repellency*

[2]repellent *also* **repellant** *noun, pl* **-lents** *also* **-lants :** a substance that is used to keep something out or away [*noncount*] a can of insect *repellent* [*count*] a mosquito *repellent* ▪ Coat the exterior with a water *repellent*.

re•pent /rɪ'pɛnt/ *verb* **-pents; -pent•ed; -pent•ing** *formal* **:** to feel or show that you are sorry for something bad or wrong that you did and that you want to do what is right [*no obj*] The preacher told us that we would be forgiven for our sins if we *repented*. ▪ criminals who have *repented* for their crimes — sometimes + *of* ▪ We must *repent of* our sins/wrongdoings. [+ *obj*] The preacher told us that we would be forgiven if we *repented* our sins.

– re•pen•tance /rɪ'pɛntn̩s/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ His behavior is a sign of true *repentance*. ▪ a holy day of fasting, prayer, and *repentance* **– re•pen•tant** /rɪ'pɛntn̩t/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ He seemed genuinely *repentant*. ▪ *repentant* sinners

re•per•cus•sion /ˌri:pɚ'kʌʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** [*count*] **:** something usually bad or unpleasant that happens as a result of an action, statement, etc., and that usually affects people for a long time — usually plural ▪ We didn't expect the decision to have such serious/enormous/tremendous *repercussions*. [=*consequences*] ▪ We did not consider the possible *repercussions* of our actions.

rep•er•toire /'rɛpɚˌtwɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-toires** [*count*]

1 : all the plays, songs, dances, etc., that a performer or group of performers knows and can perform ▪ The band's *repertoire* includes both classic and modern jazz.

2 : all the things that a person is able to do ▪ He has a limited *repertoire* when it comes to cooking. — often + *of* ▪ She has quite a *repertoire of* funny stories.

rep•er•to•ry /'rɛpɚˌtori, *Brit* 'rɛpətri/ *noun, pl* **-ries**

1 : an organized group of actors that performs many kinds of plays with each play being performed for only a short time [*noncount*] She acted in *repertory* for many years. ▪ *repertory* theater [*count*] Several *repertories* perform here.

2 [*count*] **:** REPERTOIRE 1 ▪ a ballet company's *repertory*

rep•e•ti•tion /ˌrɛpə'tɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] **:** the act of saying or doing something again **:** the act of repeating something ▪ Sometimes *repetition* is necessary to drive a point home. ▪ Find a synonym for "nice" in order to avoid *repetition*. [=using the same word again] ▪ Children's songs involve lots of *repetition*. ▪ I quit my job at the factory because I hated the mindless *repetition*.

2 [*count*] **:** something that is done or said again ▪ the poem's rhythmic *repetitions* ▪ Let's determine what caused the error in order to avoid a *repetition* (of it). ▪ When he does push-ups, he does 3 sets of 12 *repetitions*. [=(*informal*) *reps*]

rep•e•ti•tious /ˌrɛpə'tɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** having parts, actions, etc., that are repeated many times in a way that is boring or unpleasant **:** having too much repetition ▪ He was bored by the *repetitious* work. ▪ *repetitious* lyrics ▪ Her writing can be *repetitious*.

– rep•e•ti•tious•ly *adv* **– rep•e•ti•tious•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

re•pet•i•tive /rɪ'pɛtətɪv/ *adj*

1 : happening again and again **:** repeated many times ▪ an injury caused by *repetitive* wrist movements ▪ a *repetitive* pattern ▪ *repetitive* stress/strain

2 : having parts, actions, etc., that are repeated many times in a way that is boring or unpleasant **:** REPETITIOUS ▪ She left the job because the work was too *repetitive*. ▪ At the risk of being/sounding *repetitive*, I must remind you again to be careful.

– re•pet•i•tive•ly *adv* ▪ an injury caused by *repetitively* flexing the wrist **– re•pet•i•tive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

re•phrase /ri'freɪz/ *verb* **-phras•es; -phrased; -phras•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to say or write (something) again using different words in order to make the meaning clearer ▪ Let me *rephrase* the question.

re•place /rɪ'pleɪs/ *verb* **-plac•es; -placed; -plac•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to be used instead of (something) ▪ Will computers ever completely *replace* books? ▪ Paper bags have been largely *replaced* by plastic bags. **b :** to do the job or duty of (someone) ▪ She was hired to *replace* the previous manager.

2 : to put someone or something new in the place or position of (someone or something) ▪ I *replaced* the old rug with a new one. ▪ They recently *replaced* the old phone system. ▪ The team's manager was *replaced* last season. ▪ The patient needed a transfusion to *replace* lost blood. ▪ They've appointed a new minister to *replace* the one who just retired. ▪ I guess it's finally time to *replace* the stove.

3 : to put (something) where it was before ▪ He carefully *replaced* the vase on the shelf.

– re•place•able /rɪ'pleɪsəbəl/ *adj* ▪ Don't worry about the broken vase—it's easily *replaceable*. — opposite IRREPLACEABLE

re•place•ment /rɪ'pleɪsmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 [*noncount*] **:** the act of replacing something ▪ She underwent a hip *replacement*. [=a doctor replaced her hip with an artificial hip] ▪ Is your old dictionary in need of *replacement*? [=do you need a new dictionary?] ▪ Your car's *replacement* cost is less than the cost to repair it. [=it costs less to buy a new car than it does to fix your car]

2 [*count*] **:** a person or thing that replaces someone or something else ▪ I'm training my *replacement*. ▪ We need a *replacement* for our old vacuum cleaner. ▪ Where can we get *replacement* parts for the tractor?

[1]re•play /'ri:ˌpleɪ/ *noun, pl* **-plays** [*count*]

1 : a game that is played again because there was no winner in a previous game ▪ They scheduled the *replay* for Saturday.

2 : a recording of something (such as an action in a sports event) that is being shown again ▪ You could see the fumble on the *replay*. — see also ACTION REPLAY, INSTANT REPLAY

3 : an occurrence in which something happens or is done again **:** REPEAT — often + *of* ▪ We don't want a *replay of* that unfortunate incident.

[2]re•play /ri'pleɪ/ *verb* **-plays; -played; -play•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to play (a game) again because there was no winner in a previous game ▪ The tied game will be *replayed* on Saturday.

2 : to play (recorded images, sounds, etc.) ▪ The game's highlights were *replayed* on the evening news. ▪ The footage has been ***played and replayed*** on television. — often used figuratively ▪ That night I *replayed* the conversation in my mind. [=I thought carefully about what had been said during the conversation]

re•plen•ish /rɪ'plɛnɪʃ/ *verb* **-ish•es; -ished; -ish•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* **:** to fill or build up (something) again ▪ An efficient staff of workers *replenished* the trays of appetizers almost as quickly as guests emptied them. ▪ He *replenished* his supply of wood in preparation for the winter. ▪ Drink this—you need to *replenish* your fluids after your

hike. ▪ plants that *replenish* soil nutrients
– **re•plen•ish•ment** /rɪ'plɛnɪʃmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The clinic's drug supply is in serious need of *replenishment*. ▪ the *replenishment* of soil nutrients

re•plete /rɪ'pli:t/ *adj, not used before a noun, formal*
1 : having much or plenty of something : filled *with* something ▪ The book is *replete with* photographs. ▪ The country's history is *replete with* stories of people who became successful by working hard.
2 : having had plenty to eat : pleasantly full ▪ feeling *replete*

rep•li•ca /'rɛplɪkə/ *noun, pl* **-cas** [*count*] : an exact or very close copy of something ▪ We toured a *replica* of the ship. ▪ It's an authentic/exact/faithful/perfect *replica* of an ancient Greek urn.

rep•li•cate /'rɛplə,keɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing** *formal* : to repeat or copy (something) exactly [+ *obj*] Scientists have failed to *replicate* [=*duplicate*] the results of his experiment. ▪ They are working on computer-generated speech that *replicates* the human voice. ▪ DNA *replicates* itself in the cell nucleus. [*no obj*] DNA *replicates* in the cell nucleus.
– **rep•li•ca•tion** /,rɛplə'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

[1]**re•ply** /rɪ'plaɪ/ *verb* **-plies**; **-plied**; **-ply•ing** : to say, write, or do something as an answer or response [*no obj*] I wrote to him, but he never *replied*. [=wrote back] ▪ He never *replied* [=*responded*] to my letter/e-mail/invitation. ▪ I called out to them, but no one *replied*. ▪ He didn't *reply* to her greeting. ▪ The company has *replied* to the recent protests by posting an ad in the local newspaper. ▪ She *replied* to the accusation with a stack of documents proving her innocence. [+ *obj*] "Do you feel better?" "A little," he *replied*. [=*answered*] ▪ He *replied* politely that he felt a little better.

[2]**reply** *noun, pl* **-plies** : something said, written, or done as an answer or response [*count*] A timely *reply* will be appreciated. ▪ His *reply* was rude. ▪ The invitations have been sent, but we haven't received any *replies* yet. [*noncount*] I asked her what was wrong. ***In reply***, she handed me a letter. ▪ He wrote a brief note ***in reply to*** her letter.

reply–paid *adj, always used before a noun, Brit* : POSTAGE-PAID ▪ a *reply-paid* envelope

re•po /'ri:,poʊ/ *adj, always used before a noun, US, informal* : of or relating to the business of taking property from people who have stopped making the payments that they agreed to make to pay for it ▪ a *repo* company ▪ Their car was taken/repossessed by the ***repo man***. [=a man whose job is to take things from people who are not paying for them]

[1]**re•port** /rɪ'poɚt/ *noun, pl* **-ports** [*count*]
1 : a story in a newspaper or on radio or television that is about something that happened or that gives information about something ▪ a news/weather/financial *report* ▪ a special *report* on/about health ▪ a *report* from our correspondent in China
2 a : a written or spoken description of a situation, event, etc. ▪ She wrote/made a *report* of the meeting. ▪ He gave a detailed/full *report* on/about the project. ▪ a medical *report* ▪ a book *report* ▪ She filled out a police *report* at the scene of the accident. ▪ Can you give us a quick ***progress report***? [=an explanation of how something is developing] **b** : an official document that gives information about a particular subject ▪ the government's *report* on crime in 2006 ▪ The company issued/published/released its annual (business) *report*.
3 : a written or spoken statement about something that may or may not be true ▪ Unconfirmed *reports* state that over 100 people were hurt. ▪ Police have received *reports* of gang activity in the neighborhood. ▪ ***By/from all reports***, you are a very hard worker. [=everyone says that you are a very hard worker]
4 *formal* : a loud noise made by a gun or an explosion ▪ the sharp *report* of a rifle
5 *Brit* : REPORT CARD

[2]**report** *verb* **-ports**; **-port•ed**; **-port•ing**
1 : to give information about (something) in a newspaper or on television or radio [+ *obj*] The murder was *reported* in the national news. ▪ Several TV stations are *reporting* that the police are close to making an arrest. ▪ Their job is to *report* the news accurately and fairly. ▪ It was *reported* (on the news) that two people died in the fire. = Two people were *reported* to have died in the fire. [*no obj*] — often + *on* ▪ He *reports on* political news for a local TV station.
2 : to tell people about (something) : to make a report about (something) [+ *obj*] He was asked to *report* the details of the meeting. ▪ Tomorrow the committee will *report* its findings on air pollution. [*no obj*] — often + *on* ▪ She *reported on* the project to her manager.
3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to describe (a feeling, condition, etc.) ▪ He *reported* feeling depressed. = He *reported* that he felt depressed. [=he said that he felt depressed] ▪ The doctor *reported* some improvement in her condition. **b** ✧ Something that ***is reported*** is said by people and may or may not be true. ▪ Her manner *was reported* as arrogant. = Her manner *was reported* to be arrogant. [=people said that she was arrogant] ▪ It *is reported* that the herb helps reduce anxiety.
4 [+ *obj*] : to tell the police, fire department, etc., about (something, such as a crime or accident). ▪ He called 911 and *reported* a fire. ▪ She *reported* the burglary to the police. ▪ They *reported* their son missing. [=they told the police that their son was missing]
5 [+ *obj*] : to tell someone with authority about (someone who has broken a rule, done something wrong, etc.) ▪ They threatened to *report* him to the police. — often + *for* ▪ The teacher *reported* him to the principal *for* misbehaving in class.
6 [*no obj*] : to go somewhere and tell someone that you have arrived — usually + *for* or *to* ▪ The new recruits are expected to *report for* duty next week. ▪ Please *report to* the office immediately when you arrive. ▪ He was asked to *report for* work at 7:00 a.m.

report back [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to return to a place in order to report information you have found, do more work, etc. ▪ *Report back* to my office in two hours. = *Report back* (to me) in two hours. ▪ Patients must *report back* to the center for a second treatment. **2** ***report back*** *or* ***report back (something)*** *or* ***report (something) back*** : to give (information that you have found) to someone ▪ The policeman *reported back* that he found nothing wrong. ▪ A committee will study the matter and *report back* their findings. — often + *to* ▪ Each researcher *reports* his results *back to* the project director.

report sick : to tell your boss, employer, etc. that you are sick and cannot work ▪ He *reported sick* on Friday (to his supervisor).

report to [*phrasal verb*] ***report to (someone)*** ✧ The person you *report to* at your job is the person who is directly in charge of what you do, who reviews your work, etc. ▪ She *reports to* the president of the company.

– **reported** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ the *reported* findings/facts ▪ a *reported* crime ▪ The company has suffered losses of a *reported* two million dollars.

re•port•able /rɪ'poɚtəbəl/ *adj, US* : required by law to be publicly reported to the government ▪ a *reportable* disease ▪ *reportable* income

re•port•age /rɪ'poɚtɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : REPORTING ▪ war *reportage* ▪ *reportage* of the news

report card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] *US* : a written statement of a student's grades that is given to the student's parents — called also (*Brit*) *report*

re•port•ed•ly /rɪ'poɚtədli/ *adv* : according to what has been said — used to indicate what has been said or reported ▪ The medication's side effects are *reportedly* few and mild. ▪ They *reportedly* stole one million dollars.

re•port•er /rɪ'poɚtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who writes news stories for a newspaper, magazine, etc., or who tells people the news on radio or television ▪ a news/television *reporter* ▪ She's a *reporter* for one of the major networks. — see also CUB REPORTER

reporting *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or activity of telling people the news in a newspaper or on television or radio ▪ firsthand *reporting* ▪ She is very skilled at *reporting*.

[1]**re•pose** /rɪ'poʊz/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* + *literary* : a state of resting or not being active ▪ His face ***in repose*** [=*at rest*] is serious and thoughtful.

[2]**repose** *verb* **-pos•es**; **-posed**; **-pos•ing** *formal* + *literary*
1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to rest or lay (something) somewhere [+ *obj*] She *reposed* her head on a cushion. [*no obj*] I found her *reposing* [=*relaxing*] on the couch.
2 : to place (trust, hope, confidence, etc.) *in* someone or something ▪ They *reposed* confidence *in* their leader. [=they had confidence in their leader]

re•pos•i•to•ry /rɪ'pɑ:zə,tori, *Brit* rɪ'pɒzətri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *formal*
1 : a place where a large amount of something is stored ▪ a *repository* for nuclear waste ▪ huge *repositories* of data
2 : a person who possesses a lot of information, wisdom, etc.

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▪ He is the *repository of* many secrets. ▪ She is the *repository of* her family's history.

re•pos•sess /ˌriːpəˈzɛs/ *verb* **-sess•es**; **-sessed**; **-sess•ing** [+ *obj*] : to take (something) back from a buyer because payments are not being made ▪ The bank *repossessed* her truck.

– **repossessed** *adj* ▪ a *repossessed* house/car ▪ *repossessed* property – **re•pos•ses•sion** /ˌriːpəˈzɛʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ The judge allowed *repossession* of the house.

rep•re•hen•si•ble /ˌrɛprɪˈhɛnsəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : very bad : deserving very strong criticism ▪ *reprehensible* [=*contemptible*] acts

– **rep•re•hen•si•bly** /ˌrɛprɪˈhɛnsəbli/ *adv* ▪ They behaved *reprehensibly*.

rep•re•sent /ˌrɛprɪˈzɛnt/ *verb* **-sents**; **-sent•ed**; **-sent•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to act or speak officially for (someone or something) ▪ He *represented* his company at the meeting. ▪ She hired an agent to *represent* her in the contract negotiations. **b** : to have a government position in which you speak or act for (a particular group, state, etc.) ▪ Senator Smith *represents* the state of Connecticut. **c** : to speak or act for (someone or something) in a court of law ▪ He *represented* himself at the trial. [=he spoke for himself at the trial and did not have a lawyer] ▪ The company is *represented* by a local law firm.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to be part of a sports event or other competition for (a particular country, city, school, etc.) ▪ She *represented* the United States in figure skating at the Olympics. **b** ***be represented*** — used to say that people from a particular place or group are present at an event, meeting, etc. ▪ The town *was* well *represented* at the meeting. [=there were many people from the town at the meeting]

3 *not used in progressive tenses* [*linking verb*] : to form or be something ▪ The money he makes from his investments *represents* [=*constitutes*] over half his income. ▪ The court's decision *represents* a victory for small businesses. ▪ The new prices *represent* a substantial increase over last year's prices.

4 [+ *obj*] : to be an example of (someone or something) ▪ He *represents* everything I dislike about politics/politicians. ▪ They have a collection of animals *representing* more than 50 species.

5 [+ *obj*] : to be a sign or symbol of (someone or something) ▪ The flag *represents* our country. ▪ Letters *represent* sounds. ▪ High and low temperatures are *represented* by colored lines on the graph. ▪ She is beginning to question the company and everything it *represents*. [=*stands for*]

6 [+ *obj*] : to show (someone or something) in a picture, painting, photograph, etc. ▪ This painting *represents* [=*portrays, depicts*] Queen Elizabeth.

7 [+ *obj*] : to describe (someone or something) in a particular way ▪ The politician was angry with the newspaper for *representing* [=*portraying*] his party negatively. — often used to suggest that a description is false ▪ He *represented* himself as poor, but I saw him driving an expensive new car.

rep•re•sen•ta•tion /ˌrɛprɪˌzɛnˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : a person or group that speaks or acts for or in support of another person or group ▪ He had no legal *representation* [=he did not have a lawyer] during the trial. ▪ Each state has equal *representation* in the Senate. — see also PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

2 [*count*] : something (such as a picture or symbol) that stands for something else ▪ The letters of the alphabet are *representations* of sounds.

3 [*count*] : a painting, sculpture, etc., that is created to look like a particular thing or person ▪ carved *representations* of flowers

4 [*noncount*] : the act of presenting or describing a person or thing in a particular way ▪ the film's heroic *representation* of America ▪ We discussed the *representation* of women in Jane Austen's novels.

5 [*count*] *formal* **a** : a statement made to influence the opinions or actions of others ▪ Her *representation* of the situation was very confusing. ▪ He was accused of making false *representations*. **b** *chiefly Brit* : a formal and official complaint about something ▪ Our ambassador has ***made representations*** to their government.

rep•re•sen•ta•tion•al /ˌrɛprɪˌzɛnˈteɪʃənl/ *adj* : showing people and things as they appear in real life : REALISTIC ▪ *representational* art ▪ a *representational* painter

[1]rep•re•sen•ta•tive /ˌrɛprɪˈzɛntətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : typical of a particular group of people or of a particular thing ▪ a *representative* example ▪ The paintings are *representative* of English art in the early 19th century.

2 : including examples of the different types of people or things in a group ▪ The students chosen for the survey are a fairly *representative* sample/sampling of college students from across the U.S.

3 : having people who are chosen in elections to act or speak for or in support of the people who voted for them ▪ *representative* government ▪ *representative* democracy

– **rep•re•sen•ta•tive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]representative *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*]

1 a : someone who acts or speaks for or in support of another person or group ▪ a sales *representative* [=a salesperson] ▪ the actor's personal *representative* [=*agent*] **b** : a member of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress or of a state government ▪ Do you know who your *representatives* are? ▪ state *representatives* ▪ The bill was introduced by *Representative* Smith.

2 : a person or thing that is typical of a group ▪ a *representative* of her age group

re•press /rɪˈprɛs/ *verb* **-press•es**; **-pressed**; **-press•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to not allow yourself to do or express (something) ▪ She *repressed* a laugh. [=she stopped herself from laughing] ▪ He *repressed* his anger.

2 : to not allow yourself to remember (something, such as an unpleasant event) ▪ *repress* a painful memory

3 : to control (someone or something) by force ▪ The dictator brutally *repressed* [=*subdued, suppressed*] political disagreement. ▪ Religious groups were severely *repressed*.

re•pressed /rɪˈprɛst/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : stopped from being expressed or remembered ▪ *repressed* sexuality/anger ▪ a *repressed* memory

2 : having feelings or desires that are not allowed to be expressed ▪ a *repressed* child ▪ a sexually *repressed* man

3 : kept under control by force ▪ a *repressed* minority

re•pres•sion /rɪˈprɛʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 a : the act of using force to control someone or something ▪ the state's *repression* of its citizens **b** : the state of being controlled by force ▪ They survived 60 years of political *repression*.

2 : the act of not allowing a memory, feeling, or desire to be expressed ▪ sexual *repression*

re•pres•sive /rɪˈprɛsɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : controlling people by force ▪ a *repressive* government

2 : not allowing certain feelings or desires to be expressed ▪ a sexually *repressive* culture

– **re•pres•sive•ly** *adv* – **re•pres•sive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]re•prieve /rɪˈpriːv/ *noun, pl* **-prieves** [*count*]

1 : an official order that delays the punishment of a prisoner who is sentenced to death ▪ He won/got a (temporary) *reprieve* from his death sentence.

2 a : a delay that keeps something bad from happening ▪ They wanted to close the library, but we managed to get/secure a *reprieve* for it. **b** : a period of relief from pain, trouble, etc. ▪ This warm spell has given us a *reprieve* from the winter cold.

[2]reprieve *verb* **-prieves**; **-prieved**; **-priev•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to delay the punishment of (someone, such as a prisoner who is sentenced to death) ▪ He was sentenced to death but then *reprieved*.

2 : to prevent (something) from being closed, destroyed, etc., for a period of time ▪ The library has been *reprieved* and will remain open for at least another year.

rep•ri•mand /ˈrɛprəˌmænd, *Brit* ˈrɛprəˌmɑːnd/ *verb* **-mands**; **-mand•ed**; **-mand•ing** [+ *obj*] : to speak in an angry and critical way to (someone who has done something wrong, disobeyed an order, etc.) ▪ The soldiers were severely *reprimanded*. — often + *for* ▪ She was *reprimanded for* being late. ▪ The boss *reprimanded* us *for* talking too much.

– **reprimand** *noun, pl* **-mands** [*count*] a severe/mild *reprimand* [*noncount*] a letter of *reprimand*

[1]re•print /riˈprɪnt/ *verb* **-prints**; **-print•ed**; **-print•ing** [+ *obj*] : to print (something, such as a book, article, etc.) again ▪ She gave permission to *reprint* her article.

[2]re•print /ˈriːˌprɪnt/ *noun, pl* **-prints** [*count*]

1 : the act of printing more copies of a book ▪ The novel is already on its fifth *reprint*. ▪ The publisher does *reprints* of books written in the early 1900s.

2 : a book, story, etc., that is printed again ▪ This is a *reprint*

of an article that was originally published in the *New York Times*.

re•pri•sal /rɪ'praɪzəl/ *noun, pl* **-sals** : something that is done to hurt or punish someone who has hurt you or done something bad to you [*count*] Enemy officers suffered harsh *reprisals*. ▪ The allies threatened economic *reprisals* against the invading country. [*noncount*] The prisoners kept silent for fear of *reprisal*. [=*punishment*] ▪ The hostages were taken ***in reprisal*** for the bombing.

[1]re•prise /rɪ'pri:z/ *noun, pl* **-pris•es** [*count*] : something (such as a piece of music) that is repeated ▪ They ended their performance with a *reprise* of the opening number. ▪ The team is hoping to avoid a *reprise* of last year's defeat.

[2]reprise *verb* **-prises; -prised; -pris•ing** [+ *obj*] : to repeat (something, such as a performance of a piece of music) ▪ *reprise* a song/play/film ▪ He will *reprise* his role in the play.

[1]re•proach /rɪ'proʊʧ/ *noun, pl* **-proach•es** *formal*

1 : a expression of disapproval or disappointment [*noncount*] She looked at him with *reproach*. ▪ His actions were ***above/beyond reproach***. [=his actions could not be criticized] [*count*] Accusations and *reproaches* from both parties made it difficult to pursue discussions.

2 [*noncount*] : loss of reputation : DISGRACE ▪ His conduct has brought shame and *reproach* to his family.

3 [*count*] : something that causes shame or disgrace — usually singular ▪ This situation is a scandal and a *reproach* to the entire country.

– **re•proach•ful** /rɪ'proʊʧfəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *reproachful* look – **re•proach•ful•ly** /rɪ'proʊʧfəli/ *adv* ▪ She shook her head *reproachfully*.

[2]reproach *verb* **-proaches; -proached; -proach•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to speak in an angry and critical way to (someone) : to express disapproval or disappointment to (someone) — often + *for* ▪ She *reproached* her daughter *for* her selfishness.

reproach yourself : to feel shame or regret because of something you have done ▪ He *reproached himself for* not telling the truth.

rep•ro•bate /'rɛprə,beɪt/ *noun, pl* **-bates** [*count*] *formal* : a person who behaves in a morally wrong way ▪ drunken *reprobates*

– **reprobate** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *reprobate* lifestyle

re•pro•duce /,ri:prə'du:s, *Brit* ,ri:prə'dju:s/ *verb* **-duc•es; -duced; -duc•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to make a copy of (something) ▪ *reproduce* a photograph ▪ The concert will be *reproduced* on compact disc. **b** : to produce something that is the same as or very similar to (something else) ▪ Sound effects can *reproduce* the sound of thunder.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to happen again in the same way ▪ They haven't been able to *reproduce* the results of the first experiment.

3 : to produce babies, young animals, new plants, etc. [*no obj*] Flies *reproduce* rapidly. [+ *obj*] Salmon return to the stream to *reproduce* offspring. ▪ The virus is able to ***reproduce itself*** very rapidly.

– **re•pro•duc•ible** /,ri:prə'du:səbəl, *Brit* ,ri:prə'dju:səbəl/ *adj* ▪ The results of the experiment were not *reproducible*.

re•pro•duc•tion /,ri:prə'dʌkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the process that produces babies, young animals, or new plants ▪ sexual/asexual *reproduction*

2 [*noncount*] : the act of copying something (such as a document, book, or sound) ▪ the mass *reproduction* of fine art ▪ methods of sound *reproduction*

3 [*count*] : something that is made to look exactly like an original : COPY ▪ photographic/digital *reproductions* ▪ a *reproduction* of the painting

re•pro•duc•tive /,ri:prə'dʌktɪv/ *adj, always used before a noun* : relating to or involved in the production of babies, young animals, or new plants ▪ the *reproductive* tract/organs/system/cycle ▪ *reproductive* health/success ▪ (*US*) He is a leading supporter of ***reproductive rights***. [=a woman's right to choose whether or not she will have a baby]

re•proof /rɪ'pru:f/ *noun, pl* **-proofs** *formal*

1 [*noncount*] : criticism or blame ▪ The fear of *reproof* prevented them from complaining.

2 [*count*] : a statement that criticizes or blames someone ▪ She responded to their *reproofs* [=*rebukes*] by walking off angrily.

re•prove /rɪ'pru:v/ *verb* **-proves; -proved; -prov•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to criticize or correct (someone) usually in a gentle way ▪ The teacher *reproved* the student for being late.

– **reproving** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a long *reproving* speech ▪ He gave me a *reproving* look. – **re•prov•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ She looked at me *reprovingly*.

rep•tile /'rɛp,tajəl/ *noun, pl* **-tiles** [*count*]

1 : an animal (such as a snake, lizard, turtle, or alligator) that has cold blood, that lays eggs, and that has a body covered with scales or hard parts

2 *informal* : a person who cannot be trusted or who is not likable ▪ He called the governor's top aide a *reptile*.

– **rep•til•ian** /rɛp'tɪlijən/ *adj* ▪ a *reptilian* brain/jawbone/claw ▪ The bird was *reptilian* in appearance. ▪ a *reptilian* smile

re•pub•lic /rɪ'pʌblɪk/ *noun, pl* **-lics** [*count*] : a country that is governed by elected representatives and by an elected leader (such as a president) rather than by a king or queen ▪ an independent *republic* ▪ an eastern European *republic* — see also BANANA REPUBLIC

[1]re•pub•li•can /rɪ'pʌblɪkən/ *noun, pl* **-cans** [*count*]

1 ***Republican*** : a member of the Republican party of the U.S. ▪ Our state representative is a *Republican*. ▪ The state's voters are mostly *Republicans*. — compare DEMOCRAT 2

2 : a person who believes in or supports a republican form of government

3 ***Republican*** : a person from Northern Ireland who believes that Northern Ireland should be part of the Republic of Ireland rather than the United Kingdom — opposite LOYALIST

[2]republican *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 ***Republican*** *US* : of or relating to one of the two major political parties in the U.S. ▪ *Republican* candidates/proposals/voters ▪ the leader of the ***Republican Party*** — compare DEMOCRATIC 2

2 : relating to or based on a form of government in which representatives are elected and there is no king or queen ▪ *republican* reforms ▪ a *republican* government

– **re•pub•li•can•ism** *or* **Republicanism** /rɪ'pʌblɪkə,nɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ moderate/conservative *Republicanism* ▪ Roman *republicanism*

re•pu•di•ate /rɪ'pju:di,eɪt/ *verb* **-ates; -at•ed; -at•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to refuse to accept or support (something) : to reject (something or someone) ▪ a generation that has *repudiated* the values of the past ▪ He has publicly *repudiated* the government's policies.

2 : to say or show that (something) is not true ▪ He published an article that *repudiates* the study's claims. ▪ She says she has evidence which *repudiates* the allegations.

– **re•pu•di•a•tion** /rɪ,pju:di'eɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ His statements are a *repudiation* of the government's policies.

re•pug•nance /rɪ'pʌgnəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : a strong feeling of dislike or disgust ▪ They expressed their *repugnance* at the idea. ▪ They felt nothing but *repugnance* for the group's violent history.

re•pug•nant /rɪ'pʌgnənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : causing a strong feeling of dislike or disgust : REPULSIVE ▪ a morally *repugnant* act — often + *to* ▪ The idea was completely *repugnant to* us.

re•pulse /rɪ'pʌls/ *verb* **-puls•es; -pulsed; -puls•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to force (someone) to stop attacking you : REPEL ▪ The troops *repulsed* the attack. ▪ The invaders were *repulsed*. [=*driven back*]

2 : to cause dislike or disgust in (someone) ▪ I was *repulsed* by the movie's violence. ▪ The moldy bread *repulsed* him.

3 : to reject (someone or something) in a rude or unfriendly way ▪ He *repulsed* all attempts to help him.

re•pul•sion /rɪ'pʌlʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 : a feeling of strong dislike or disgust [*noncount*] I read about what happened with a feeling of shock and *repulsion*. [*singular*] She felt a *repulsion* for politics.

2 *physics* : a force that pushes something away from something else [*noncount*] magnetic *repulsion* [*count*] a *repulsion* between the particles — opposite ATTRACTION

3 [*noncount*] : the act of pushing someone or something away : the act of repulsing something or someone ▪ their successful *repulsion* of the attack/attackers

re•pul•sive /rɪ'pʌlsɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : causing strong dislike or disgust ▪ *repulsive* and evil acts ▪ a *repulsive* [=*repellent*] man ▪ The rotten meat was *repulsive*. [=*nauseating, revolting*]

2 *physics* : of or relating to the force that pushes something

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away from something else ▪ Magnets have a *repulsive* effect on each other.
– **re•pul•sive•ly** *adv* ▪ a *repulsively* hideous man – **re•pul•sive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ physical *repulsiveness*

re•pur•pose /ri'pəpəs/ *verb* **-pos•es**; **-posed**; **-pos•ing** [+ *obj*] : to change (something) so that it can be used for a different purpose ▪ finding ways to *repurpose* old computer equipment

rep•u•ta•ble /'rɛpjətəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : respected and trusted by most people : having a good reputation ▪ a *reputable* source/brand/company ▪ *reputable* businessmen/scientists/writers — opposite DISREPUTABLE

rep•u•ta•tion /ˌrɛpjə'teɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : the common opinion that people have about someone or something : the way in which people think of someone or something [*count*] This car dealership has a good/bad *reputation*. [=people think that the car dealership is good/bad] ▪ He has earned/established/acquired a *reputation* as a first-class playwright. ▪ a teacher with a *reputation* for patience ▪ Poor customer service has ruined/damaged/destroyed the company's *reputation*. ▪ The cruise ship ***lived up to its reputation***. [=the cruise ship was as good, enjoyable, etc., as we were told it would be] [*noncount*] I know that the restaurant, by *reputation*, is excellent. [=the restaurant has an excellent reputation]

re•pute /rɪ'pju:t/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal*
1 : REPUTATION ▪ They are held in high/good/bad/low *repute*. [=they have a good/bad reputation]
2 : good reputation ▪ a scientist of *repute* [=*distinction*]
ill repute : bad reputation ▪ She was a ***woman of ill repute***. [=*prostitute, whore*] ▪ a ***house of ill repute*** [=*brothel, whorehouse*]

re•put•ed /rɪ'pju:təd/ *adj* : said to be true, to exist, to have a specified identity, etc. ▪ He is *reputed* to be a millionaire. [=people say that he is a millionaire] ▪ a *reputed* gang member ▪ She was hired for her *reputed* talents as a manager.
– **re•put•ed•ly** *adv* ▪ Their pizza is *reputedly* the best in town. [=people say that their pizza is the best in town]

[1]re•quest /rɪ'kwɛst/ *noun, pl* **-quests**
1 : an act of politely or formally asking for something [*count*] They made a *request* to begin work immediately. ▪ She filed/sent/submitted a formal *request* for more information. ▪ He denied/refused/rejected her *request*. ▪ He fulfilled/granted her *request*. ▪ The radio program ***takes requests***. [=people can ask for certain songs to be played] ▪ ***At your request***, I am enclosing a full refund of your payment. ▪ Troops were sent ***at the request of*** our allies. [*noncount*] Catalogs are available ***by/on/upon request***. [=you can get a catalog by requesting one]
2 [*count*] : something (such as a song) that a person asks for ▪ The radio station plays *requests*. [=songs that people ask the radio station to play] ▪ This next song is a *request* from one of our listeners.

[2]request *verb* **-quests**; **-quest•ed**; **quest•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to ask for (something) in a polite or formal way ▪ He *requested* a table near the window. [=he asked to be seated at a table near the window] ▪ The governor will *request* that the legislature raise taxes.
2 : to ask (someone) to do something in a polite or formal way ▪ Gentlemen are *requested* to wear a jacket and tie. ▪ I am sending your medical records ***as requested***. [=as I have been asked to do]

re•qui•em *or* **Requiem** /'rɛkwijəm/ *noun, pl* **-ems** [*count*]
1 : a Christian religious ceremony for a dead person — called also *Requiem Mass*
2 : a piece of music for a requiem

re•quire /rɪ'kwajɚ/ *verb* **-quires**; **-quired**; **-quir•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*
1 : to need (something) ▪ We *require* your assistance. ▪ He is very sick and *requires* constant care. [=he has to be given constant care] — used to say that something is necessary ▪ The game *requires* great skill and coordination. [=you must have great skill and coordination to play the game] ▪ It *requires* great strength to lift 500 pounds. = Lifting 500 pounds *requires* great strength. ▪ Experience is *required* for this job. [=you must have experience for this job] ▪ English is a *required* course. [=a course that must be taken in order to graduate] ▪ The newspaper is ***required reading*** [=reading that must be done] in my politics course.
2 : to make it necessary for someone to do something ▪ The law *requires* everyone to pay the tax. = The law *requires* that everyone pay the tax. ▪ What will be *required* of me if I accept the job? = What will I be *required* to do if I accept the job? ▪ The truck driver carries a special license, as the law *requires* (him to do). = The truck driver carries a special license, ***as required by*** law.

re•quire•ment /rɪ'kwajɚmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*]
1 : something that is needed or that must be done ▪ nutritional *requirements* ▪ a legal/statutory *requirement* ▪ (*Brit*) Her services were ***surplus to requirements***. [=more than what was needed]
2 : something that is necessary for something else to happen or be done ▪ He has met the basic/minimum *requirements* for graduation. ▪ She has fulfilled/satisfied the general *requirements* of the course.

[1]req•ui•site /'rɛkwəzət/ *adj, formal* : needed for a particular purpose ▪ She has the *requisite* [=*necessary, required*] skills/experience for the job.

[2]requisite *noun, pl* **-sites** [*count*] *formal* : something that is needed for a particular purpose ▪ Five years of previous experience is a *requisite* for this job.

req•ui•si•tion /ˌrɛkwə'zɪʃən/ *verb* **-tions**; **-tioned**; **-tion•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to ask for or demand and take (something) for your use ▪ The officer *requisitioned* supplies for his troops. ▪ The car was *requisitioned* by the police.
– **requisition** *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] ▪ The office manager made a *requisition* [=an official request] for supplies.

re•quite /rɪ'kwaɪt/ *verb* **-quites**; **-quit•ed**; **-quit•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to give or do something in return for (something that another person has given or done) ▪ His love for her was not *requited*. [=she did not return his love; she did not love him] — compare UNREQUITED

re•read /ri'ri:d/ *verb* **-reads**; **-read**; **-read•ing** [+ *obj*] : to read (something) again ▪ We carefully *reread* the contract.

re•route /ri'ru:t/ *verb* **-routes**; **-rout•ed**; **-rout•ing** [+ *obj*] : to change the normal route of (something) ▪ The airplanes were *rerouted* due to bad weather.

[1]re•run /'ri:ˌrʌn/ *noun, pl* **-runs** [*count*]
1 : a television program or movie that is shown again ▪ She spent her vacation watching summer *reruns*.
2 : an occurrence in which something happens or is done again ▪ Voters do not want a *rerun* [=*repeat*] of the last election.

[2]re•run /ri'rʌn/ *verb* **-runs**; **-ran** /-'ræn/; **-run**; **-run•ning** [+ *obj*]
1 : to show (a television program or movie) again ▪ Last week's show is being *rerun* tomorrow night.
2 : to do or run (something) again ▪ They *reran* the race, but the result was the same. ▪ He *reran* the software on my computer. ▪ They *reran* [=*repeated*] the lab tests.

re•sale /'ri:ˌseɪl/ *noun, pl* **-sales** : the act of selling something that you have bought [*count*] They earned thousands of dollars on *resales* of the baseball tickets. [*noncount*] He buys baseball collectibles and then holds them for *resale*. ▪ The *resale* price/value of the car is $8,000.

re•sched•ule /ri'skɛˌʤu:l, *Brit* ri'ʃɛˌdju:l/ *verb* **-ules**; **-uled**; **-ul•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to schedule (something) for a different time or date ▪ She called to *reschedule* her appointment. ▪ The meeting was *rescheduled* for Tuesday.
2 : to arrange (a loan or debt) to be paid back at a later date than was originally planned ▪ He *rescheduled* his college loans.

re•scind /rɪ'sɪnd/ *verb* **-scinds**; **-scind•ed**; **-scind•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to end (a law, contract, agreement, etc.) officially : to say officially that (something) is no longer valid ▪ The navy *rescinded* its ban on women sailors. ▪ The company later *rescinded* its offer/decision.

[1]res•cue /'rɛskju/ *verb* **-cues**; **-cued**; **-cu•ing** [+ *obj*] : to save (someone or something) from danger or harm ▪ The survivors were *rescued* by the Coast Guard. — often + *from* ▪ A fireman *rescued* three children *from* the burning building. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She *rescued* an old chair *from* the trash.
– **res•cu•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ *Rescuers* struggled to free the young man from the car wreck.

[2]rescue *noun, pl* **-cues** [*count*] : an act of saving someone or something from danger, harm, or trouble ▪ The lifeguard performed a heroic *rescue*. ▪ The policeman ***came/went to the rescue of*** the lost boy. [=the policeman rescued the lost boy] ▪ When her brother lost his job, she ***came to his rescue*** by paying his rent. — often used before another noun ▪ a *rescue* team/squad ▪ a *rescue* operation/mission

[1]re•search /'ri:ˌsɚʧ/ *noun, pl* **-search•es**
1 : careful study that is done to find and report new knowl-

edge about something [*noncount*] cancer/AIDS/drug *research* ▪ medical/scientific/scholarly *research* ▪ She conducts *research* into/on the causes of Alzheimer's disease. ▪ Recent *research* shows/indicates that the disease is caused in part by bad nutrition. ▪ The study is an important piece of *research*. — often used before another noun ▪ *research* data/findings ▪ a *research* group/organization/scientist ▪ a *research* assistant ▪ a *research* program/project ▪ a *research* lab/laboratory/library/center ▪ a *research* paper/report [*plural*] (*formal + old-fashioned*) We read about Sigmund Freud's *researches* into the human psyche.

2 [*noncount*] : the activity of getting information about a subject ▪ He did a lot of *research* before buying his car. — see also MARKET RESEARCH

– **re•search•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ Medical *researchers* say that the drug is useless.

²re•search /rɪˈsɚtʃ/ *verb* **-search•es**; **-searched**; **-search•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to study (something) carefully ▪ She is *researching* [=*investigating*] the relationship between stress and heart disease. ▪ He spent the summer *researching* his dissertation.

2 : to collect information about or for (something) ▪ Before going out to eat, she *researched* area restaurants. ▪ The reporter made hundreds of telephone calls while *researching* the story.

research and development *noun* [*noncount*] : studies and tests that are done in order to design new or improved products ▪ The company spends millions of dollars each year on *research and development*. — abbr. *R & D*

research park *noun, pl* ~ **parks** [*count*] *US* : an area where companies have offices and laboratories and do work involving science and technology — called also *technology park*, (*chiefly Brit*) *science park*

re•sell /riˈsɛl/ *verb* **-sells**; **-sold**; **-sell•ing** [+ *obj*] : to sell (something that you bought) ▪ He repaired the motorcycle and *resold* it for a profit.

re•sem•blance /rɪˈzɛmbləns/ *noun, pl* **-blanc•es**

1 : the state of looking or being like someone or something else [*singular*] He bears/has a close/striking/strong/uncanny *resemblance* to his father. [=he looks a lot like his father] ▪ When she showed me her niece's picture, I immediately saw a/the ***family resemblance***. [=a similarity in the way they look because they are related] [*noncount*] He doesn't look exactly like his father, but there is some *resemblance*. ▪ There is no *resemblance* between her and her sister.

2 [*count*] : something that makes one person or thing like another : SIMILARITY ▪ I noticed some *resemblances* between them. [=I noticed some ways in which they resemble each other]

re•sem•ble /rɪˈzɛmbəl/ *verb, not used in progressive tenses* **-sem•bles**; **-sem•bled**; **-sem•bling** [+ *obj*] : to look or be like (someone or something) ▪ He strongly *resembles* his father in appearance and in temperament. ▪ Terrier dogs closely *resemble* each other. ▪ We couldn't find anything *resembling* [=*like*] a good restaurant. [=we couldn't find a good restaurant]

re•sent /rɪˈzɛnt/ *verb* **-sents**; **-sent•ed**; **-sent•ing** [+ *obj*] : to be angry or upset about (someone or something that you think is unfair) ▪ I *resent* that remark. ▪ She *resented* being told what to do. ▪ He *resented* his boss for making him work late.

re•sent•ful /rɪˈzɛntfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing a feeling of anger or displeasure about someone or something unfair ▪ She is *resentful* about being demoted. ▪ He's *resentful* of his boss. = He feels *resentful* toward his boss. ▪ a *resentful* child ▪ She gave me a *resentful* glare. ▪ a *resentful* letter to the editor

– **re•sent•ful•ly** *adv* – **re•sent•ful•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

re•sent•ment /rɪˈzɛntmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling of anger or displeasure about someone or something unfair ▪ She bore/felt/harbored bitter feelings of *resentment* toward her ex-husband. ▪ He's filled with *resentment* at/against his boss. ▪ He expressed his *resentment* of the new policies.

res•er•va•tion /ˌrɛzɚˈveɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : an arrangement to have something (such as a room, table, or seat) held for your use at a later time ▪ We made dinner *reservations* at the restaurant for 6 o'clock. ▪ I have a hotel *reservation*.

2 : a feeling of doubt or uncertainty about something [*count*] My only *reservation* about buying the car was its high price. — often plural ▪ She had *reservations* about changing jobs. [*noncount*] He supported her decision ***without reservation***. [=he completely supported her decision]

3 [*count*] : an area of land in the U.S. that is kept separate as a place for Native Americans to live ▪ a Navajo *reservation*

4 [*count*] *US* : an area of land on which hunting animals is not allowed ▪ a wildlife *reservation* [=*reserve*]

¹re•serve /rɪˈzɚv/ *verb* **-serves**; **-served**; **-serv•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make arrangements so that you will be able to use or have (something, such as a room, table, or seat) at a later time ▪ We *reserved* a hotel room. ▪ This table is *reserved* for someone else. ▪ The seats are *reserved* under my name.

2 : to keep (something) for a special or future use ▪ We will *reserve* this wine for a special occasion. ▪ She usually *reserved* her best dishes for very important dinners. ▪ She spoke in a tone of voice that she usually *reserved* for her students. [=that she usually only used for her students]

3 : to choose to do (something) at a later time : DEFER ▪ I will ***reserve judgment*** [=will not make a judgment/decision] until I know the full story.

4 : to have or keep (something, such as a right) for possible use at a future time ▪ We *reserve* the right to make further changes to the agreement if necessary.

²reserve *noun, pl* **-serves**

1 [*count*] : a supply of something that is stored so that it can be used at a later time ▪ oil *reserves* ▪ a cash *reserve* ▪ He had to call upon his inner *reserves* of strength to keep going.

2 [*count*] : a military force that is additional to the regular forces and that is available if it is needed ▪ the army *reserve* — often plural ▪ He is a member of the *reserves*.

3 [*count*] : an area of land where animals and plants are given special protection ▪ a forest/wildlife *reserve* — see also NATURE RESERVE

4 [*count*] : an area of land where Native Americans live : RESERVATION ▪ a Navajo *reserve*

5 [*noncount*] : the quality of a person who does not express feelings, opinions, etc., in an easy and open way ▪ His natural *reserve* is sometimes mistaken for unfriendliness.

6 [*count*] : a player on a team who takes the place of a regular player who is injured or cannot play ▪ the *reserves* on a football team

in reserve : kept for future or special use ▪ She has a lot of money (kept) *in reserve* in case problems arise.

without reserve : in a free and complete way ▪ They trusted him *without reserve*. [=trusted him completely]

re•served /rɪˈzɚvd/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not openly expressing feelings or opinions ▪ She is a very *reserved* young woman.

2 : kept for use only by a particular person or group ▪ a *reserved* parking space ▪ The front row is *reserved* for faculty.

reserve price *noun, pl* ~ **prices** [*count*] : the lowest price that a seller will accept for the thing that is being sold at an auction

re•serv•ist /rɪˈzɚvɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a member of a military reserve ▪ an army *reservist*

res•er•voir /ˈrɛzəˌvwɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-voirs** [*count*]

1 : a usually artificial lake that is used to store a large supply of water for use in people's homes, in businesses, etc.

2 : a place (such as a part of a machine) where a liquid is stored ▪ The pen has a large ink *reservoir*. ▪ the engine's oil *reservoir*

3 : an extra supply of something ▪ Colleges and universities provide *reservoirs* of talent for job recruiters. ▪ She found the *reservoirs* of energy she needed to finish the job.

re•set /rɪˈsɛt/ *verb* **-sets**; **-set**; **-set•ting** [+ *obj*] : to set (something) again: such as **a** : to move (something) back to an original place or position ▪ The machine *reset* the bowling pins. **b** : to put (a broken bone) back in the correct position for healing ▪ His broken leg had to be *reset*. **c** : to put (a gem) into a new piece of jewelry ▪ *reset* a diamond **d** : to change (something) so that it shows a different time or can be used again ▪ He *reset* his watch. ▪ *reset* the timer to 10 minutes ▪ The fire alarm was *reset*. ▪ *reset* a trap

re•set•tle /riˈsɛtl̩/ *verb* **-set•tles**; **-set•tled**; **-set•tling**

1 : to begin to live in a new area after leaving an old one : to settle again [*no obj*] They left town and *resettled* out west. [+ *obj*] He *resettled* his family in the valley.

2 [+ *obj*] : to begin to use (an area) again as a place to live — usually used as *(be) resettled* ▪ The area *was resettled* in the 1800s.

– **re•set•tle•ment** /riˈsɛtl̩mənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

re•shape /riˈʃeɪp/ *verb* **-shapes**; **-shaped**; **-shap•ing** [+ *obj*] : to give a new form or shape to (something) ▪ The body of the car was *reshaped* to allow for more cargo space. ▪

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These changes will *reshape* the future. ▪ He *reshaped* the plot of his story.

re•shuf•fle /ri'ʃʌfəl/ *verb* **-shuf•fles**; **-shuf•fled**; **-shuf•fling** [+ *obj*]
1 : to shuffle (cards) again ▪ The dealer *reshuffled* the cards.
2 : to change the way the parts of (something) are arranged or organized ▪ The President *reshuffled* his Cabinet. [=changed the jobs/positions of the people in his Cabinet] ▪ We had to *reshuffle* [=*rearrange*] our schedule.
– **reshuffle** *noun, pl* **-shuffles** [*count*] ▪ There has been a major *reshuffle* in the department.

re•side /ri'zaɪd/ *verb* **-sides**; **-sid•ed**; **-sid•ing** [*no obj*] *formal*
1 : to live in a particular place ▪ He *resides* in St. Louis. ▪ He still *resides* at his parents' house.
2 : to exist or be present ▪ The power of veto *resides* with the President. [=the President has the power of veto] ▪ Meaning *resides* within the text of the poem. ▪ The importance of this decision *resides* in the fact that it relates to people across the country.

res•i•dence /'rɛzədəns/ *noun, pl* **-denc•es** *formal*
1 [*noncount*] : the state of living in a particular place ▪ He recently ended his *residence* at the apartment complex. ▪ Birds have ***taken up residence*** [=established a home] in the barn. ▪ (*US*) a ***residence hall*** = (*Brit*) a ***hall of residence*** [=a place where students live at a college or university]
2 [*count*] : the place where someone lives ▪ a two-story *residence* ▪ Police surrounded the *residence*. — often used to refer especially to a large and impressive house where an important or wealthy person lives ▪ He spent three months at his summer *residence*. ▪ the prime minister's *residence*
3 [*noncount*] : legal permission to live in a country ▪ They were granted/denied *residence* in this country.
in residence **1** : living in a particular place at a particular time ▪ The Queen was not *in residence* at the palace when the fire broke out. **2** : having an official position as a writer, artist, etc., who has been chosen to live and work at a college or other institution for a period of time ▪ She is the artist *in residence* at the museum this summer.

res•i•den•cy /'rɛzədənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies** *formal*
1 a [*noncount*] : the state or fact of living in a place ▪ proof of *residency* [=*residence*] ▪ You must meet the town's *residency* requirement in order to vote. **b** [*singular*] : a period of time when someone lives in a place ▪ a four-year *residency* in the country
2 [*count*] : legal permission to live in a place ▪ He was granted/denied *residency*. [=*residence*]
3 [*count, noncount*] *chiefly US* : a period when a doctor receives advanced training at a hospital in order to become a specialist in a particular field of medicine ▪ She recently completed her *residency* in pediatrics. ▪ a *residency* program
4 [*count, noncount*] : a period of time when a writer, artist, etc., lives and works at a college or other institution

[1]resident /'rɛzədənt/ *noun, pl* **-dents** [*count*]
1 : someone who lives in a particular place ▪ She is a *resident* of New York. [=she lives in New York] ▪ apartment *residents*
2 *US* : a doctor who is training at a hospital to become a specialist in a particular field of medicine ▪ a first-year *resident*

[2]res•i•dent *adj*
1 : living in a particular place usually for a long period of time ▪ the city's *resident* voters ▪ Several tribes are *resident* in this part of the country.
2 *always used before a noun* : working regularly at a particular place ▪ the magazine's *resident* critic — often used humorously to refer to the person in a group who has a particular skill, area of knowledge, etc. ▪ He is our *resident* trivia expert.

res•i•den•tial /ˌrɛzə'dɛnʃəl/ *adj*
1 : containing mostly homes instead of stores, businesses, etc. ▪ a *residential* area/street/neighborhood
2 : used as a place to live ▪ *residential* property
3 : of or relating to the places where people live ▪ The company offers insurance for commercial and *residential* customers. ▪ *residential* insurance policies
4 a : providing students a place to live ▪ *residential* colleges **b** : requiring students to live at a school while taking classes ▪ *residential* study ▪ a *residential* course
5 a : provided to patients who are staying at a place for medical care ▪ *residential* drug treatment **b** : requiring patients to stay while they are receiving medical care ▪ a *residential* treatment center

re•sid•u•al /ri'zɪʤəwəl/ *adj, formal* : remaining after a process has been completed or something has been removed ▪ She's still dealing with the *residual* effects of the accident.

re•sid•u•als /ri'zɪʤəwəlz/ *noun* [*plural*] : additional payments that are made to a person (such as a writer or actor) who worked on a commercial or television program every time the commercial or program is shown again ▪ She earns a lot in *residuals*.

res•i•due /'rɛzəˌduː, *Brit* 'rɛzəˌdjuː/ *noun, pl* **-dues**
1 : a usually small amount of something that remains after a process has been completed or a thing has been removed [*count*] The grill was covered in a greasy *residue* from the hamburgers. ▪ The divorce left a *residue* of pain in the family. [*noncount*] There was some kind of sticky *residue* on the floor.
2 [*count*] *formal* : the amount of something valuable (such as an estate) that is left after all debts have been paid ▪ She left the *residue* of her estate to her daughter.

re•sign /ri'zaɪn/ *verb* **-signs**; **-signed**; **-sign•ing** : to give up (a job or position) in a formal or official way [+ *obj*] The senator was forced to *resign* his position. [*no obj*] The newspaper's editor *resigned* after the scandal. ▪ He *resigned* from his job as principal of the school.
resign yourself : to make yourself accept something that is bad or that cannot be changed — usually + *to* ▪ We *resigned ourselves to* the fact that we were going to lose the game. ▪ You don't have to *resign yourself to* doing a job that you don't enjoy. — see also *resigned to* at RESIGNED

res•ig•na•tion /ˌrɛzɪg'neɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 : an act of giving up a job or position in a formal or official way [*count*] The chairman accepted their *resignations*. [*noncount*] a letter of *resignation*
2 [*count*] : a letter which states that a person has given up a job or position ▪ The manager received *resignations* from three members of the staff.
3 [*noncount*] : the feeling that something unpleasant is going to happen and cannot be changed ▪ We accepted the news with *resignation*. ▪ a sigh of *resignation*

resigned *adj, always used before a noun* : feeling or showing acceptance that something unpleasant will happen or will not change ▪ She gave a *resigned* sigh. ▪ "OK, you can go," he said, in a *resigned* voice.
resigned to ✧ If you are *resigned to* something, you accept a bad situation that cannot be changed. ▪ She was *resigned to* a long visit with his mother. ▪ I'm *resigned to* having to work this weekend. ▪ He was ***resigned to the fact*** that an expensive vacation would have to wait.
– **re•sign•ed•ly** /ri'zaɪnədli/ *adv* ▪ She shook her head and sighed *resignedly* when he told her the news.

re•sil•ience /ri'zɪljəns/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the ability to become strong, healthy, or successful again after something bad happens ▪ The rescue workers showed remarkable *resilience* in dealing with the difficult conditions.
2 : the ability of something to return to its original shape after it has been pulled, stretched, pressed, bent, etc. ▪ the *resilience* of rubber ▪ Cold temperatures caused the material to lose *resilience*.

re•sil•ien•cy /ri'zɪljənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : RESILIENCE

re•sil•ient /ri'zɪljənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : able to become strong, healthy, or successful again after something bad happens ▪ *resilient* young people ▪ *resilient* competitors ▪ The local economy is remarkably *resilient*.
2 : able to return to an original shape after being pulled, stretched, pressed, bent, etc. ▪ a *resilient* material
– **re•sil•ient•ly** *adv*

res•in /'rɛzn̩/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count, noncount*]
1 : a yellow or brown sticky substance that comes from some trees and that is used to make various products
2 : an artificial substance that is similar to natural resins and that is used to make plastics — compare ROSIN
– **res•in•ous** /'rɛzn̩əs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *resinous* substance

re•sist /ri'zɪst/ *verb* **-sists**; **-sist•ed**; **-sist•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to fight against (something) : to try to stop or prevent (something) ▪ He was charged with *resisting* arrest. ▪ Many people *resisted* [=*opposed*] the efforts of lawmakers to raise taxes.
2 [+ *obj*] : to remain strong against the force or effect of (something) : to not be affected or harmed by (something) ▪ These windows can *resist* very high winds. ▪ The drug will help your body *resist* infection.
3 : to prevent yourself from doing something that you want to do [+ *obj*] She couldn't *resist* telling us what she'd heard. ▪

He was able to *resist* the urge to tell her his secret. ▪ It was hard *resisting* the temptation to open the box. ▪ The offer was hard to *resist*. [*no obj*] I know I shouldn't have any more cake, but I can't *resist*.

– **re•sist•er** /rɪ'zɪstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ military draft *resisters*

re•sis•tance /rɪ'zɪstəns/ *noun*

1 : refusal to accept something new or different [*noncount*] — often + *from* ▪ She sensed *resistance from* some of the staff regarding the changes in policy. — often + *to* ▪ There was a lot of *resistance to* the plan when it was first suggested. [*singular*] They have shown a stubborn *resistance to* change.

2 [*noncount*] : effort made to stop or to fight against someone or something ▪ He offered no *resistance* when he was arrested. [=he did not try to prevent himself from being arrested] ▪ The troops met heavy/stiff *resistance* as they approached the city. — see also PASSIVE RESISTANCE

3 : the ability to prevent something from having an effect [*noncount*] The paint shows good weather *resistance*. — often + *to* ▪ the body's *resistance to* disease [*singular*] Over time the patient/infection could develop a *resistance to* the drug.

4 [*noncount*] : a force that slows down a moving object (such as an airplane) by going against the direction in which the object is moving ▪ reducing wind *resistance*

5 *or* ***Resistance*** [*singular*] : a secret organization that fights against enemy forces who have gained control of a region, country, etc. ▪ a member of the French *Resistance* ▪ *resistance* forces

6 [*noncount*] *technical* : the ability of a substance to prevent electricity from passing through it ▪ electrical *resistance*

take/follow the path/line of least resistance : to choose the easiest way to do something instead of trying to choose the best way ▪ She tends to *follow the path of least resistance* instead of going after what she really wants.

re•sis•tant /rɪ'zɪstənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : opposed to something : wanting to prevent something from happening — usually + *to* ▪ People are often *resistant to* change.

2 : not affected or harmed by something ▪ These plants are *resistant to* cold temperatures. ▪ He became *resistant to* the medication. — often used in combination ▪ a water-*resistant* watch

re•sis•tor /rɪ'zɪstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] *technical* : a device that is used to control the flow of electricity in an electric circuit

re•sit /ri'sɪt/ *verb* **re•sits**; **re•sat** /ri'sæt/; **re•sit•ting** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to take (an examination) again ▪ He has to *resit* [=*retake*] the exam he failed.

– **re•sit** /'ri:ˌsɪt/ *noun, pl* **-sits** [*count*] ▪ He passed the *resit*.

res•o•lute /'rɛzəˌlu:t/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very determined : having or showing a lot of determination ▪ She is a *resolute* competitor. ▪ He has remained *resolute* in his opposition to the bill. ▪ a leader with a stern and *resolute* manner

– **res•o•lute•ly** *adv* ▪ The senator is *resolutely* opposed to the bill.

res•o•lu•tion /ˌrɛzə'lu:ʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 a [*noncount*] : the act of finding an answer or solution to a conflict, problem, etc. : the act of resolving something ▪ a court for the *resolution* of civil disputes ▪ conflict *resolution*

b [*count*] : an answer or solution to something ▪ We found a *resolution* to the dispute.

2 : the ability of a device to show an image clearly and with a lot of detail [*count*] computer screens with high *resolutions* [*noncount*] The monitor has excellent *resolution*. ▪ a high-*resolution* copier/monitor/camera

3 [*count*] : a promise to yourself that you will make a serious effort to do something that you should do ▪ He made a *resolution* to lose weight. [=he resolved to lose weight] ▪ Her ***New Year's resolution*** [=her promise to do something differently in the new year] is to exercise regularly.

4 [*noncount*] : the quality of being very determined to do something : DETERMINATION ▪ They admired his courage and *resolution*. [=*resolve*]

5 [*count*] : a formal statement that expresses the feelings, wishes, or decision of a group ▪ The assembly passed a *resolution* calling for the university president to step down.

6 [*noncount*] : the point in a story at which the main conflict is solved or ended ▪ the *resolution* of the plot

[1]re•solve /rɪ'zɑ:lv/ *verb* **-solves**; **-solved**; **-solv•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to find an answer or solution to (something) : to settle or solve (something) ▪ The brothers finally *resolved* their conflict. ▪ The issue of the book's authorship was never *resolved*. ▪ His speech did nothing to *resolve* doubts about the company's future. ▪ They haven't been able to *resolve* their differences.

2 [+ *obj*] : to make a definite and serious decision to do something ▪ She *resolved* to quit smoking. ▪ He *resolved* that he would start dating again.

3 [+ *obj*] : to make a formal decision about something usually by a vote ▪ The committee *resolved* to override the veto.

4 *formal* : to change *into* separate parts or a different form by usually a gradual process [+ *obj*] The mixture was *resolved into* two parts. [*no obj*] The image eventually *resolved into* the shape of a person's body.

– **re•solv•able** /rɪ'zɑ:lvəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *resolvable* conflict

[2]resolve *noun* [*noncount*] : a strong determination to do something ▪ His comments were intended to weaken her *resolve* but they only served to strengthen it.

resolved /rɪ'zɑ:lvd/ *adj* : feeling strong determination to do something ▪ I was *resolved* [=*determined*] to find out the truth.

res•o•nance /'rɛzənəns/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *formal* : the quality of a sound that stays loud, clear, and deep for a long time ▪ the *resonance* of the singer's voice

2 *formal* : a quality that makes something personally meaningful or important to someone ▪ His story didn't have much *resonance* with the audience.

3 *technical* : a sound or vibration produced in one object that is caused by the sound or vibration produced in another

res•o•nant /'rɛzənənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : producing a loud, clear, deep sound ▪ a *resonant* church bell ▪ the *resonant* tones of the piano ▪ He has a deep, *resonant* voice.

2 : strongly affecting someone especially with a particular quality ▪ *resonant* images of heroism ▪ His words were *resonant* with meaning.

– **res•o•nant•ly** *adv*

res•o•nate /'rɛzəˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nat•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to continue to produce a loud, clear, deep sound for a long time ▪ The siren *resonated* throughout the city.

2 : to have particular meaning or importance for someone : to affect or appeal to someone in a personal or emotional way — usually + *with* ▪ Her speech *resonated with* voters. [=voters liked and were impressed by her speech]

res•o•na•tor /'rɛzəˌneɪtə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a device used to make something (such as a musical instrument) louder

[1]re•sort /rɪ'zoɚt/ *noun, pl* **-sorts**

1 [*count*] : a place where people go for vacations ▪ a ski/beach/golf *resort* ▪ a *resort* hotel

2 [*count*] : something that you choose for help ▪ "We may have to ask them for more time." "That should be our ***last resort***." [=that should be something we do only if nothing else works] ▪ Our ***first resort*** was to go to the police. ▪ The company will only declare bankruptcy ***as a last/final resort***. = (*Brit*) The company will only declare bankruptcy ***in the last resort***. ▪ a ***weapon of last resort*** [=a weapon that is only used if its use cannot be avoided]

3 [*noncount*] : the act of doing or using something especially because no other choices are possible — usually + *to* ▪ The police hope to end the standoff ***without resort to*** force. [=without using force]

[2]resort *verb* **-sorts**; **-sort•ed**; **-sort•ing**

resort to [*phrasal verb*] ***resort to (something)*** : to do or use (something) especially because no other choices are possible ▪ We want to resolve this crisis without *resorting to* violence. ▪ He had to *resort to* asking his parents for money.

re•sound /rɪ'zaʊnd/ *verb* **-sounds**; **-sound•ed**; **-sound•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to become filled with sound — usually + *with* ▪ The hall *resounded with* cheers.

2 : to make a loud, deep sound ▪ The organ *resounded* throughout the church.

3 : to make a strong impression or have a great effect on people ▪ His speech *resounded* throughout the world.

re•sound•ing /rɪ'zaʊndɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : producing a loud, deep sound that lasts for a long time ▪ a *resounding* crash

2 : leaving no doubt : very definite ▪ The play was a *resounding* [=*great, huge*] success. ▪ a *resounding* victory ▪ The class answered with a *resounding* no.

– **re•sound•ing•ly** *adv*

R

re•source /ˈriːˌsoəs, *Brit* rɪˈzɔːs/ *noun, pl* **-sourc•es**

1 [*count*] : something that a country has and can use to increase its wealth ▪ Oil is essentially their only *resource*. — usually plural ▪ The country has vast mineral *resources*. ▪ coal, oil, and other ***natural resources***

2 [*plural*] : a supply of something (such as money) that someone has and can use when it is needed ▪ Their financial *resources* are severely limited. [=they do not have much money] ▪ If we ***pool our resources*** [=if we combine our money] we can buy the car. — see also HUMAN RESOURCES

3 [*count*] : a place or thing that provides something useful ▪ The library/Internet is a useful *resource* [=*source*] for information. ▪ The computer laboratory is an essential *resource* for students.

4 a [*count*] : an ability or quality that allows you to do the things that are necessary — usually plural ▪ Does he have the intellectual *resources* to do the job? ▪ During his illness she discovered vast ***inner resources*** that gave her the strength she needed. **b** [*noncount*] *formal* : an ability to deal with and find solutions for problems ▪ She is a worker of tremendous *resource*. [=*resourcefulness*]

re•source•ful /rɪˈsoəsfəl, *Brit* rɪˈzɔːsfəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : able to deal well with new or difficult situations and to find solutions to problems ▪ a *resourceful* leader
– **re•source•ful•ly** *adv* ▪ She handled the problem very *resourcefully*. – **re•source•ful•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]re•spect /rɪˈspɛkt/ *noun, pl* **-spects**

1 : a feeling of admiring someone or something that is good, valuable, important, etc. [*noncount*] He has earned/gained/won their *respect*. ▪ The soldier saluted as a sign of *respect*. ▪ Despite our differences, I have enormous *respect* for him. ▪ She has a lot of *respect* for his opinion. [=she values his opinion very highly] [*singular*] I have a great *respect* for his accomplishments.

2 : a feeling or understanding that someone or something is important, serious, etc., and should be treated in an appropriate way [*noncount*] She showed no *respect* [=*consideration*] for my feelings. ▪ I expect to be treated with *respect*. ▪ He has no *respect* for the rules. [=he does not obey/follow the rules; he disregards the rules] [*count*] He has a healthy *respect* for the dangers of the work he does. [=he is aware of the dangers and does the work in a careful way]

3 [*count*] : a particular way of thinking about or looking at something ▪ The show was perfect in all *respects*. [=in every way] ▪ Your theory makes sense in one *respect*. ▪ In many *respects* [=in many ways], her life has been a hard one.

4 *respects* [*plural*] : a polite greeting or expression of kind feelings ▪ Please ***give/send my respects*** to your parents. [=please tell your parents I said hello] ▪ I ***paid my respects*** [=offered my condolences] to the family at the funeral. ▪ We went to his funeral to ***pay our last/final respects***

with (all) (due) respect — used as a polite or formal way of saying that you disagree with someone ▪ I have to say, *with all respect*, that I don't think your solution will work. ▪ *With all due respect*, I must disagree with your conclusions.

with respect to *also* ***in respect to*** *or chiefly Brit* ***in respect of*** *formal* : about or concerning (something or someone) : in relation to (something or someone) ▪ There is a question *with respect to* your earlier comments. ▪ There have been problems *with respect to* transferring the data from the old computer to the new one.

[2]respect *verb* **-spects; -spect•ed; -spec•ting** [+ *obj*]

1 : to feel admiration for (someone or something) : to regard (someone or something) as being worthy of admiration because of good qualities ▪ The students *respect* the principal for his honesty. ▪ I *respect* what she has accomplished.

2 : to act in a way which shows that you are aware of (someone's rights, wishes, etc.) ▪ He *respected* my wish for quiet. [=he was quiet because he knew that was what I wanted] ▪ Please *respect* my privacy. ▪ You must learn to *respect* other people's property.

3 a : to treat or deal with (something that is good or valuable) in a proper way ▪ We need to *respect* the environment. **b** : do what is required by (a law, rule, etc.) ▪ She always *respects* [=*observes*] the speed limit.

as respects *formal* : about or concerning (something) : with respect to (something) ▪ She is very liberal *as respects* human rights.

– **re•spect•er** /rɪˈspɛktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ He wants to be seen as a *respecter* of the environment. ▪ (*formal*) The law is ***no respecter of persons*** [=the law applies to all people in the same way]

re•spect•able /rɪˈspɛktəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **1** : considered to be good, correct, or acceptable : decent or correct in character, behavior, or appearance ▪ *respectable* people ▪ She comes from a very *respectable* family. ▪ wearing *respectable* clothes

2 : fairly good ▪ She makes a *respectable* [=*decent*] salary. ▪ Her grades were *respectable* [=*satisfactory*] but not great.

– **re•spect•abil•i•ty** /rɪˌspɛktəˈbɪlətiː/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He has an air of *respectability* about him. – **re•spect•ably** /rɪˈspɛktəbliː/ *adv* ▪ He was *respectably* dressed.

respected *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : admired by many people ▪ She is a highly *respected* professor. ▪ He is one of the most *respected* people in the film industry.

re•spect•ful /rɪˈspɛktfəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : showing or having respect ▪ a *respectful* manner — often + *of* ▪ Children should be *respectful of* their elders.

– **re•spect•ful•ly** /rɪˈspɛktfəliː/ *adv* ▪ He *respectfully* removed his hat when he entered the building. – **re•spect•ful•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

re•spect•ing /rɪˈspɛktɪŋ/ *prep, formal* : about or relating to (something) : with respect to (something) ▪ We have heard no information *respecting* [=*concerning, regarding*] the path of the storm.

re•spec•tive /rɪˈspɛktɪv/ *adj* : belonging or relating to each one of the people or things that have been mentioned ▪ The brother and sister returned to their *respective* [=*own*] bedrooms. ▪ They are all very successful in their *respective* [=*individual*] fields.

– **re•spec•tive•ly** /rɪˈspɛktɪvliː/ *adv* ▪ The boy and girl are 12 and 13 years old *respectively*. [=the boy is 12 and the girl is 13]

res•pi•ra•tion /ˌrɛspəˈreɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : the act or process of breathing ▪ The doctor checked his heartbeat and *respiration*. — see also ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION

res•pi•ra•tor /ˈrɛspəˌreɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]

1 : a device that you wear over your mouth and nose so that you can breathe when there is a lot of dust, smoke, etc., in the air

2 *medical* : a device that helps people to breathe when they are not able to breathe naturally ▪ The doctors put her on a *respirator*.

re•spi•ra•to•ry /ˈrɛspərəˌtoriː, *Brit* rɪˈspɪrətriː/ *adj, medical* : of or relating to breathing or the organs of the body that are used in breathing ▪ *respiratory* diseases/illnesses/infections ▪ the *respiratory* system [=the lungs or other organs used in respiration]

re•spire /rɪˈspajɚ/ *verb* **-spires; -spired; -spir•ing** [*no obj*] *technical* : BREATHE 1 ▪ Fish use their gills to *respire*.

re•spite /ˈrɛspət, *Brit* ˈrɛˌspaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-spites** : a short period of time when you are able to stop doing something that is difficult or unpleasant or when something difficult or unpleasant stops or is delayed [*count*] — usually singular ▪ The weekend provided a nice *respite* from the pressures of her job. ▪ a temporary *respite* [*noncount*] The bad weather has continued without *respite*.

re•splen•dent /rɪˈsplɛndənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *literary* : very bright and attractive ▪ The fields were *resplendent* with flowers. ▪ She looked *resplendent* in her green evening gown. ▪ a bird with *resplendent* yellow feathers
– **re•splen•dent•ly** *adv*

re•spond /rɪˈspɑːnd/ *verb* **-sponds; -spond•ed; -spond•ing**

1 : to say or write something as an answer to a question or request : REPLY [*no obj*] She hasn't yet *responded* to my letter. ▪ My mother *responded* to my request with a firm no. ▪ The teacher asked a question, but the student didn't *respond*. [+ *obj*] "Are you ready?" he asked. "No," she *responded*. ▪ When I asked him what he was doing, he *responded* that it was none of my business.

2 [*no obj*] : to do something as a reaction to something that has happened or been done ▪ Police quickly *responded* to the call for help. ▪ She *responded* to their decision by threatening to quit. : to have a particular reaction to something ▪ He doesn't *respond* [=*react*] well to criticism. ▪ Most readers *responded* favorably to the book. [=most readers liked the book]

3 [*no obj*] : to have a good or desired reaction to something ▪ The patient is *responding* to the treatment. [=the patient is getting better because of the treatment]

re•spon•dent /rɪˈspɑːndənt/ *noun, pl* **-dents** [*count*] : a person who gives a response or answer to a question that is asked especially as part of a survey ▪ A majority of *respondents* said they disagreed with the mayor's plan.

re•sponse /rɪ'spɑ:ns/ *noun, pl* **-spons•es**
1 : something that is said or written as a reply to something [*count*] He got a *response* to his letter. [*noncount*] I am writing ***in response to*** your letter of July 17. ▪ She asked him but he ***gave/made no response***. [=he did not answer]
2 : something that is done as a reaction to something else [*count*] When I told him my plan, I wasn't expecting such an enthusiastic *response*. ▪ Her *response* to their decision was to threaten to quit her job. ▪ The patient suffered an adverse *response* to the medication. [=the patient became worse after taking the medication] [*noncount*] When you knocked on the door, was there any *response*?

re•spon•si•bil•i•ty /rɪˌspɑ:nsə'bɪləti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**
1 [*noncount*] **:** the state of being the person who caused something to happen ▪ He accepted full *responsibility* for the accident. [=he admitted that the accident was his fault] ▪ The boys denied any *responsibility* for the damage to the fence. ▪ A terrorist group has claimed *responsibility* for the bombing.
2 a : a duty or task that you are required or expected to do [*count*] The janitor has many *responsibilities*. ▪ Mowing the lawn is your *responsibility*. ▪ She has to deal with a lot of family and work *responsibilities*. ▪ It is your *responsibility* to give the company two weeks notice if you decide to leave. ▪ A teacher's most important *responsibility* is to help her students. = A teacher's first *responsibility* is to/toward her students. [*noncount*] In her new position, she will have much more *responsibility*. **b** [*count*] **:** something that you should do because it is morally right, legally required, etc. ▪ We have a *responsibility* to protect the environment. ▪ The government's *responsibility* is to serve the public.
3 [*noncount*] **:** the state of having the job or duty of dealing with and taking care of something or someone ▪ The principal has *responsibility* for 450 students and a staff of 35.
4 [*noncount*] **:** the quality of a person who can be trusted to do what is expected, required, etc. ▪ She is completely lacking in *responsibility*. ▪ The boy developed a ***sense of responsibility*** with his first job.
on your own responsibility ✧ To do something *on your own responsibility* is to do it without being told to and to accept the blame if it has a bad result. ▪ He changed the schedule *on his own responsibility*.

re•spon•si•ble /rɪ'spɑ:nsəbəl/ *adj*
1 — used to describe the person or thing that causes something to happen ▪ Those *responsible* will be punished/rewarded. — usually + *for* ▪ The technicians found the glitch that was *responsible for* [=that caused] the computer crash. ▪ Police caught the youths *responsible for* the vandalism. ▪ Who was *responsible for* the accident? ▪ She's *responsible for* most of the improvements here in recent months. ▪ He ***holds me responsible for*** [=blames me for] the project's failure.
2 : having the job or duty of dealing with or taking care of something or someone — + *for* ▪ She is *responsible for* the company's publicity. ▪ Each child is *responsible for* his or her own belongings. ▪ The committee is *responsible for* organizing the dance. ▪ You are *responsible for* mowing the lawn. ▪ Who was *responsible for* choosing this location? ▪ Parents are *responsible for* their own children.
3 [*more ~; most ~*] **:** able to be trusted to do what is right or to do the things that are expected or required ▪ She is a very *responsible* worker. ▪ Is he *responsible* enough to have a car? — opposite IRRESPONSIBLE
4 [*more ~; most ~*] **:** involving important duties, decisions, etc., that you are trusted to do ▪ She got a higher salary and a more *responsible* position at the company.
5 : working under the direction and authority of a particular person — + *to* ▪ I am *responsible to* her, and she is directly *responsible to* the company president.
– re•spon•si•bly /rɪ'spɑ:nsəbli/ *adv* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ Our leaders must act *responsibly*.

re•spon•sive /rɪ'spɑ:nsɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : reacting in a desired or positive way ▪ The patient was not *responsive* to the treatment. ▪ They weren't very *responsive* to my suggestion. [=they did not respond very favorably to my suggestion]
2 : quick to react or respond ▪ The store is very *responsive* to the needs of its customers. ▪ a car with *responsive* steering [=steering that works quickly when you move the steering wheel]
– re•spon•sive•ly *adv* **– re•spon•sive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]rest /'rɛst/ *noun*
the rest **:** the part that is left when other people or things are gone, used, etc. ▪ You bring these bags in, and I'll bring *the rest*. [=*the remainder*] ▪ Thanks for your help. I can handle *the rest*. ▪ Linda, Joan, Donna, and *the rest* — often + *of* ▪ He would regret that decision for *the rest of* his life. ▪ She went shopping and spent *the rest of* her money on dinner. ▪ We finished *the rest of* the cake. ▪ He worked in the morning and relaxed (for) *the rest of* the day.
– compare [2]REST

[2]rest *noun, pl* **rests**
1 : a period of time in which you relax, sleep, or do nothing after you have been active or doing work [*noncount*] a day of *rest* ▪ I was ordered to get some *rest*. ▪ None of us had/got much *rest* last night. [*count*] — usually singular ▪ I need a *rest*. [=*break*] ▪ The coach canceled practice to give his team a *rest*. ▪ a 10-minute *rest* period — see also BED REST
2 [*noncount*] **:** a state in which there is no motion ▪ an object in a state of *rest*
3 [*count*] **:** an object that is designed to support or hold something ▪ a knife/spoon *rest* ▪ the violin's chin *rest* — see also ARMREST, FOOTREST, HEADREST
4 [*count*] **a :** a period of silence between musical notes **b :** a symbol in music that shows a period of silence between notes
at rest **1 :** not moving ▪ The object is *at rest*. [=*motionless*] **2 :** no longer living : DEAD ▪ After years of suffering, she is finally *at rest*. **3 :** in a relaxed and comfortable state ▪ You can ***set/put your mind at rest*** [=you can relax and stop worrying]
come to rest **:** to stop moving ▪ The ball *came to rest* against the curb. ▪ Her eyes *came to rest* on a mysterious man. [=she stopped looking around and looked at the mysterious man]
give it a rest *informal* — used to tell someone to stop talking about something ▪ Oh, *give it a rest*! I don't want to hear it.
give (something) a rest *informal* **:** to stop doing or using (something) ▪ Hey, *give the TV remote a rest* and go outside to play!
lay (someone) to rest **:** to bury (someone who has died) — usually used as *(be) laid to rest* ▪ She *was laid to rest* in the church's graveyard.
lay/put to rest (something) *or* ***lay/put (something) to rest*** **:** to make someone stop thinking about or believing (something) by showing it is not true ▪ I want to *lay/put to rest* any lingering doubts about my decision.
– compare [1]REST

[3]rest *verb* **rests; rest•ed; rest•ing**
1 [*no obj*] **:** to stop doing work or an activity ▪ We will not *rest* until we discover the truth. **:** to spend time relaxing, sleeping, or doing nothing after you have been active or doing work ▪ The workers were *resting* in the shade. ▪ They expect to *rest* [=*relax*] while on vacation. ▪ He is *resting* comfortably after his ordeal. ▪ She went to her room to *rest* for a while.
2 [+ *obj*] **a :** to give rest to (someone) ▪ The coach canceled practice to *rest* his team. ▪ May God *rest* her soul. [=I pray that God will give her soul peace now that she has died] **b :** to stop using (something) so that it can become strong again ▪ He *rested* his horse before continuing the journey. ▪ You should *rest* your eyes after all that reading. ▪ The pitcher needs to *rest* his arm.
3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** [*no obj*] **:** to sit or lie on something ▪ The spoon was *resting* in the cup. ▪ The house *rests* on a concrete foundation. — often used figuratively ▪ The real authority *rests* with the committee. ▪ The blame *rests* (solely) on/with me. [=I am to blame; I am responsible for what happened] **b** [+ *obj*] **:** to place (something) on or against something else ▪ He *rested* his hand on her shoulder. ▪ She *rested* her bike against a tree. ▪ He *rested* his chin in his hands. ▪ Don't *rest* your elbows on the table.
4 [*no obj*] **:** to lie in a grave after death ▪ My grandfather *rests* [=is buried] next to my grandmother. ▪ May she ***rest in peace***. [=may she have peace in her death]
5 : to stop presenting evidence in a legal case [*no obj*] The defense *rests*, Your Honor. [+ *obj*] The defense *rested* its case. — see also *I rest my case* at [1]CASE
let (something) rest **:** to stop mentioning or talking about (something) ▪ You just won't *let* this *rest*, will you? ▪ They told them their decision, but he won't *let* the matter *rest*.
rest easy **:** to stop worrying about something **:** to not worry about something ▪ I can *rest easy* knowing that he will be in charge.
rest on/upon [*phrasal verb*] **1 *rest on/upon (someone or something)*** **a :** to depend or rely on (someone or something) ▪ All our hopes *rested on* one man. **b :** to stop mov-

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ing and look at (someone or something) ▪ His eyes/gaze *rested on* the letter. **2 *rest on/upon (something)*** : to be based on (something) ▪ His theory *rested upon* two important pieces of evidence.

rest on your laurels see LAUREL

rest with [*phrasal verb*] ***rest with (someone or something)*** : to be the responsibility of (someone or something) ▪ The final decision *rests with* you.

rest area *noun, pl* ~ **-eas** [*count*] *US* : an area next to a highway where people can stop to rest, use the bathroom, get food, etc. — called also (*US*) *rest stop*

re•start /ri'stɑɚt/ *verb* **-starts**; **-start•ed**; **-start•ing**

1 : to make (something) start again after it has stopped [+ *obj*] *Restart* your computer. ▪ *restart* the video game ▪ They plan to *restart* negotiations next week. [*no obj*] After you *restart* [=restart your computer], go to the main menu.

2 [*no obj*] : to start again after stopping ▪ The tournament will *restart* tomorrow. ▪ The tractor won't *restart*.

– **restart** *noun, pl* **-starts** [*count*] ▪ a computer *restart*

re•state /ri'steɪt/ *verb* **-states**; **-stat•ed**; **-stat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to say (something) again or in a different way especially to make the meaning clearer ▪ She needs to *restate* her arguments.

– **re•state•ment** /ri'steɪtmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*] ▪ a *restatement* of familiar ideas

res•tau•rant /'rɛstəˌrɑ:nt/ *noun, pl* **-rants** [*count*] : a place where you can buy and eat a meal ▪ a Mexican/Italian/Chinese *restaurant* [=a restaurant that serves Mexican/Italian/Chinese food]

restaurant car *noun, pl* ~ **cars** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : DINING CAR

res•tau•ra•teur /ˌrɛstərə'tɚ/ *also* **res•tau•ran•teur** /ˌrɛstəˌrɑ:n'tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-teurs** [*count*] : a person who owns or manages a restaurant

rest•ed /'rɛstəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having had enough rest or sleep ▪ They were (well) *rested* after a long vacation. ▪ She appears *rested* and sharp. ▪ I want to be *rested* for the exam.

rest•ful /'rɛstfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : peaceful and quiet in a way that makes you relax ▪ It's *restful* by the stream. ▪ a *restful* weekend

– **rest•ful•ly** *adv*

rest home *noun, pl* ~ **homes** [*count*] : a place where people who are old or who are unable to take care of themselves can live and be taken care of : NURSING HOME

rest•ing /'rɛstɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun, technical* : taken or measured when you are relaxed and not moving much ▪ your *resting* heart rate ▪ the *resting* metabolic rate

resting place *noun, pl* ~ **places** [*count*]

1 : a place where you can stop and rest ▪ We found a good *resting place* by the side of the trail.

2 : a place where someone is buried ▪ This is her ***final/last resting place***.

3 : a place where something has been put ▪ The monument was moved to a new *resting place*.

res•ti•tu•tion /ˌrɛstə'tu:ʃən, *Brit* ˌrɛstə'tju:ʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal*

1 : the act of returning something that was lost or stolen to its owner ▪ the *restitution* of her stolen property

2 : payment that is made to someone for damage, trouble, etc. ▪ He was ordered to make *restitution* to the victim.

res•tive /'rɛstɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : feeling bored or impatient while waiting for something to happen or change ▪ a *restive* audience ▪ The audience grew/became *restive*.

– **res•tive•ly** *adv* – **res•tive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

rest•less /'rɛstləs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : feeling nervous or bored and tending to move around a lot : not relaxed or calm ▪ *restless* children who can't sit still ▪ The audience was becoming *restless*.

2 : unhappy about a situation and wanting change ▪ He started to feel *restless* and discontent in his job.

3 : having little or no rest or sleep ▪ a *restless* night

– **rest•less•ly** *adv* ▪ They searched *restlessly* for something new to do. ▪ He tossed *restlessly* in bed. – **rest•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *restlessness* of the crowd

re•stock /ri'stɑ:k/ *verb* **-stocks**; **-stocked**; **-stock•ing** [+ *obj*] : to provide a new supply of something to replace what has been used, sold, taken, etc. ▪ We *restocked* the merchandise after the store closed. ▪ The shelves need to be *restocked*. ▪ The pond is *restocked* with trout every spring.

res•to•ra•tion /ˌrɛstə'reɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : the act or process of returning something to its original condition by repairing it, cleaning it, etc. [*noncount*] The building is undergoing *restoration*. [*count*] — often + *of* ▪ They have undertaken a careful *restoration of* the building.

2 *somewhat formal* : the act of bringing back something that existed before — usually + *of* [*noncount*] the *restoration of* peace after war ▪ the *restoration of* law and order by the police [*count*] The town called for a *restoration of* the law.

3 [*count, noncount*] *somewhat formal* : the act of returning something that was stolen or taken — often + *of* ▪ (a) *restoration of* stolen property

4 *the Restoration* : the period in 17th-century English history when Charles II was king after a long period of no king or queen on the throne ▪ The play was written during *the Restoration*. — often used as *Restoration* before another noun ▪ a *Restoration* play

[1]re•stor•ative /rɪ'stɔrətɪv/ *adj, formal* : having the ability to make a person feel strong or healthy again ▪ the *restorative* powers of rest ▪ a *restorative* herb

[2]restorative *noun, pl* **-atives** [*count*] *formal* : something that makes a person feel strong or healthy again ▪ Sleep is a powerful *restorative*.

re•store /rɪ'stoɚ/ *verb* **-stores**; **-stored**; **-stor•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to give back (someone or something that was lost or taken) : to return (someone or something) — often + *to* ▪ The police *restored* the stolen purse *to* its owner. ▪ The police *restored* the lost child *to* her parents.

2 : to put or bring (something) back into existence or use ▪ Surgery will *restore* his hearing. [=surgery will let him hear again] ▪ The police *restored* law and order. ▪ The team's victory has *restored* a sense of pride to the community. [=the team's victory has made the community feel proud again] ▪ The government needs to *restore* confidence in the economy.

3 : to return (something) to an earlier or original condition by repairing it, cleaning it, etc. ▪ The crew is trying to *restore* the old house (to its original condition). ▪ He *restores* old paintings. ▪ an antique car that is being carefully *restored* ▪ newly/recently *restored* churches

4 a : to bring (someone) back to an earlier and better condition — usually + *to* ▪ Her care *restored* the child *to* health. **b** : to put (someone) back in a position — usually + *to* ▪ His allies *restored* the king *to* the throne.

– **re•stor•able** /rɪ'stɔrəbəl/ *adj* ▪ The car is in *restorable* condition. – **re•stor•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ an art *restorer* ▪ a *restorer* of antique furniture

re•strain /rɪ'streɪn/ *verb* **-strains**; **-strained**; **-strain•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to prevent (a person or animal) from doing something ▪ He could not *restrain* the dog from attacking. ▪ I wanted to have another serving, but I somehow *restrained* myself. = I somehow *restrained* myself from having another serving. ▪ He could *restrain* himself no longer.

2 : to prevent (a person or animal) from moving by using physical force ▪ Hospital orderlies needed to *restrain* the patient. ▪ He was *restrained* and placed in a holding cell.

3 : to keep (something) under control ▪ He could barely *restrain* his anger. ▪ The manufacturer took measures to *restrain* costs.

re•strained /rɪ'streɪnd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : showing careful self-control ▪ She was admired for her *restrained* behavior. ▪ a *restrained* smile

2 : not too colorful or fancy ▪ a *restrained* style of architecture ▪ The room was decorated with *restrained* colors.

restraining order *noun, pl* ~ **-ders** [*count*] *US, law* : a legal order saying that someone is not allowed to go near a particular person ▪ The judge issued a *restraining order*. — often + *against* ▪ She took out a *restraining order against* her former husband.

re•straint /rɪ'streɪnt/ *noun, pl* **-straints**

1 [*count*] *somewhat formal* : a way of limiting, controlling, or stopping something — usually plural; often + *on* ▪ The government has placed/put/imposed *restraints on* imports.

2 [*count*] *formal* : a device that limits a person's movement ▪ Make sure the child safety *restraint* is in place. ▪ The prisoner was placed ***in restraints***.

3 [*noncount*] : control over your emotions or behavior ▪ His angry response showed a lack of *restraint*. ▪ The government has acted with *restraint* in dealing with this crisis. ▪ You should exercise *restraint*.

4 [*noncount*] *formal* : physical force that prevents someone from moving ▪ (*US*) She was charged with ***unlawful restraint***. ▪ He was placed ***under restraint***. [=he was restrained]

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re•strict /rɪ'strɪkt/ *verb* **-stricts; -strict•ed; -strict•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to limit the amount or range of (something) ▪ Her eye problem *restricts* her reading. ▪ She was told to *restrict* the amount of salt she uses. ▪ They want to *restrict* access to the beach. [=they want to limit who can use the beach] ▪ The new law *restricts* smoking in public places. ▪ They have accused the government of trying to *restrict* free speech. — often used as *(be) restricted* ▪ Visits *are restricted* to 30 minutes. [=visits cannot be longer than 30 minutes] ▪ The damage from the fire *was restricted* to the rear of the building. [=the rear of the building was the only part damaged by the fire]
2 : to prevent (someone) from doing something ▪ They say the government is trying to *restrict* them from speaking out.
3 : to allow (someone) to only have or do a particular thing — usually + *to* ▪ The doctor *restricted* her *to* a low-fat diet. [=she was only allowed to eat a low-fat diet] ▪ He *restricts* himself *to* one cup of coffee a day. [=he allows himself to have only one cup of coffee a day]

re•strict•ed /rɪ'strɪktəd/ *adj*
1 : having a set limit ▪ Only a *restricted* [=*limited*] number of students will be allowed in the class.
2 [*more ~; most ~*] **:** having definite rules about what or who is allowed and not allowed ▪ He is on a severely/very *restricted* diet. ▪ The beach has *restricted* access. [=only certain people can go on the beach]
3 : allowing use or entry by only certain people ▪ a *restricted* country club ▪ You have entered a *restricted* area.
4 : kept secret from all but a few people : CLASSIFIED ▪ a *restricted* document ▪ That information is *restricted*.

re•stric•tion /rɪ'strɪkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*count*] **:** a law or rule that limits or controls something ▪ Building in that area came with some *restrictions*. ▪ travel *restrictions* ▪ They placed/imposed *restrictions* on smoking indoors. ▪ They will lift/remove export *restrictions*.
2 [*noncount*] **:** the act of limiting or controlling something ▪ illegal *restriction* of free speech

re•stric•tive /rɪ'strɪktɪv/ *adj*
1 [*more ~; most ~*] **:** limiting or controlling someone or something ▪ *restrictive* laws/regulations ▪ a very *restrictive* diet
2 *grammar, of a word or group of words* **:** giving information about a person or thing that is needed to understand which person or thing is meant ▪ In the sentence "The book that you ordered is out of print," "that you ordered" is a ***restrictive clause***. — compare NONRESTRICTIVE

rest•room /'rɛst,ru:m/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] *US* **:** a room in a public place with a sink and toilet : BATHROOM 2 ▪ a public *restroom*

re•struc•ture /ri'strʌkʧɚ/ *verb* **-tures; -tured; -tur•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to change the basic organization or structure of (something) ▪ You should *restructure* this sentence to make its meaning clearer. ▪ The college is *restructuring* its Humanities Department.
– **restructuring** *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count, noncount*] ▪ A *restructuring* of the health-care system is needed.

rest stop *noun, pl* **~ stops** [*count*] *US* **:** REST AREA

1re•sult /rɪ'zʌlt/ *noun, pl* **-sults**
1 : something that is caused by something else that happened or was done before [*count*] The book is the *result* of years of hard work and dedication. ▪ The ***end/final result*** of his work was a classic American novel. ▪ ***As a result of*** [=because of] the accident, he was out of work for three months. ▪ He sprained his wrist and, ***as a result*** [=because of this], he will not be playing in the tournament. ▪ Bad weather caused several delays ***with the result that*** the work was not completed on time. [=the work was not completed on time because bad weather caused delays] [*noncount*] The investigation continued without *result*.
2 [*count*] **a :** the final score or a description of who won and lost in a game, election, etc. ▪ What was the *result* of last night's game? [=who won last night's game?] — often plural ▪ Election *results* will be posted later. ▪ The play-off roster depends on the *results* of tonight's game. **b** *Brit, informal* **:** a win especially in a soccer match — usually singular ▪ After several drawn matches, we finally ***got a result***. [=we finally won]
3 [*count*] *Brit* **:** the grade received on a test or examination — usually plural ▪ Have you gotten your exam *results* yet?
4 [*count*] **:** information that you get from a scientific or medical test ▪ My blood test *result* was fine.
5 *results* [*plural*] **:** something you want that is achieved successfully ▪ We are waiting for the experiment to produce *results*. ▪ This method ***gets results***. [=this method is effective and successful]

2result *verb* **-sults; -sult•ed; -sult•ing** [*no obj*] **:** to happen because of something else that happened or was done before **:** to be caused by something else ▪ If you take this drug, side effects may *result*. — usually + *from* ▪ The fire *resulted from* an explosion.
result in [*phrasal verb*] ***result in (something)*** **:** to cause (something) to happen ▪ The disease *resulted in* his death. **:** to produce (something) as a result ▪ The trial *resulted in* an acquittal.
– **resulting** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ the accident and his *resulting* death

re•sul•tant /rɪ'zʌltn̩t/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal* **:** coming from or caused by something else ▪ She deserves credit for the increase in sales and the *resultant* increase in profit.

re•sume /rɪ'zu:m, *Brit* rɪ'zju:m/ *verb* **-sumes; -sumed; -sum•ing** *formal*
1 : to begin again after stopping [*no obj*] The game *resumed* after the rain stopped. ▪ Negotiations have *resumed*. [+ *obj*] After the rain stopped, the teams *resumed* play. ▪ She sat down and *resumed* her work.
2 [+ *obj*] **:** to take (a seat, place, position, etc.) again **:** to go back to (something) ▪ He shook his visitor's hand and *resumed* his seat. ▪ I *resumed* my place at the podium. ▪ She will be *resuming* her position at the company.

ré•su•mé *or* **re•su•me** *also* **re•su•mé** /'rɛzə,meɪ, *Brit* 'rɛzjʊ,meɪ/ *noun, pl* **-més** *or* **-mes** [*count*]
1 *US* **a :** a short document describing your education, work history, etc., that you give an employer when you are applying for a job ▪ If you would like to be considered for the job, please submit your *résumé*. — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *curriculum vitae* **b :** a list of achievements ▪ His musical *résumé* includes performances at Carnegie Hall, a stint with the New York Philharmonic, and two Grammys.
2 *formal* **:** a short description of things that have happened **:** SUMMARY ▪ a brief *résumé* of the news

re•sump•tion /rɪ'zʌmpʃən/ *noun, formal* **:** an act of starting something again after it has stopped : an act of resuming something — usually + *of* [*singular*] The rain has stopped, but we're still waiting for the *resumption of* the game. [*noncount*] *Resumption of* peace talks is expected soon.

re•sur•face /ri'sɚfəs/ *verb* **-fac•es; -faced; -fac•ing**
1 [*no obj*] **:** to rise to the surface again after being underwater or underground ▪ The submarine *resurfaced*.
2 [*no obj*] **:** to suddenly be found or appear again ▪ A few of the writer's journals have *resurfaced*. ▪ His resentment toward her *resurfaced*.
3 [+ *obj*] **:** to put a new surface on (something) **:** to refinish or repair the surface of (something) ▪ He *resurfaced* the table. ▪ The road needs to be *resurfaced*.

re•sur•gence /rɪ'sɚʤəns/ *noun* **:** a growth or increase that occurs after a period without growth or increase [*singular*] a *resurgence* of interest/popularity [*noncount*] There has been some *resurgence* in economic activity recently.

re•sur•gent /rɪ'sɚʤənt/ *adj, formal* **:** becoming popular, active, or successful again after a period of being less popular, active, or successful ▪ a *resurgent* stock market ▪ a *resurgent* politician

res•ur•rect /,rɛzə'rɛkt/ *verb* **-rects; -rect•ed; -rect•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to bring (a dead person) back to life ▪ The story is about a scientist who claimed that he could *resurrect* the dead.
2 : to cause (something that had ended or been forgotten or lost) to exist again, to be used again, etc. ▪ He is trying to *resurrect* his acting career. ▪ an old government program that is being *resurrected* ▪ Her reputation has been *resurrected*. [=*restored*]

res•ur•rec•tion /,rɛzə'rɛkʃən/ *noun*
1 *in Christianity* **a *the Resurrection*** **:** the event told about in the Bible in which Jesus Christ returned to life after his death **b *the resurrection or the Resurrection*** **:** the event told about in the Bible in which dead people will be brought back to life before the day of final judgment
2 [*singular*] **:** the act of causing something that had ended or been forgotten or lost to exist again, to be used again, etc. ▪ He was enjoying the *resurrection* of his career. ▪ a *resurrection* of an old theory

re•sus•ci•tate /rɪ'sʌsə,teɪt/ *verb* **-tates; -tat•ed; -tat•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to bring (someone who is unconscious, not breathing, or close to death) back to a conscious or active state

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again ▪ The patient stopped breathing but doctors were able to *resuscitate* him. — often used figuratively ▪ He is trying to *resuscitate* his political career.
– **re•sus•ci•ta•tion** /rɪˌsʌsəˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ The patient stopped breathing and required emergency *resuscitation*. — see also CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION, MOUTH-TO-MOUTH RESUSCITATION

ret. *or* **Ret.** *abbr* retired ▪ General Smith, U.S. Army (*Ret.*)

[1]retail /ˈriːˌteɪl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the business of selling things directly to customers for their own use ▪ She has a job in *retail*. — compare WHOLESALE

[2]retail *adj* : relating to the business of selling things directly to customers for their own use ▪ a *retail* establishment/shop/store ▪ the manufacturer's suggested *retail* price [=the price of something when it is sold to the final customer] ▪ Is that price *retail* or wholesale?

[3]retail *adv* : in a store that sells things directly to customers for their own use : from a retailer ▪ You usually have to pay more if you buy something *retail* than if you buy it wholesale. ▪ The product sells *retail* for about $100.

[4]re•tail *verb* **-tails; -tailed; -tail•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to sell (something) to customers for their own use ▪ We *retail* clothing at the best possible prices.
2 [*no obj*] : to be sold to the final customer for a specified price ▪ jewelry that *retails* from $100 — often + *at* ▪ The item *retails at* $59.
3 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to tell (something) to one person after another : to tell (something) again ▪ *retailing* [=*retelling*] gossip

re•tail•er /ˈriːˌteɪlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or business that sells things directly to customers for their own use ▪ The company is a leading *retailer* of women's clothing.

re•tail•ing /ˈriːˌteɪlɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the business of selling things directly to customers for their own use ▪ She works in *retailing*.

retail park *noun, pl* **~ parks** [*count*] *Brit* : a large shopping area that contains many different kinds of stores

retail price index *noun*
the retail price index *Brit* : CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

re•tain /rɪˈteɪn/ *verb* **-tains; -tained; -tain•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*
1 : to continue to have or use (something) : KEEP ▪ A landlord may *retain* part of your deposit if you break the lease. ▪ They insisted on *retaining* old customs. ▪ You will *retain* your rights as a citizen. ▪ The TV show has *retained* its popularity for many years.
2 : to keep (someone) in a position, job, etc. ▪ The company's goal is to attract and *retain* good employees. ▪ The team failed to *retain* him, and he became a free agent.
3 : to pay for the work of (a person or business) ▪ They have decided to *retain* a firm to conduct a survey. ▪ You may need to *retain* an attorney.
4 : to keep (something) in your memory especially for a long period of time ▪ I studied French in college, but I haven't *retained* much of what I learned. ▪ She has a remarkable ability to *retain* odd facts.
5 : to continue to hold (something, such as heat or moisture) as time passes ▪ Topping the soil with mulch will help it to *retain* moisture.

re•tain•er /rɪˈteɪnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers**
1 : an amount of money that you pay to someone (such as a lawyer) to make sure that you will have that person's services when you need them [*count*] They paid a *retainer* to the lawyer. ▪ They have her on a *retainer*. [*noncount*] They have/keep the lawyer ***on retainer***.
2 [*count*] *US* : a device that you put in your mouth to keep your teeth in the correct position especially after you have had braces
3 [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a servant in a wealthy home ▪ a faithful old *retainer*

retaining wall *noun, pl* **~ walls** [*count*] : a wall that is built to keep the land behind it from sliding

[1]re•take /riˈteɪk/ *verb* **-takes; -took** /-ˈtʊk/; **-tak•en** /-ˈteɪkən/; **-tak•ing** [+ *obj*] : to take (something) again ▪ They helped their party *retake* the Senate. ▪ He *retook* the lead close to the finish line. ▪ We will have to *retake* the photograph. ▪ Students can *retake* the test.

[2]re•take /ˈriːˌteɪk/ *noun, pl* **-takes** [*count*]
1 : the act of filming, photographing, or recording something again ▪ The director called for a *retake*.
2 *Brit* : an examination that a student takes again after failing or doing poorly the first time

re•tal•i•ate /rɪˈtæliˌeɪt/ *verb* **-ates; -at•ed; -at•ing** [*no obj*] : to do something bad to someone who has hurt you or treated you badly : to get revenge against someone ▪ After the company announced plans to reduce benefits, the union threatened to *retaliate* by calling for a strike.
– **re•tal•i•a•tion** /rɪˌtæliˈeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] They lived under the threat of *retaliation*. ▪ The union has threatened a strike ***in retaliation for*** the company's plans to reduce benefits. [*count*] a quick *retaliation* – **re•tal•ia•to•ry** /rɪˈtælijəˌtori/ *adj* ▪ *retaliatory* attacks

[1]re•tard /rɪˈtɑɚd/ *verb* **-tards; -tard•ed; -tard•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to slow down the development or progress of (something) ▪ The chemical will *retard* the spread of fire. ▪ The problems have *retarded* the progress of the program.

[2]re•tard /ˈriːˌtɑɚd/ *noun, pl* **-tards** [*count*] *informal + offensive* : a person who has slow mental development; *also* : a stupid or foolish person

re•tar•dant /rɪˈtɑɚdn̩t/ *adj, always used before a noun, technical* : able to slow down the progress or development of something — usually used in combination ▪ flame-*retardant* fabrics [=fabrics that do not catch fire easily]
– **retardant** *noun, pl* **-dants** [*count*] ▪ a fire *retardant*

re•tar•da•tion /ˌriːˌtɑɚˈdeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *old-fashioned + sometimes offensive* : an unusual slowness of mental development ▪ The child suffered severe mental *retardation*.
2 *formal* : an act of slowing down the development or progress of something ▪ The chemical induced a *retardation* of cell growth.

re•tard•ed /rɪˈtɑɚdəd/ *adj, old-fashioned + often offensive* : slow or limited in mental development ▪ mentally *retarded*

retch /ˈrɛtʃ/ *verb* **retch•es; retched; retch•ing** [*no obj*] : to vomit or feel as if you are about to vomit ▪ I nearly *retched*. ▪ The smell made him *retch*. [=*gag*]

re•tell /riˈtɛl/ *verb* **-tells; -told** /-ˈtoʊld/; **-tell•ing** [+ *obj*] : to tell (a story) again especially in a different way ▪ The movie *retells* the story of Romeo and Juliet.
– **retelling** *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] ▪ The story is a *retelling* of a Greek legend.

re•ten•tion /rɪˈtɛnʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal*
1 a : the act of keeping someone or something ▪ the recruitment and *retention* of good employees ▪ the *retention* of profits from all sales **b** : the act of keeping extra liquid, heat, etc., inside the body ▪ pills to offset water *retention* ▪ the *retention* of fluid
2 : the ability to keep something ▪ The fabric has good color *retention*. [=the fabric's colors do not fade]
3 : the ability to remember things easily or for a long time ▪ the *retention* of things learned in school ▪ They say the herb promotes memory *retention*.

re•ten•tive /rɪˈtɛntɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : having the ability to remember things easily or for a long time ▪ a *retentive* mind/memory — see also ANAL-RETENTIVE
– **re•ten•tive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

re•think /riˈθɪŋk/ *verb* **-thinks; -thought** /-ˈθɑːt/; **-think•ing** : to think carefully about (someone or something) again especially in order to change a choice or decision : RECONSIDER [+ *obj*] You had better *rethink* your decision. ▪ The government is *rethinking* its policy. [*no obj*] He took a moment to *rethink*.
– **re•think** /ˈriːˌθɪŋk/ *noun* [*singular*] ▪ The situation calls for a *rethink* of the government's policy. – **rethinking** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The problem demands some careful/serious *rethinking*.

ret•i•cent /ˈrɛtəsənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : not willing to tell people about things ▪ a quiet, *reticent* [=*reserved*] person — often + *about* ▪ He is *reticent about* discussing his past.
– **ret•i•cence** /ˈrɛtəsəns/ *noun* [*noncount*]

ret•i•na /ˈrɛtənə/ *noun, pl* **-nas** [*count*] : the sensitive tissue at the back of the eye that receives images and sends signals to the brain about what is seen
– **ret•i•nal** /ˈrɛtənəl/ *adj, technical* ▪ the *retinal* image ▪ a *retinal* detachment

ret•i•nue /ˈrɛtəˌnuː, *Brit* ˈrɛtəˌnjuː/ *noun, pl* **-nues** [*count*] : a group of helpers, supporters, or followers ▪ the king and his *retinue* ▪ a pop star traveling with his *retinue* ▪ a *retinue* of servants

re•tire /rɪˈtajɚ/ *verb* **-tires; -tired; -tir•ing**
1 a [*no obj*] : to stop a job or career because you have reached the age when you are not allowed to work anymore or do not need or want to work anymore ▪ I want to be healthy when I *retire*. ▪ She plans to *retire* (from her job) in two years. ▪ We plan to *retire* in/to Florida. = We plan to *re-*

tire and move to Florida. ▪ The boxer *retired* undefeated. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone, such as a military officer) to end a job or career — usually used as *(be) retired* ▪ The general *was retired* with honors.

2 [*no obj*] : to stop playing in a game, competition, etc., especially because of injury ▪ She had to *retire* during the first set because of a muscle strain.

3 [+ *obj*] : to take (something) out of use, service, or production ▪ The Navy is *retiring* the old battleship. ▪ The manufacturer plans to *retire* that car model in a few years. ▪ The team is *retiring* his jersey number in honor of his great career.

4 [*no obj*] *formal* : to move *to* a different place ▪ He *retired to* the library to study. ▪ Shall we *retire to* the parlor?

5 [*no obj*] *literary* : to go to bed ▪ She *retired* for the night.

6 [*no obj*] *formal* : to move away from action or danger : RETREAT ▪ The army was forced to *retire* from the battlefield.

7 [+ *obj*] *baseball* : to cause (a batter) to be out ▪ The pitcher *retired* seven batters in a row. ▪ She was *retired* on a fly ball to center field. ▪ He struck out Jones to ***retire the side***. [=to end the inning by getting the final out]

retired *adj* : not working anymore : having ended your working or professional career ▪ elderly *retired* people ▪ She's a *retired* teacher.

re•tir•ee /rɪˌtaɪˈri:/ *noun, pl* **-ees** [*count*] *US* : someone who has permanently stopped working in a job or profession : a person who has retired ▪ a group of elderly *retirees*

[1]re•tire•ment /rɪˈtajəmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 a [*count*] : the act of ending your working or professional career : the act of retiring ▪ She decided to take an early *retirement*. ▪ Many fans were surprised by the champion's *retirement*. ▪ The staff is smaller because of several *retirements*. **b** [*noncount*] : the state of being retired ▪ I'm looking forward to *retirement*. ▪ He is ready for *retirement*. ▪ He ***came out of retirement*** to play baseball again.

2 : the period after you have permanently stopped your job or profession [*noncount*] She has remained very active during *retirement*. [*singular*] The staff all wished her a long and happy *retirement*.

3 [*noncount*] *US* : the age at which a person usually retires ▪ She reaches *retirement* [=(more commonly) *retirement age*] next May.

4 [*noncount*] *US* : money that you receive from a savings plan or pension once you retire from a job or profession ▪ We can't live on his *retirement* alone.

[2]retirement *adj, always used before a noun* : of, relating to, or designed for people who are retired ▪ a *retirement* community [=a place for people who are retired] ▪ *retirement* benefits/age

retirement home *noun, pl* ~ **homes** [*count*] : a place where retired people can live and sometimes be taken care of

retirement plan *noun, pl* ~ **plans** [*count*] *US* : a system for saving money for use during your retirement ▪ My employer offers a good *retirement plan*.

retiring *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : quiet and shy ▪ a shy, *retiring* young woman

2 — used to describe a person who will be retiring from a job or profession soon ▪ A banquet was held to honor the *retiring* senator.

re•tool /riˈtu:l/ *verb* **-tools**; **-tooled**; **-tool•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to change or replace the tools or machines in (a factory, workshop, etc.) ▪ The factory has been *retooled*.

2 *US* : to make changes to (something) in order to improve it [+ *obj*] The company is *retooling* its sales strategies. [*no obj*] The company is *retooling* for the future.

[1]re•tort /rɪˈtoɚt/ *verb* **-torts**; **-tort•ed**; **-tort•ing** [+ *obj*] : to reply to something in a quick and often angry way ▪ "That's not true!" she *retorted*. ▪ She *retorted* angrily that it wasn't true.

[2]retort *noun, pl* **-torts** [*count*] : a quick and often angry reply ▪ He hurled a *retort* at his accuser. ▪ She made a clever *retort*.

re•touch /riˈtʌʧ/ *verb* **-touch•es**; **-touched**; **-touch•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make small changes to (something, such as a photograph) in order to improve the way it looks ▪ The photo had been *retouched* to remove the wrinkles around his eyes. ▪ a *retouched* photograph

– **retouching** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ They did a lot of *retouching* to her picture.

re•trace /riˈtreɪs/ *verb* **-trac•es**; **-traced**; **-trac•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to go back along the same course, path, etc., that you or someone else has taken earlier ▪ *retrace* a path/route ▪ The crew will attempt to *retrace* the last voyage of Captain Cook. ▪ He carefully ***retraced his steps/footsteps*** back to the road.

2 : to find out about and describe (someone's past movements or actions) ▪ Her biographer carefully *retraced* her childhood. ▪ The police are attempting to *retrace* his movements on the night of the robbery.

re•tract /rɪˈtrækt/ *verb* **-tracts**; **-tract•ed**; **-tract•ing**

1 : to pull (something) back into something larger that usually covers it [+ *obj*] A cat can *retract* its claws. ▪ The pilot *retracted* the plane's landing gear. [*no obj*] The plane's landing gear failed to *retract*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to say that something you said or wrote is not true or correct ▪ The newspaper *retracted* [=*withdrew*] the story. ▪ She was forced to *retract* [=*take back*] her statement.

3 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to take back (something, such as an offer or promise) ▪ Their college grants were *retracted*. ▪ They *retracted* the job offer.

– **re•tract•able** /rɪˈtræktəbəl/ *adj* ▪ the plane's *retractable* landing gear ▪ The stadium's roof is *retractable*.

re•trac•tion /rɪˈtrækʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal*

1 [*count*] : a statement saying that something you said or wrote at an earlier time is not true or correct ▪ His charges were false, and he was forced to make/issue a *retraction*.

2 [*noncount*] : the act of moving something back into a larger part that usually covers it : the act of retracting something ▪ the *retraction* of the plane's landing gear

re•train /riˈtreɪn/ *verb* **-trains**; **-trained**; **-train•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to teach (someone) new skills : to train (someone) again ▪ The organization *retrains* people who have lost their jobs.

2 [*no obj*] : to learn new skills especially for a different job ▪ He is *retraining* for another job. ▪ He *retrained* as a mechanic.

re•tread /ˈriːˌtrɛd/ *noun, pl* **-treads** [*count*]

1 : an old tire whose surface has been given a new layer of rubber

2 *US, informal* + *disapproving* : something that uses ideas, stories, etc., that have been used before ▪ The show is just another TV sitcom *retread*.

[1]re•treat /rɪˈtri:t/ *noun, pl* **-treats**

1 : movement by soldiers away from an enemy because the enemy is winning or has won a battle [*noncount*] The forces are now ***in (full) retreat***. [*count*] The army passed through the town on/during its *retreat* (from the battlefield). ▪ He ***sounded/signaled the retreat***. [=made the signal telling soldiers to begin a retreat]

2 [*count, noncount*] : movement away from a place or situation especially because it is dangerous, unpleasant, etc. ▪ Some of her friends were surprised by her *retreat* from public life following her defeat in the election. ▪ He ***made/beat a hasty retreat*** [=he left quickly] when he realized he had entered the wrong office.

3 [*count*] : the act of changing your opinion or position on something because it is unpopular — usually singular ▪ The mayor was forced to make a *retreat* from his earlier position.

4 : the act or process of moving away [*count*] — usually singular ▪ Scientists continue to measure the slow *retreat* of the glacier. ▪ the *retreat* of the floodwaters [*noncount*] Studies show the glaciers are ***in retreat***. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Her political influence has been *in retreat* since the scandal.

5 a [*count*] : a place that is quiet and private ▪ She went to her mountain *retreat* for a quiet weekend. ▪ an idyllic/island/isolated *retreat* **b** : a trip to a place where you can quietly pray, think, study, etc. [*count*] We went on a corporate/spiritual *retreat*. ▪ The church offers *retreats* several times a year. [*noncount*] She went ***on retreat*** for several weeks last year.

[2]retreat *verb* **-treats**; **-treat•ed**; **-treat•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to move back to get away from danger, attack, etc. ▪ When the enemy attacked, our troops were forced to *retreat*. ▪ They *retreated* behind trees for safety.

2 : to move or go away from a place or situation especially because it is dangerous, unpleasant, etc. ▪ He quickly *retreated* from the room. ▪ After her defeat, she *retreated* from politics.

3 : to change your opinion or statement about something because it is unpopular — usually + *from* ▪ The mayor was forced to *retreat from* his original position.

4 : to move backward ▪ As the temperatures warm, the glaciers begin to *retreat*. ▪ The floodwaters are *retreating*.

5 : to go to a place that is quiet and private ▪ They *retreated* into the next room to talk privately.

re•trench /rɪˈtrɛnʧ/ *verb* **-trench•es**; **-trenched**;

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-trench•ing [*no obj*] *formal* : to change the way things are done in order to spend less money ▪ When the economy slowed, the company was forced to *retrench*.
– **re•trench•ment** /rɪ'trɛnʧmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*] ▪ The company is going through a (period of) *retrenchment*.

re•tri•al /ri'trajəl/ *noun, pl* **-als** : a second trial in a court of law in order to make a new judgment on a case that has been judged before [*noncount*] His case is coming up for *retrial*. [*count*] a series of *retrials*

ret•ri•bu•tion /ˌrɛtrə'bju:ʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : punishment for doing something wrong ▪ The killer acted without fear of *retribution*. ▪ ***divine retribution*** [=punishment by God] — often + *for* ▪ They are seeking *retribution for* the killings.
– **re•trib•u•tive** /rɪ'trɪbjətɪv/ *adj* ▪ *retributive* justice

re•triev•al /rɪ'tri:vəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or process of getting and bringing back something : the act or process of retrieving something ▪ the *retrieval* of stolen goods ▪ property *retrieval* ▪ The system allows quick storage and *retrieval* of data.
beyond retrieval **1** : not able to be brought back ▪ The satellite is *beyond retrieval*. ▪ The old data is now *beyond retrieval*. **2** : not able to be corrected, cured, etc. ▪ The patient may be *beyond retrieval*. [=the patient may die; the patient may not be able to be saved] ▪ The situation is *beyond retrieval*.

re•trieve /rɪ'tri:v/ *verb* **-trieves**; **-trieved**; **-triev•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to get and bring (something) back from a place ▪ Many archaeological relics were *retrieved* from the site. ▪ Police *retrieved* his stolen car. **b** : to find and get (information) from a computer or disk ▪ You can quickly *retrieve* data/information. ▪ The files were *retrieved* from the computer. ▪ He was able to *retrieve* the document.
2 : to find and bring birds or animals that have been shot back to a hunter [*no obj*] The dog is learning how to *retrieve*. [+ *obj*] The dog has been trained to *retrieve* birds.
3 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to keep (something) from failing or becoming worse ▪ They were able to *retrieve* [=*save*] the situation. ▪ Can their relationship be *retrieved*? [=*salvaged*]
– **re•triev•able** /rɪ'tri:vəbəl/ *adj* ▪ The data should be *retrievable*.

re•triev•er /rɪ'tri:vɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a dog that is used for retrieving birds or animals that have been shot by a hunter — see also GOLDEN RETRIEVER, LABRADOR RETRIEVER

ret•ro /'rɛtroʊ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : looking like or relating to styles or fashions from the past ▪ the *retro* look in fashion ▪ *retro* music
– **retro** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *Retro* is in.

retro- *prefix* : backward : back ▪ *retro*grade

ret•ro•ac•tive /ˌrɛtroʊ'æktɪv/ *adj, formal* : effective from a particular date in the past ▪ They all received a *retroactive* pay raise. ▪ The new tax will be *retroactive* to January 1.
– **ret•ro•ac•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ The new law will be applied *retroactively*.

ret•ro•fit /ˌrɛtroʊ'fɪt/ *verb* **-fits**; **-fit•ted**; **-fit•ting** [+ *obj*] : to provide (something) with new parts that were not available when it was originally built ▪ The factory has been *retrofitted* to meet the new safety regulations. ▪ We can *retrofit* your car with the new fuel system.

ret•ro•grade /'rɛtrəˌgreɪd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *formal* : returning to an earlier and usually worse state or condition ▪ a *retrograde* policy that would leave more people poorer than they are now
2 *technical* : moving backward ▪ *retrograde* motion

ret•ro•gres•sive /ˌrɛtrə'grɛsɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : causing a return to an earlier and usually worse state ▪ *retrogressive* [=(more commonly) *regressive*] government policies

ret•ro•spect /'rɛtrəˌspɛkt/ *noun*
in retrospect : when thinking about the past or something that happened in the past ▪ *In retrospect*, I made the right decision. ▪ What is interesting *in retrospect* is how wrong our assumptions were.

ret•ro•spec•tion /ˌrɛtrə'spɛkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the act of thinking about the past or something that happened in the past ▪ This is a time of *retrospection* for many people.

1ret•ro•spec•tive /ˌrɛtrə'spɛktɪv/ *adj*
1 : of or relating to the past or something that happened in the past ▪ They issued a *retrospective* report. ▪ a *retrospective* analysis of what went wrong ▪ The museum is having a *retrospective* exhibit of the artist's early works.
2 : effective from a particular date in the past ▪ *retrospective* [=(more commonly) *retroactive*] laws
– **ret•ro•spec•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ Their actions could only be understood *retrospectively*. ▪ The new law will be applied *retrospectively*.

2retrospective *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] : an exhibition of work that an artist has done in the past ▪ The museum is featuring a *retrospective* of Picasso's early works.

re•try /ri'traɪ/ *verb* **-tries**; **-tried**; **-try•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to try (something) again ▪ He *retried* (entering) the password.
2 : to judge (a court case) for a second time ▪ The judge will *retry* the case. ▪ The case will be *retried*.

1re•turn /rɪ'tɚn/ *verb* **-turns**; **-turned**; **-turn•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to come or go to a place again : to come back or go back again ▪ We waited for you to *return*. ▪ She is *returning* home tomorrow. ▪ I'm leaving but will *return* at 2 p.m. ▪ She left home ***never to return***. [=she never went home again] — often + *from* or *to* ▪ No one was home when I *returned from* work. ▪ He *returned from* his trip last night. ▪ I *returned to* Paris 10 years later. ▪ The bird *returns to* this area each spring. ▪ He ***returned to find*** the house empty. [=he returned and found that the house was empty] — see also RETURN TO (below)
2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to bring, give, send, or take (something) to the place that it came from or the place where it should go ▪ I have to *return* a book to the library. ▪ I'm *returning* your ladder. Thanks for letting me borrow it. ▪ *Return* [=*bring*] this application to me when you have filled it out. ▪ Please fill out the application and *return* [=*send*] it to the address below. ▪ She *returned* the gun to its holster. [=she put the gun in its holster] **b** : to bring or send (something that you bought) to the place that it came from because it does not work or fit properly, because it is damaged, etc. ▪ The dishes were broken when they were delivered, so I had to *return* them. ▪ I had to *return* the shirt and get a bigger size. **c** : to bring (empty bottles or cans) to a place that collects them so that they can be used again ▪ I'm going to *return* these bottles and cans (for recycling).
3 [*no obj*] : to happen or exist again ▪ The pain *returned* [=*recurred, came back*] about two hours after I took the pill. ▪ His jealousy *returned* when he saw his ex-wife with her new husband. ▪ Hope has *returned* to the city. [=the city's people are hopeful again]
4 [+ *obj*] : to respond to (something) in the same way ▪ He smiled at her, and she *returned* the smile. [=she smiled at him] ▪ When I told her that she looked beautiful, she *returned* [=*repaid*] the compliment by saying that I looked very handsome. ▪ He never *returned* my phone calls. [=he did not call me back] ▪ Thanks for helping me. I'll be sure to ***return the favor***. [=I will help you when you need help] ▪ When the suspect started shooting, the police were forced to ***return fire***. [=to shoot back at the suspect]
5 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make an official report of (a decision or order) ▪ The jury *returned* a verdict of guilty.
6 [+ *obj*] *tennis* : to hit back (a ball that was hit to you) ▪ He *returned* her serve. ▪ Her serve is difficult to *return*.
7 [+ *obj*] *American football* : to run with the ball after getting it because of a kick, fumble, etc. ▪ He *returned* the ball/kick 50 yards.
8 [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to elect (someone) to office — usually used as *(be) returned* ▪ He *was returned* to Parliament. — often + *as* ▪ She *was returned as* prime minister.
9 [+ *obj*] *finance* : to produce or earn (something, such as a profit or loss) ▪ The investment *returned* a huge profit. ▪ bonds that *return* [=*yield*] five percent annually
return to [*phrasal verb*] ***return to (something)*** **1** : to go to (a place where you work, study, etc.) again after being away for a time ▪ When do you *return to* school? ▪ She hopes to *return to* the office next week. — see also 1RETURN 1 (above) **2** : to start doing or using (something) again especially after a long time ▪ She hopes to *return to* work [=to start working again] next week. ▪ She hopes to *return to* working at home next week. ▪ He *returned to* the old ways of farming. **3** : to start an activity again that relates to (something) ▪ He *returned to* his book [=he started reading his book again] after feeding the cat. ▪ Let's *return to* your first question. [=let's discuss the first question you asked earlier] ▪ He *returned to* football not as a player but as a coach. **4** : to change back to (an earlier or original condition or state) ▪ She soon *returned* [=*reverted*] *to* her old hab-

its. ▪ His breathing ***returned to normal.*** [=his breathing became normal again]

[2]return *noun, pl* **-turns**

1 [*singular*] : the act of coming or going back to the place you started from or to a place where you were before ▪ We are looking forward to your *return*. ▪ We're looking forward to our *return* to Europe. ▪ What is the date of her *return* from Mexico? [=when is she coming back from Mexico?] ▪ ***Upon/on his return*** [=(less formally) when he returned; when he came back], he found a note taped to the door. ▪ The bad weather delayed his ***return home***. [=his return to his home] ▪ I stopped by your house ***on my return home***. [=on my way home] ▪ She became sick ***on her return from*** America. [=she became sick at the time she returned from America]

2 [*singular*] : the act of going back to an activity, job, situation, etc. : the act of starting to do something again after stopping ▪ The team looked forward to his *return* to coaching. ▪ a *return* to the old ways of farming ▪ He managed the team last year, so his ***return as*** a player [=his return to the team as a player and not as a manager] was a surprise.

3 [*singular*] **a** : the fact that something (such as a condition, feeling, or situation) happens again — + *of* ▪ the *return of* peace to the region ▪ Scientists noticed a *return* [=*recurrence*] *of* the disease in the monkeys. ▪ She noticed a *return of* his old habits. ▪ the *return of* spring **b** : the fact that someone or something changes *to* a condition or state that existed before ▪ the department's *return to* normal ▪ The people celebrated their leader's *return to* power.

4 [*singular*] : the act of taking someone or something back to the proper place — + *of* ▪ The police arranged for the *return of* the stolen goods. [=for the goods to be taken to the place they were stolen from] ▪ The mother demanded a ***safe return*** *of* her child. [=demanded that her child would be brought back to her and not be hurt]

5 a [*count*] : something that is brought or sent back to a store or business because it does not work or fit properly, is damaged, is not needed, etc. ▪ The store does not accept *returns* more than 30 days after purchase. **b** ***returns*** [*plural*] *chiefly US* : empty cans or bottles that are brought back to a store so that they can be used again

6 *finance* : the profit from an investment or business [*count*] Investors are promised a *return*. ▪ The company had poor *returns* last year. — often + *on* ▪ He received a large *return on* his investment. [=he made a lot of money on his investment] [*noncount*] The stock has had a high rate of *return*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Her son's success in college was an excellent *return* on her investment. ▪ She expected some *return* from the company for all her years of loyal service.

7 *returns* [*plural*] : a report of the results of voting ▪ election *returns*

8 [*count*] : a report that you send to the government about the money that you have earned and the taxes that you have paid in one year ▪ He has copies of his *returns* for the last 15 years. ▪ We filed our ***(income) tax return***. [=we sent our tax return to the government] ▪ He filed his 2007 *tax return* in February of 2008.

9 [*count*] *sports* : the act of returning a ball ▪ (*tennis*) She hit a powerful *return*. [=she hit back the ball that was served to her very hard] ▪ (*American football*) a 50-yard kickoff/punt/fumble *return* [=a 50-yard run with the ball after getting it on a kickoff/punt/fumble]

10 [*count*] *Brit* : a ticket for a trip that takes you to a place and back to the place you started from : a round-trip ticket ▪ One *return* is often less expensive than buying two one-way tickets. ▪ a ***day return*** [=a reduced-price ticket for traveling to a place and back on the same day]

by return *or* ***by return of post*** *Brit* : immediately by mail ▪ I replied *by return of post*. ▪ I wrote you *by return*.

happy returns *old fashioned* — used for wishing someone a happy birthday and to express the hope that he or she will live to celebrate many more birthdays in the future ▪ They wished me (many) *happy returns*.

in return : in payment or exchange ▪ He helps out and expects nothing *in return*. ▪ He will not help unless he gets something *in return*. ▪ The prisoner told the police who had ordered the killing. *In return*, his sentence was reduced by two years. — often + *for* ▪ I will lend you the money *in return for* a favor. ▪ He worked *in return for* a free meal.

– see also POINT OF NO RETURN

[3]return *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : used in or taken for returning to a place ▪ a *return* flight/trip ▪ the *return* road ▪ a ***return envelope*** [=an envelope that has an address on it and that you can use to mail something back to the person who sent it to you]

2 : happening or done for the second time ▪ a *return* visit

3 *chiefly Brit* : used or paying for a trip that takes you to a place and back to the place you started from ▪ a *return* [=(*US*) *round-trip*] ticket/fare

re•turn•able /rɪˈtɚnəbəl/ *adj*

1 : allowed to be exchanged for a small amount of money at a place that collects empty bottles and cans so that they can be used again ▪ *returnable* bottles/cans

2 : allowed to be returned ▪ Sale items are not *returnable*.

return address *noun, pl* ~ **-dress•es** [*count*] : an address on an envelope or package that shows where the envelope or package should be returned to if it cannot be delivered — see picture at MAIL

re•turn•ee /rɪˌtɚˈni:/ *noun, pl* **-ees** [*count*] : someone who returns to a place or activity; *especially* : someone who returns to a country after being in another country in prison, in military service, etc.

re•turn•er /rɪˈtɚnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 *Brit* : someone who goes back to work after not working for a long period of time

2 *American football* : a player who returns a punt or kickoff ▪ a punt *returner*

return game *noun, pl* ~ **games** [*count*] : a second game played between the same players or teams — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *return match*

returning officer *noun, pl* ~ **-cers** [*count*] *Brit* : an official who organizes an election and announces the result

return mail *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : mail that answers or responds to something ▪ We received a lot of *return mail* after the announcement. ▪ Fill out the enclosed form and send it back ***by return mail***. [=(*Brit*) *by return of post*] [=immediately; as soon as possible]

Reu•ben /ˈru:bən/ *noun, pl* **-bens** [*count*] *US* : a grilled sandwich that is made from a kind of sliced beef (called corned beef), cheese, and prepared sour cabbage (called sauerkraut)

re•uni•fy /riˈju:nəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** : to make (something, such as a divided country) whole again : to unify (something) again [+ *obj*] Our goal is to *reunify* [=*reunite*] this family by returning the children to their parents. — often used as *(be) reunified* ▪ East and West Germany *were reunified* in 1990. [*no obj*] Germany *reunified* in 1990.

– **re•uni•fi•ca•tion** /riˌju:nəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *reunification* of Germany – **reunified** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *reunified* Germany

re•union /riˈju:njən/ *noun, pl* **-unions** [*count*]

1 : an act of getting people together again after they have been apart : an act of reuniting ▪ an emotional *reunion* between mother and son ▪ He dreamed of a *reunion* with his son.

2 : an organized gathering of people who have not been together for a long time ▪ We attended a ***family reunion***. [=a usually large gathering for family members] ▪ (*US*) a ***high school reunion*** [=a *reunion* of people who studied at a high school at the same time] ▪ (*US*) Are you going to our 20th ***class reunion***? [=a *reunion* of the people who graduated with us 20 years ago]

re•unite /ˌri:juˈnaɪt/ *verb* **-unites**; **-unit•ed**; **-unit•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to bring (people or things) together again especially after they have been apart for a long time ▪ The police *reunited* the woman and her son. ▪ We need a candidate who can *reunite* the party. — often + *with* ▪ The police *reunited* her *with* her son. — often used as *(be) reunited* ▪ She *was reunited with* her son.

2 [*no obj*] : to be together again after being apart for a long time ▪ The band *reunited* for a special concert.

re–up /riˈʌp/ *verb* **-ups**; **-upped**; **-up•ping** *US, informal*

1 [*no obj*] : to officially agree to stay in the military, on a team, with a company, etc., for an additional period of time ▪ When war broke out last year, many soldiers *re-upped*. ▪ The team's top scorer has *re-upped* for another three years.

2 [+ *obj*] : to officially agree or persuade someone to officially agree that an existing arrangement will continue for an additional period of time ▪ Now I have to decide if I should *re-up* [=*renew*] my lease/contract. ▪ The team wants to *re-up* their star player for another two years.

re•use /riˈju:z/ *verb* **-us•es**; **-used**; **-us•ing** [+ *obj*] : to use (something) again ▪ I can *reuse* that container.

– **re•use** /riˈju:s/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *reuse* of packing materials as insulation ▪ The motor oil has been processed for *reuse*. – **re•us•able** /riˈju:zəbəl/ *adj* ▪ *reusable* containers

R

[1]rev /ˈrɛv/ *verb* **revs**; **revved**; **rev•ving** [+ *obj*] : to cause (an engine) to run more quickly : to increase the revolutions per minute of (a motor in a vehicle) • She sat in the car and *revved* the engine [=she pressed the car's accelerator when the engine was on but the car was not in gear] while she waited for us. — often + *up* • He *revved up* the motorcycle by making adjustments to its engine.

rev up [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1** : to become more active • The campaign is *revving up*. **2** ***rev (someone or something) up or rev up (someone or something)*** : to make (someone or something) more active or effective • Big business spending is *revving up* the economy. • The company is getting *revved up* for the launch of its new product line. — see also REVVED UP

[2]rev *noun, pl* **revs** [*count*] *informal* : a complete turn of an engine part : REVOLUTION — usually plural • a motor with a speed of 5,000 ***revs per minute***

Rev. (*US*) *or Brit* **Rev** *or Brit* **Revd** *abbr* reverend • *Rev.* Antonio Weiss • the *Revd* Peter Smith

re•val•ue /riˈvælju/ *verb* **-ues**; **-ued**; **-u•ing**

1 *finance* : to change the value of a country's money so that it is worth less or more when it is traded for another country's money [+ *obj*] Three of the nations are expected to *revalue* their currencies soon. [*no obj*] Most analysts predict that the country will *revalue* before the end of the year.

2 [+ *obj*] : to make a new judgment about the value of (something, such as a house or an investment) • Under state law, the town is required to *revalue* [=*reassess*] residential properties every five years.

– **re•val•u•a•tion** /riˌvæljəˈweɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

re•vamp /riˈvæmp/ *verb* **-vamps**; **-vamped**; **-vamp•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) better or like new again • The company has *revamped* the design of its best-selling car. • They are *revamping* [=*renovating*] the old house.

– **revamp** *or* **revamping** *noun, pl* **-vamps** *or* **-vampings** [*count*] — usually singular • They gave the car's design a *revamp*. • a complete *revamping* [=*reorganization*] of our department

re•veal /rɪˈviːl/ *verb* **-veals**; **-vealed**; **-veal•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to make (something) known • She would not *reveal* the secret. • The test *revealed* the true cause of death. • It was *revealed* that they stole over $1 million. • They *revealed* the plans for the new building. — opposite CONCEAL **b** : to show or prove that (someone) is a particular type of person — often + *to be* • The book *reveals* him *to be* an expert at chess. • She *revealed* herself *to be* a talented pianist. — often + *as* • She *revealed* the reporter *as* a liar.

2 : to show (something) plainly or clearly : to make (something that was hidden) able to be seen • The expression on his face *revealed* how he felt. • The curtain was lifted to *reveal* the grand prize. • Pulling up the carpeting *revealed* the home's beautiful hardwood floors. — opposite CONCEAL

re•veal•ing /rɪˈviːlɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : giving information about something that was not known before • The book is a *revealing* account of being part of a gang. • Her comments about her childhood were *revealing*.

2 : showing parts of the body that are usually hidden from view • She wore a very *revealing* shirt. • That skirt is much too *revealing*.

– **re•veal•ing•ly** *adv* • The actor talked *revealingly* about his life.

rev•eil•le /ˈrɛvəli, *Brit* rɪˈvæli/ *noun* [*noncount*] *military* : a signal given on a musical instrument (such as a bugle or drum) in the early morning to call soldiers or sailors to duty • He awoke at *reveille*.

[1]rev•el /ˈrɛvəl/ *verb* **rev•els**; *US* **rev•eled** *or Brit* **rev•elled**; *US* **rev•el•ing** *or Brit* **rev•el•ling**

revel in [*phrasal verb*] ***revel in (something)*** : to enjoy (something) very much • She *reveled in* her success. • He *reveled in* other people's misfortune.

[2]revel *noun, pl* **-els** [*count*] *literary* + *old-fashioned* : a noisy and wild celebration — usually plural • holiday *revels*

rev•e•la•tion /ˌrɛvəˈleɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : a usually secret or surprising fact that is made known • The book includes many shocking/startling *revelations* about the mayor's personal life. • damaging personal *revelations* • The *revelation* that she was a drug user was not a surprise to me.

2 [*count*] : an act of making something known : an act of revealing something in usually a surprising way • *Revelations* by the newspaper caused a scandal. — often + *of* • His outburst was a *revelation of* his true character. • The *revelation of* her gambling problem followed her bankruptcy.

3 [*singular*] : something that surprises you • Her talent ***came as a revelation***. [=was completely unexpected] — often + *to* • The movie was a *revelation to* me. I didn't know he was such a good actor.

4 : a sign or message from God [*count*] a divine *revelation* [*noncount*] a prophecy made known by *revelation*

re•ve•la•to•ry /ˈrɛvələˌtori, *Brit* ˌrɛvəˈleɪtri/ *adj, formal* : making something known : revealing something in usually a surprising way • a *revelatory* experience/biography

rev•el•er (*US*) *or Brit* **rev•el•ler** /ˈrɛvələ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who is celebrating with other people in usually a wild and noisy way : a person who is taking part in revelry • The streets were crowded with *revelers* on New Years Eve.

rev•el•ry /ˈrɛvəlri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** : a wild and noisy celebration [*count*] a drunken *revelry* [*noncount*] a night of *revelry*

[1]re•venge /rɪˈvɛnʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the act of doing something to hurt someone because that person did something that hurt you • an act of *revenge* • She swore that she would have her *revenge*. • She wants *revenge* against her enemies. • He got his *revenge*. • *revenge* attacks/killings • He swore to ***take (his) revenge on*** his enemies. [=to harm his enemies] • He is ***seeking revenge for*** his father's murder. [=he wants to harm the person who killed his father] • The bombing was ***in revenge for*** the assassination of their leader.

2 : the act of defeating an opponent who has defeated you in the past • The team is seeking *revenge for* the loss earlier in the season.

– **re•venge•ful** /rɪˈvɛnʤfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

[2]revenge *verb* **-veng•es**; **-venged**; **-veng•ing**

revenge yourself on *formal* : to do something to hurt (someone who has hurt you) : to take revenge on (someone) • She vowed to *revenge herself on* her father's killer.

rev•e•nue /ˈrɛvəˌnuː, *Brit* ˈrɛvəˌnjuː/ *noun, pl* **-nues** *finance*

1 : money that is made by or paid to a business or an organization [*noncount*] The factory lost *revenue* because of the strike by the workers. • The company receives millions of dollars in advertising *revenue*. [=money paid by advertisers] • The firm is looking for another source of *revenue*. [*plural*] advertising and sales *revenues*

2 : money that is collected for public use by a government through taxes [*noncount*] Government officials have reported a decrease in *revenue*. [*plural*] state and federal ***tax revenues*** — see also INLAND REVENUE, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

re•ver•ber•ate /rɪˈvəbəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [*no obj*] *somewhat formal*

1 : to continue in a series of quickly repeated sounds that bounce off a surface (such as a wall) • Her voice *reverberated* [=*echoed*] throughout the stadium. — often used figuratively • The effects of that event still *reverberate* today.

2 : to become filled with a sound • The room *reverberated* [=*echoed, rang*] with laughter.

re•ver•ber•a•tion /rɪˌvəbəˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 *somewhat formal* : a sound that echoes [*count*] the *reverberations* of her voice [*noncount*] Although the room was very big, her voice could be heard with little *reverberation*.

2 [*count*] : an effect or result that is not wanted — usually plural • The *reverberations* [=*repercussions*] of his actions will be felt for years to come. • economic/political *reverberations*

re•vere /rɪˈviɚ/ *verb* **-veres**; **-vered**; **-ver•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to have great respect for (someone or something) : to show devotion and honor to (someone or something) • The family *reveres* old traditions. — often + *as* • The town *reveres* him *as* a hero. — often used as *(be) revered* • He *is revered as* a hero. • Her poems *are revered* by other poets.

rev•er•ence /ˈrɛvərəns/ *noun, formal* : honor or respect that is felt for or shown to (someone or something) [*noncount*] Her poems are treated with *reverence* by other poets. — often + *for* • a feeling of *reverence for* tradition [*singular*] Their religion has/shows a deep *reverence for* nature.

rev•er•end /ˈrɛvərənd/ *noun, pl* **-ends** [*count*] : a priest or minister in the Christian church

Reverend *adj, always used before a noun* — used as a title for a priest or minister in the Christian church • We welcome *Reverend John Smith* as our guest. — often used after *the* • *the Reverend* Mr. Smith • *the Reverend* John Smith — abbr. *Rev.* or (*Brit*) *Revd*

Reverend Mother *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a woman who

is the head of a convent : MOTHER SUPERIOR ▪ I will ask the *Reverend Mother* what to do. — often used as a form of address ▪ Good morning, *Reverend Mother*.

rev•er•ent /'rɛvərənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : showing a lot of respect : very respectful ▪ a *reverent* crowd of worshippers ▪ a *reverent* tone of voice — opposite IRREVERENT

– **rev•er•ent•ly** *adv* ▪ They all spoke of her *reverently*.

rev•er•en•tial /ˌrɛvə'rɛnʃəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : showing or having a lot of respect : REVERENT ▪ a *reverential* attitude

– **rev•er•en•tial•ly** *adv*

rev•er•ie /'rɛvəri/ *noun, pl* **-er•ies** *formal + literary* : a state in which you are thinking about pleasant things [*count*] I drifted into a *reverie*. [=*daydream*] [*noncount*] He was lost in *reverie*. [=he was daydreaming]

re•ver•sal /rɪ'vəsəl/ *noun, pl* **-sals** : a change to an opposite state, condition, decision, etc. [*count*] In a sudden *reversal*, the mayor has decided not to run for reelection. ▪ the *reversal* of a decision/position/policy ▪ a surprising/sudden *reversal* in the value of the stock ▪ We had a ***role reversal***. I became the leader and he became the follower. ▪ In a ***reversal of roles***, he is now taking care of his mother. [*noncount*] *Reversal* of the decision is unlikely. ✧ *Reversal* often means a change to a worse state or condition. ▪ He suffered a financial *reversal*. ▪ The company had a complete ***reversal of fortune*** and went bankrupt.

[1]re•verse /rɪ'vəs/ *verb* **-vers•es; -versed; -vers•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to change (something) to an opposite state or condition ▪ Our roles as caregiver and patient have been *reversed*. [=*switched*] ▪ The runners *reversed* their direction on the track. ▪ The Supreme Court *reversed* [=*overturned*] the decision. ▪ The college is trying to *reverse* the decline in applicants. [=the college is trying to get more people to apply] ▪ ***Had our situations been reversed*** [=if I had been in the situation that you were in], I would have done things differently.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something, such as a process) to stop or return to an earlier state ▪ We cannot *reverse* [=*undo*] the damage that is already done. ▪ The medicine may *reverse* the course of this disease. [=the medicine may stop this disease from getting worse] ▪ There is no way to *reverse* the aging process. ▪ The operation cannot be *reversed*. [=*undone*] ▪ Can anything ***reverse the trend*** toward higher prices?

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to change the order or position of (two things or a series) ▪ *Reverse* the "i" and "e" in "recieve" to spell "receive" correctly. ▪ My mother and I *reversed* our roles. Now I'm taking care of her. ▪ We're going to *reverse* our usual order and start with Z. **b** : to switch the positions of the top and bottom or the front and back of (something) ▪ You need to *reverse* the paper [=to turn the paper around] in the printer so that the letterhead is up. ▪ *Reverse* that painting [=turn that painting over] so that I can see the back.

4 *chiefly Brit* : to drive (a vehicle) backward [+ *obj*] *Reverse* [=(*US*) *back, back up*] the car into/out of the parking space. [*no obj*] *Reverse* [=(*US*) *back, back up*] into/out of the parking space. ▪ The car *reversed*. [=(*US*) *backed up*]

reverse the charges *or* ***reverse the charge*** *Brit* : to arrange to have the cost of a phone call paid by the person who is called ▪ He telephoned and *reversed the charges*. [=(*US*) he called collect]

reverse yourself *US, formal* : to change your decision or opinion about something ▪ The mayor has *reversed himself* on the issue of raising taxes.

[2]reverse *noun, pl* **-verses**

1 ***the reverse*** : something that is opposite to something else ▪ The river flows south to north, rather than *the reverse*. [=north to south] ▪ Women may play in the men's league, but not *the reverse*. [=but men cannot play in the women's league] ▪ I thought she would like the movie, but actually ***the reverse was true***. [=she didn't like the movie] ▪ You don't owe me any money. If anything, *the reverse is true*. [=I owe you money] ▪ "Did you think it would be difficult?" "***Quite the reverse***. [=*quite the contrary*] I thought it would be easy." — often + *of* ▪ The ending of the book was *the reverse of* what I expected.

2 ***the reverse*** : the back side of a coin, document, etc. ▪ The building appears on *the reverse* of the coin. ▪ Please sign your name on *the reverse*.

3 [*noncount*] : REVERSE GEAR ▪ I put the car ***in/into reverse*** and backed out of the garage. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The economy seems to be stuck *in reverse*. [=the economy is continuing to get worse]

4 [*count*] *formal* : a change that makes something worse ▪ The loss of their support was a serious *reverse* for the project. — usually plural ▪ The company has had some financial *reverses*. [=*setbacks*]

5 [*count*] *American football* : a play in which one player gives the ball to another player who is moving in the opposite direction

in reverse **1 a** : in an order in which the last part is first and the first part is last : BACKWARD ▪ In her latest film, the story is told *in reverse*. We see the main character as an adult in the beginning and as a child at the end. ▪ The winners were called *in reverse* from last place to first place. **b** : in a way that is opposite to what is normal or to what happened earlier ▪ Ten years ago, American tourists flocked to Europe. But now that the dollar is weak, we have the same situation *in reverse*. Europeans are coming to the U.S. in record numbers. **2** : toward an opposite or worse state or condition ▪ The talks between the labor union and workers seem to be moving *in reverse*.

into reverse : into an opposite state or condition ▪ The decrease in profit has been put *into reverse*. ▪ The economy has gone *into reverse*. [=*has gotten worse*]

[3]reverse *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : opposite to what is usual or stated ▪ Can you say the alphabet in *reverse* order? ▪ The wheel will not turn in the *reverse* [=*other*] direction. ▪ The drug is used to lower blood pressure but may have the *reverse* effect in some patients.

2 : opposite to the front ▪ Please sign your name on the *reverse* [=*back*] side.

reverse–charge *adj, Brit* : [2]COLLECT ▪ a *reverse-charge* phone call

reverse discrimination *noun* [*noncount*] : the practice of making it more difficult for a certain type of person (such as a white man) to get a job, to go to a school, etc., because other people who were treated unfairly in the past are now being given an advantage ▪ He claimed that *reverse discrimination* was to blame for his unemployment.

reverse engineer *verb* ~ **-neers**; ~ **-neered**; ~ **-neering** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to study the parts of (something) to see how it was made and how it works so that you can make something that is like it ▪ They *reverse engineered* the software.

– **reverse engineering** *noun* [*noncount*]

reverse gear *noun, pl* ~ **gears** : a part (called a gear) that makes a motor move a vehicle in a backward direction [*noncount*] Put the car ***in/into reverse gear***. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The economy seems to be stuck *in reverse gear*. [=the economy seems to be getting worse] [*count*] — usually singular ▪ The tractor does not have a *reverse gear*.

reverse mortgage *noun, pl* ~ **-gages** [*count*] *chiefly US, finance* : a legal agreement in which a bank pays you an amount of money equal to the part of your home's value that you actually own, and you agree that when you sell your home or when you move or die, that amount of money plus interest will be paid to the bank

reverse psychology *noun* [*noncount*] : a method of getting someone to do what you want by pretending not to want it or by pretending to want something else

re•vers•ible /rɪ'vəsəbəl/ *adj*

1 a : able to be changed back to an earlier or original state ▪ a *reversible* chemical reaction **b** : able to be stopped and not causing permanent damage or changes ▪ Some diseases are *reversible*. ▪ Fortunately, the damage is *reversible*. — opposite IRREVERSIBLE

2 a : having two sides that can be used ▪ *reversible* fabrics ▪ The rug is *reversible*. **b** : able to be worn with either side facing outward ▪ This coat is *reversible*.

– **re•vers•ibil•i•ty** /rɪˌvəsə'bɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

re•ver•sion /rɪ'vəʒən, *Brit* rɪ'və:ʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 *technical + formal* : an act or process of returning to an earlier condition or state — usually + *to* [*count*] — usually singular ▪ a *reversion to* a primitive state ▪ a *reversion to* old customs/habits [*noncount*] His photos document the land's *reversion to* swamp.

2 [*count, noncount*] *law* : the returning of property to a former owner or to a person who received the right to it when the former owner died ▪ the *reversion* of the estate

re•vert /rɪ'vət/ *verb* **-verts; -vert•ed; -vert•ing**

revert to [*phrasal verb*] ***revert to (something)*** **1** : to go back or return to (an earlier state, condition, situation, etc.) ▪ She has *reverted* (back) *to* her old habits. ▪ My blood pressure has ***reverted to normal***. [=has returned to normal; has

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become normal again] ▪ After playing badly in the last two games, he seems to have ***reverted to form***. [=he is now playing as well as he usually does] ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) After this one atypical comedy, will he ***revert to type*** [=will he do what he usually does] in his next film? **2** ***revert to (someone or something)*** *law, of property* : to be given to (a former owner or a former owner's heir) ▪ The estate *reverted to* a distant cousin.

[1]re•view /rɪ'vju:/ *noun, pl* **-views**

1 : an act of carefully looking at or examining the quality or condition of something or someone : examination or inspection [*count*] Changes to the building had to be made after the *review* by the safety inspectors. — often + *of* ▪ a *review of* the case ▪ a *review of* their research/evidence ▪ a *review of* the policy/rules/regulations ▪ I was disappointed with my ***salary/pay review***. [=a review of an employee's work and performance by an employer to decide by how much his or her pay or salary should be increased] [*noncount*] After hours of *review*, the committee made its decision. ▪ a *review* board/committee ▪ The medical records were sent to the doctor ***for review***. ▪ The grant application is ***up for review***. [=the application for the grant will be looked at] ▪ The book/policy/ruling is ***under review***. [=is being reviewed] ▪ (*formal*) ***On review of*** [=after reviewing] the evidence, the jury finds the defendant guilty. ▪ ***Upon further review*** of your situation [=after spending more time looking at and thinking about your situation], we have decided to grant your request. ▪ The decision is ***subject to review*** by a higher authority. [=the decision might be studied and then changed by someone who has more power] — see also PEER REVIEW

2 a : a report that gives someone's opinion about the quality of a book, performance, product, etc. [*count*] I read the book/film *reviews* in the newspaper. ▪ *Reviews* of the play were good. [=the people who wrote the reviews liked the play] ▪ Critics gave the new album mixed *reviews*. [=some critics liked the album, while other critics did not] ▪ a favorable *review* ▪ The movie received ***rave reviews***. [=reviews that say it is excellent] [*noncount*] Copies of the book were sent to critics ***for review***. = ***Review copies*** of the book were sent to critics. [=copies of the book were sent to critics so that they could read it and then write reviews about it] ▪ The educational software was sent to teachers *for review*. **b** [*count*] : a magazine filled mostly with reviews and articles that describe the writer's thoughts or opinions about a subject — often used in titles ▪ He wrote an article for *The Annual Review of Biology*. ▪ *The Western New England Law Review*

3 [*count*] : a class, a book, an article, etc., that studies or describes something (such as events from a particular time) : SURVEY — usually + *of* ▪ a *review of* 19th-century American art ▪ a *review of* the year's major events ▪ The seminar is a *review of* the writer's career.

4 *US* : the act of studying information that was studied before [*count*] The teacher allowed one more *review* of our notes before the test. [*noncount*] I haven't done enough *review* [=(*Brit*) *revision*] for the exam.

5 [*count*] *military* : a formal inspection by officers of high rank or by an important person ▪ a *review* of the cadets

Do not confuse *review* with *revue*.

[2]review *verb* **-views**; **-viewed**; **-view•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to look at or examine (something) carefully especially before making a decision or judgment ▪ Scientists are *reviewing* the results of the study. ▪ I need time to *review* the situation. ▪ The ruling will be *reviewed* by the Supreme Court. ▪ The committee *reviewed* the applications/regulations. ▪ The television show will *review* last year's major events. **b** *US* : to study or look at (something) again [+ *obj*] She *reviewed* her notes for the speech. ▪ Please *review* [=*go over, check*] your answers before handing in your test. ▪ I need to *review* [=(*Brit*) *revise*] chemistry. [*no obj*] Students were given time to *review* [=(*Brit*) *revise*] for the test. **c** [+ *obj*] : to describe or show (a series of things or events from the past) ▪ The television show will *review* last year's major events. ▪ The biography *reviewed* her accomplishments.

2 [+ *obj*] : to report on or judge the quality of a book, show, product, etc. ▪ Critics have not yet *reviewed* the movie/play. ▪ The book/album/car was *reviewed* in this magazine.

3 [+ *obj*] *military* : to make an official inspection of (someone or something) ▪ The President *reviewed* the troops.

– **re•view•er** /rɪ'vju:wɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ the newspaper's movie/book *reviewer*

re•vile /rɪ'vajəl/ *verb* **-viles**; **-viled**; **-vil•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to speak about (someone or something) in a very critical or insulting way ▪ Many people *reviled* him for his callous behavior. — usually used as *(be) reviled* ▪ The committee's decision *was reviled* by reporters. ▪ The policy *was* ***reviled as*** racist. [=people said that the policy was racist]

re•vise /rɪ'vaɪz/ *verb* **-vis•es**; **-vised**; **-vis•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to make changes especially to correct or improve (something) ▪ Please *revise* this essay. ▪ We have to *revise* our plans because of the delays. ▪ I would like to *revise* my estimate. ▪ You need to buy the *revised* [=corrected and updated] edition of the textbook.

2 *Brit* : to study (something) again [+ *obj*] She *revised* [=(*US*) *reviewed*] chemistry. [*no obj*] I need to *revise* [=(*US*) *review*] for the exam.

re•vi•sion /rɪ'vɪʒən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 : a change or a set of changes that corrects or improves something [*count*] This edition is filled with *revisions*. ▪ A *revision* of the theory will be necessary. ▪ They made *revisions* to the book. [*noncount*] The essay needs *revision*. ▪ The teacher gave me some suggestions for *revision*.

2 [*count*] : a new version of something : something (such as a piece of writing or a song) that has been corrected or changed ▪ This is the original version, not the *revision*. ▪ Here is my *revision* of the paragraph.

3 [*noncount*] *Brit* : study of information that was studied before ▪ Have you done enough *revision* [=(*US*) *review*] for the exam?

re•vi•sion•ism /rɪ'vɪʒəˌnɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal + often disapproving* : support of ideas and beliefs that differ from and try to change accepted ideas and beliefs especially in a way that is seen as wrong or dishonest ▪ She rejects the author's historical *revisionism*. [=the author's new interpretation of history]

– **re•vi•sion•ist** /rɪ'vɪʒənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] – **revisionist** *adj* ▪ a *revisionist* argument/view

re•vis•it /ri'vɪzət/ *verb* **-its**; **-it•ed**; **-it•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to go to (a place) again especially after a long period of time ▪ He *revisited* his old house. ▪ The police *revisited* the crime scene.

2 : to think about or look at (something) again ▪ The police *revisited* the case of the unsolved murder. ▪ The book/idea is worth *revisiting*. ▪ The judge said that he will *revisit* [=*reconsider*] his decision.

re•vi•tal•ize *also Brit* **re•vi•tal•ise** /ri'vaɪtəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) active, healthy, or energetic again ▪ The mayor hopes to *revitalize* the city. ▪ This shampoo *revitalized* my hair. [=made my hair look healthy] ▪ The drink *revitalized* me. [=made me feel full of energy]

– **re•vi•tal•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **re•vi•tal•i•sa•tion** /riˌvaɪtələ'zeɪʃən, *Brit* riˌvaɪtəˌlaɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] economic *revitalization* ▪ *revitalization* efforts/plans [*singular*] a *revitalization* of the city

re•viv•al /rɪ'vaɪvəl/ *noun, pl* **-als**

1 [*count*] : a period in which something becomes popular again after a long period of time ▪ a jazz *revival* ▪ a *revival* of biographical writing ▪ a *revival* in Gothic architecture ▪ Fashions from the 1970s are ***enjoying a revival***.

2 : the growth of something or an increase in the activity of something after a long period of no growth or activity [*count*] — usually singular ▪ After four slow years, our business is seeing a *revival*. ▪ the recent ***revival of interest*** in mythology [*noncount*] The city is showing signs of *revival*.

3 [*count*] : the showing of a play, a movie, etc., to the public usually many years after it was last shown : a new production of an old show ▪ There are three musical *revivals* on Broadway this season. ▪ The opera company is staging a *revival* of Verdi's *Don Carlos*.

4 [*count*] *US, religion* : REVIVAL MEETING

re•viv•al•ist /rɪ'vaɪvəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

1 *religion* : someone who organizes and leads a revival meeting

2 *formal* : someone who uses or practices something that was popular in the past ▪ a musical *revivalist*

– **re•viv•al•ism** /rɪ'vaɪvəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ religious *revivalism* – **revivalist** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *revivalist* preacher/movement

revival meeting *noun, pl* ~ **-ings** [*count*] : a meeting or series of meetings led by a preacher to make people interested in a Christian religion — called also (*US*) *revival*

re•vive /rɪ'vaɪv/ *verb* **-vives**; **-vived**; **-viv•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) strong, healthy, or active again ▪ The doctors were trying to *revive*

the patient. [=to make the unconscious patient conscious again] ▪ Visiting my old house has *revived* [=*brought back*] childhood memories. ▪ The water *revived* [=*refreshed*] the flowers. ▪ The success of the movie has *revived* her career. ▪ The government is trying to *revive* the economy. ▪ Our spirits were *revived* by his enthusiasm. **b** [*no obj*] : to become strong, healthy, or active again ▪ The store's business is beginning to *revive*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to bring (something) back into use or popularity ▪ The family is trying to *revive* an old custom.

3 [+ *obj*] : to arrange to have (an old play, opera, etc.) performed in front of an audience ▪ He has decided to *revive* Molière's *Tartuffe*.

re•viv•i•fy /ri'vɪvəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (someone or something) strong, healthy, or active again : REVIVE ▪ looking for ways to *revivify* the city's economy

re•voke /rɪ'voʊk/ *verb* **-vokes**; **-voked**; **-vok•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to officially cancel the power or effect of (something, such as a law, license, agreement, etc.) : to make (something) not valid ▪ The judge *revoked* her driver's license. ▪ Their work permits were *revoked*. ▪ He threatened to *revoke* [=*retract, cancel*] his offer. ▪ Their privileges were *revoked* after they misbehaved.

– **re•vo•ca•tion** /ˌrɛvə'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ Not paying the fine may mean *revocation* of your driver's license.

[1]re•volt /rɪ'voʊlt/ *verb* **-volts**; **-volt•ed**; **-volt•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to fight in a violent way against the rule of a leader or government ▪ The group threatened to *revolt*. — often + *against* ▪ The peasants *revolted against* the king. ▪ They *revolted against* the government.

2 [*no obj*] : to act in a way that shows that you do not accept the control or influence of someone or something — often + *against* ▪ Teenagers tend to *revolt* [=*rebel*] *against* their parents. ▪ He *revolted against* [=*disobeyed*] religious traditions.

3 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to feel disgust or shock ▪ All the violence *revolted* me. — often used as *(be) revolted* ▪ He *was revolted* by the smell.

[2]revolt *noun, pl* **-volts**

1 : violent action against a ruler or government : REBELLION [*count*] the *revolt* of/by the slaves ▪ The peasants' *revolt* was crushed by the king. ▪ They ***staged a revolt***, but it was quickly put down. [=they started a revolt, but it was quickly defeated] — often + *against* ▪ a *revolt against* the government [*noncount*] The leader of the group called for *revolt*. ▪ The people rose (up) ***in revolt*** (***against*** the king). [=the people fought against the king]

2 : something which shows that you will not accept something or will not agree to be controlled or influenced by someone or something [*count*] a *revolt* by consumers over high prices = a consumer *revolt* over high prices — often + *against* ▪ His book is a *revolt against* conservative thinking. [*noncount*] Consumers are ***in revolt against*** high prices.

re•volt•ing /rɪ'voʊltɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : extremely unpleasant or offensive ▪ a *revolting* [=*disgusting*] smell ▪ The bloody scenes in the movie were positively *revolting*.

– **re•volt•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ The movie was *revoltingly* violent.

rev•o•lu•tion /ˌrɛvə'luːʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 a : the usually violent attempt by many people to end the rule of one government and start a new one [*count*] the American/French *Revolution* ▪ The group started a *revolution*. [*noncount*] The king knew that there was a threat of *revolution*. — see also COUNTERREVOLUTION **b** [*count*] : a sudden, extreme, or complete change in the way people live, work, etc. ▪ This new theory could cause a *revolution* in elementary education. ▪ the computer *revolution* [=the changes created by the widespread use of computers] ▪ The growth of the middle class forced a social *revolution*. [=a major change in society] ▪ the sexual *revolution* [=a major change in people's attitudes about sex] — see also INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

2 *technical* **a** : the action of moving around something in a path that is similar to a circle : ROTATION [*count*] the *revolution* of the Earth around the Sun [*noncount*] The period of *revolution* of the Earth around the Sun is equal to one year. **b** [*count*] : a complete turn that is made by something around its center point or line ▪ The Earth makes one *revolution* on its axis in about 24 hours. ▪ This motor operates at a speed of 5,000 ***revolutions per minute***.

[1]rev•o•lu•tion•ary /ˌrɛvə'luːʃəˌneri, *Brit* ˌrɛvə'luːʃənri/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : relating to, involving, or supporting a political revolution ▪ a *revolutionary* war/movement ▪ a *revolutionary* leader/party

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : causing or relating to a great or complete change ▪ *revolutionary* [=*radical*] ideas ▪ The invention was *revolutionary*. ▪ a *revolutionary* new product

[2]revolutionary *noun, pl* **-aries** [*count*] : someone who leads, joins, or wants a revolution

rev•o•lu•tion•ize *also Brit* **rev•o•lu•tion•ise** /ˌrɛvə'luːʃəˌnaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to change (something) very much or completely : to cause a revolution in (something) ▪ The invention of the airplane *revolutionized* travel. ▪ This new drug may *revolutionize* cancer treatment. ▪ This discovery has *revolutionized* our understanding of how the human brain works.

re•volve /rɪ'vɑːlv/ *verb* **-volves**; **-volved**; **-volv•ing** : to turn around a center point or line : ROTATE [*no obj*] As the gear *revolves*, it turns the other gears. ▪ The Earth *revolves* on its axis. [+ *obj*] The software allows you to *revolve* images.

revolve around [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***revolve around (something)*** : to move around (something) in a path that is similar to a circle ▪ The planets *revolve around* the sun. **2** ***revolve around (someone or something)*** : to have (someone or something) as a main subject or interest ▪ The discussion *revolved around* the question of how much money should be given to each department. ▪ Her world *revolves around* her work/son. [=her work/son is extremely important to her] ▪ His life *revolves around* playing basketball. [=he plays basketball a lot] ▪ He thinks ***the world revolves around*** him. [=he thinks that he is the most important person in the world] ▪ The world ***does not revolve around*** you. [=you are not the most important person in the world]

re•volv•er /rɪ'vɑːlvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a small gun with a container for bullets that turns after the gun is fired and puts another bullet into position to be fired next

revolving *adj, always used before a noun* : able to be turned around a center point ▪ The band played on a *revolving* stage.

revolving door *noun, pl* ~ **doors**

1 [*count*] : a type of door that turns in its frame when it is used and allows people to go both in and out of a large building at the same time

2 [*singular*] **a** — used to describe a situation in which the people who have a particular job or position are constantly or frequently changing ▪ The team has gone through a *revolving door* of coaches. [=has had many different coaches] ▪ The manager's position has become a *revolving door*. **b** — used to describe a situation in which someone leaves and returns to a place or position many times ▪ criminals who have entered a *revolving door* of arrest, prison, release, and then arrest again

– **revolving–door** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *revolving-door* management ▪ a *revolving-door* roster of players

re•vue /rɪ'vjuː/ *noun, pl* **-vues** [*count*] : a show in a theater that includes funny songs, dances, short plays, etc., usually about recent events

> Do not confuse *revue* with *review*.

re•vul•sion /rɪ'vʌlʃən/ *noun, somewhat formal* : a very strong feeling of dislike or disgust [*noncount*] She was struck with *revulsion* at the sight of the dead animal. ▪ I felt *revulsion* at the thought of [=I was revolted by] his cruelty. [*singular*] a growing *revulsion* to war

revved up *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : very excited ▪ a rousing song that got the crowd all *revved up* ▪ He came home all *revved up* because he had won the tournament. ▪ She is *revved up* for [=ready for and excited about] her trip. — see also *rev up* at [1]REV

[1]re•ward /rɪ'woɚd/ *noun, pl* **-wards** : money or another kind of payment that is given or received for something that has been done or that is offered for something that might be done [*count*] The contest offered a cash *reward* to the first person who could breed a blue rose. ▪ Hard work brings its own *rewards*. ▪ She is ***reaping the rewards*** of success. [=is getting all the good things that come with success] — often + *for* ▪ You deserve a *reward for* being so helpful. ▪ A (cash) *reward* is being offered *for* the return of the lost dog. ▪ The police are offering a *reward for* information leading to the capture of the fugitive. ▪ You can go to bed late tonight ***as a reward for*** doing so well on that test. ▪ Winning the game was a ***just reward*** [=an appropriate result] *for* the team's effort. ▪ That lying crook got his ***just rewards***. [=*just deserts*] [*noncount*] Members will receive a discount ***in reward for*** getting friends

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or family to join. ▪ Her success is ***just reward for*** her hard work. [=she deserves her success because of her hard work]

²reward *verb* **-wards**; **-ward·ed**; **-ward·ing** [+ *obj*] : to give money or another kind of payment to (someone or something) for something good that has been done ▪ She *rewarded* herself by buying a new pair of shoes. — often + *for* or *with* ▪ She *rewarded* her children *with* ice cream *for* being so patient. — often used as *(be) rewarded* ▪ She *was rewarded with* a cash bonus. ▪ He *was rewarded for* his effort. = His effort *was rewarded*.

re·ward·ing /rɪ'woədɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : giving you a good feeling that you have done something valuable, important, etc. ▪ It was a *rewarding* [=*valuable*] experience. ▪ Nursing is a very *rewarding* [=*satisfying*] career.
2 : giving you money or profit ▪ The investment has been very *rewarding*. [=*profitable*] ▪ Her work is financially *rewarding*.

¹re·wind /ri'waɪnd/ *verb* **-winds**; **-wound** /-'waʊnd/; **-wind·ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (a recording) go backwards ▪ *Rewind* the tape so that we can hear that song again. — opposite ²FAST-FORWARD

²re·wind /'ri:ˌwaɪnd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a function that causes a recording (such as an audiotape or a videotape) to go backwards ▪ Hit the *rewind* button. — opposite ¹FAST-FORWARD

re·wire /ri'wajə/ *verb* **-wires**; **-wired**; **-wir·ing** [+ *obj*] : to put new electrical wires in (a building, machine, etc.) ▪ He *rewired* the entire house.

re·word /ri'wəd/ *verb* **-words**; **-word·ed**; **-word·ing** [+ *obj*] : to state (something) again using different and often simpler words ▪ You should *reword* this sentence. ▪ Let me *reword* [=*rephrase*] the question. ▪ They *reworded* the rule.

re·work /ri'wək/ *verb* **-works**; **-worked**; **-work·ing** [+ *obj*] : to make changes to (something, such as a piece of writing or music) in order to improve it ▪ The teacher told me to *rework* [=*revise*] my essay. ▪ The design has been completely *reworked*.

re·write /ri'raɪt/ *verb* **-writes**; **-wrote** /-'roʊt/; **-writ·ten** /-'rɪtn̩/; **-writ·ing** [+ *obj*] : to write (something) again especially in a different way in order to improve it or to include new information ▪ The teacher asked him to *rewrite* the essay. ▪ I had to *rewrite* the computer program/code. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ You can't ***rewrite history***. [=you can't change the past]
– **re·write** /'ri:ˌraɪt/ *noun, pl* **-writes** [*count*] ▪ I usually do several *rewrites* of my essays.

RH *abbr* right hand

rhap·so·dize *also Brit* **rhap·so·dise** /'ræpsəˌdaɪz/ *verb* **-diz·es**; **-dized**; **-diz·ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to praise or describe something or someone with a lot of enthusiasm and emotion — usually + *about* or *over* ▪ He *rhapsodized about* his favorite musician. ▪ She *rhapsodizes over* the food at that restaurant.

rhap·so·dy /'ræpsədi/ *noun, pl* **-dies** [*count*]
1 : a piece of music that is meant to express a lot of emotion and does not have a regular form
2 : a written or spoken expression of great enthusiasm, praise, etc. ▪ The mayor launched/went into a long *rhapsody* about his plans for the city. ▪ *rhapsodies* of praise
– **rhap·sod·ic** /ræp'sɑ:dɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ They waxed *rhapsodic* [=they became very enthusiastic] about the beauty of the area. ▪ *rhapsodic* music

Rhe·sus factor /'ri:səs-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : RH FACTOR

rhe·sus monkey /'ri:səs-/ *noun, pl* ~ **-keys** [*count*] : a small monkey that is often used in medical research

rhet·o·ric /'rɛtərɪk/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal*
1 *often disapproving* : language that is intended to influence people and that may not be honest or reasonable ▪ absolutist/activist/racist *rhetoric* ▪ angry *rhetoric* ▪ a speech free of (empty) *rhetoric* ▪ the *rhetoric* of politics
2 : the art or skill of speaking or writing formally and effectively especially as a way to persuade or influence people ▪ a college course in *rhetoric* ▪ classical *rhetoric*
– **rhet·o·ri·cian** /ˌrɛtə'rɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-cians** [*count*] *formal* ▪ an expert *rhetorician* [=a person who is able to use language in a very effective way]

rhe·tor·i·cal /rɪ'tɔrɪkəl/ *adj*
1 : of, relating to, or concerned with the art of speaking or writing formally and effectively especially as a way to persuade or influence people ▪ a *rhetorical* device/style
2 *of a question* : asked in order to make a statement rather than to get an answer ▪ "Should we be leaving soon?" "Is that a *rhetorical question*?" [=is that a question you're asking as a way to say that we should be leaving soon?] ▪ My question was *rhetorical*. I wasn't really expecting an answer.
– **rhe·tor·i·cal·ly** /rɪ'tɔrɪkli/ *adv* ▪ "Why does it have to rain?" she asked *rhetorically*.

rheumatic fever *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a serious disease especially of young people that causes fever, swelling and pain in the joints, and sometimes damage to the heart

rheu·ma·tism /'ru:məˌtɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a disease that causes stiffness and pain in the muscles and swelling and pain in the joints
– **rheu·mat·ic** /rʊ'mætɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *rheumatic* disease ▪ *rheumatic* pain

rheu·ma·toid arthritis /'ru:məˌtoɪd-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a serious disease that continues to become worse over a long period of time and that causes the joints to become very painful, stiff, and swollen

Rh factor /ˌɑə'eɪʧ-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a substance that is present in the red blood cells of most people ✧ If you do not have Rh factor in your blood, you can become ill by receiving blood from someone who has Rh factor. — called also *Rhesus factor*; see also RH-NEGATIVE, RH-POSITIVE

rhine·stone /'raɪnˌstoʊn/ *noun, pl* **-stones** [*count*] : a small stone that is made to look like a diamond and that is used in jewelry or for decoration

rhi·no /'raɪnoʊ/ *noun, pl* **rhi·nos** *also* **rhino** [*count*] *somewhat informal* : RHINOCEROS

rhi·noc·er·os /raɪ'nɑ:sərəs/ *noun, pl* **rhi·noc·er·os·es** *also* **rhinoceros** [*count*] : a large, heavy animal of Africa and Asia that has thick skin and either one or two large horns on its nose



rhinoceros

rhi·zome /'raɪˌzoʊm/ *noun, pl* **-zomes** [*count*] *botany* : a thick plant stem that grows underground and has shoots and roots growing from it

Rh–neg·a·tive /ˌɑəˌeɪʧ'nɛgətɪv/ *adj, medical* : not having Rh factor in the blood ▪ The baby is *Rh-negative*. ▪ *Rh-negative* blood

rho·do·den·dron /ˌroʊdə'dɛndrən/ *noun, pl* **-drons** [*count*] : an evergreen bush that has large, bright flowers and that is often grown in gardens

rhom·boid /'rɑ:mˌbɔɪd/ *noun, pl* **-boids** [*count*] *geometry* : a shape with four sides where only the opposite sides and angles are equal

rhom·bus /'rɑ:mbəs/ *noun, pl* **-bus·es** [*count*] *geometry* : a shape with four sides that are equal in length and with four angles that are not always right angles

Rh–pos·i·tive /ˌɑəˌeɪʧ'pɑ:zətɪv/ *adj, medical* : having Rh factor in the blood ▪ The baby is *Rh-positive*. ▪ *Rh-positive* blood

rhu·barb /'ru:ˌbɑəb/ *noun, pl* **-barbs**
1 [*noncount*] : a plant with large green leaves and with thick pink or red stems that are cooked and used in pies, jams, etc. ▪ *rhubarb* pie
2 [*count*] *US, informal + old-fashioned* : an angry argument ▪ The coach got into a *rhubarb* with the umpire.

rhumba *variant spelling of* RUMBA

¹rhyme /'raɪm/ *noun, pl* **rhymes**
1 [*count*] : one of two or more words or phrases that end in the same sounds ▪ She used "moon" as a *rhyme* for "June." ▪ He couldn't think of a *rhyme* for "orange."
2 [*count*] : a poem or song whose lines end in rhymes ▪ children's *rhymes* ▪ a catchy *rhyme* — see also NURSERY RHYME
3 [*noncount*] : the use of rhymes in a poem or song ▪ They're learning about meter and *rhyme*. ▪ He delivered the speech in *rhyme*. [=he used words that rhyme in the speech] ▪ poems that use *rhyme*
rhyme or reason : a good reason or explanation for something — used in negative statements ▪ There seems to be ***no rhyme or reason*** to/for some of the things he does. ▪ She does things ***without rhyme or reason***.

²rhyme *verb* **rhymes**; **rhymed**; **rhym·ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to have or end with the same sounds ▪ Please find the two lines that *rhyme*. ▪ words that don't *rhyme* — often + *with* ▪ "Bug" *rhymes with* "rug."
2 [*no obj*] : to have lines that end with the same sounds ▪ po-

ems that *rhyme* • *rhyming* verse/couplets
3 [+ *obj*] : to use (a rhyme) in a poem, song, etc. • She *rhymed* "moon" with "June."

rhythm /'rɪðəm/ *noun, pl* **rhythms**
1 : a regular, repeated pattern of sounds or movements [*count*] The music has a fast/slow/steady *rhythm*. [=*beat*] • African/Caribbean *rhythms* — often + *of* • the *rhythm of* the poetry • the *rhythm of* his breathing • the *rhythm of* the tides [*noncount*] the composer's use of jazz *rhythm* • He can't play/dance ***in rhythm***. = He has no ***sense of rhythm***. [=he cannot play/dance at the correct speed to stay with the rhythm of the music]
2 [*count*] : a regular, repeated pattern of events, changes, activities, etc. • She enjoyed the *rhythms* of country life. • Travel can disrupt your body's daily/biological/circadian *rhythm*.

rhythm and blues *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of popular music performed by African-Americans that was developed originally by combining elements of blues and jazz — abbr. *R & B*

rhyth•mic /'rɪðmɪk/ *or* **rhyth•mi•cal** /'rɪðmɪkəl/ *adj* : having a regular repeated pattern of sounds or movements • We could hear a *rhythmic* drumming/chant outside.
– **rhyth•mi•cal•ly** /'rɪðmɪkli/ *adv* • She *rhythmically* tapped her feet.

rhythm method *noun* [*singular*] *medical* : a method of birth control in which a couple does not have sexual intercourse during the time when pregnancy is most likely to happen

rhythm section *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] : the part of a band that plays the rhythm in a piece of music and that typically includes drums and bass

RI *abbr* Rhode Island

[1]rib /'rɪb/ *noun, pl* **ribs** [*count*]
1 : any one of the curved bones of the chest that connect to the spine — see picture at HUMAN
2 : a piece of meat from an animal that includes a rib and that is used as food — see also SPARERIB
3 : a long curved piece of metal, wood, etc., that forms the frame of a boat, roof, etc. • the *ribs* of an umbrella

[2]rib *verb* **ribs**; **ribbed**; **rib•bing** [+ *obj*] *informal* : to make jokes about (someone) in a friendly way : to kid or tease (someone) — often + *about* or *over* • They *ribbed* him *about/over* his silly outfit.

rib•ald /'rɪbəld/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : referring to sex in a rude but amusing way • *ribald* jokes/comments/songs
– **rib•ald•ry** /'rɪbəldri/ *noun, pl* **-dries** [*count*] comedians exchanging *ribaldries* [=ribald remarks/jokes] [*noncount*] a scandal that has been the subject of much *ribaldry*

ribbed *adj* : having raised lines • *ribbed* fabric • a *ribbed* sweater

ribbing *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : friendly jokes about someone • a little good-natured *ribbing* between friends — usually used with *take* • He *took* some *ribbing* for the silly hat he was wearing. • I've *taken* a lot of *ribbing* about my accent.
2 : raised lines on a surface • the *ribbing* on a sweater

rib•bon /'rɪbən/ *noun, pl* **-bons**
1 : a narrow piece of cloth (such as silk) that is used to tie things or for decoration [*count*] She wore pink *ribbons* in her hair. • She tied a *ribbon* around the present. [*noncount*] a length/piece of *ribbon* • The present was tied with *ribbon*.
2 [*count*] : a short piece of cloth that is given as a military award • The soldier proudly wore his *ribbons* and medals.
3 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a piece of colored cloth that is given as an award in a competition • Her pie won a *ribbon* at the county fair. — see also BLUE RIBBON
4 [*count*] : something that is long and narrow like a strip of cloth • a *ribbon* of road
5 [*count*] : a long and narrow piece of cloth with ink that is used for producing printed characters in a typewriter or printer
6 ***ribbons*** [*plural*] : narrow pieces of something that has been cut or torn apart • Her pants were ***torn/cut to ribbons***. [=*to pieces*]

rib cage *noun, pl* ~ **cages** [*count*] *medical* : the curved wall of ribs that surrounds and protects the chest

rib eye *noun, pl* ~ **eyes** [*count, noncount*] : a large, tender cut of beef from the outer side of the rib — called also *rib eye steak*

ri•bo•fla•vin /ˌraɪbə'fleɪvən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a natural substance (called a vitamin) that is found in certain foods (such as milk, eggs, and leafy vegetables) and that helps your body to be healthy — called also *vitamin* B_2

ri•bo•nu•cle•ic acid /ˌraɪbouˌnu'kli:jɪk-, *Brit* ˌraɪbəu-nju'kli:jɪk-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : RNA

rice /'raɪs/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : small white or brown grains that come from a southeast Asian plant and that are used for food • a bowl/grain of *rice* • steamed/fried *rice* • brown/white *rice*
2 : the plant that produces rice • *Rice* is the main crop of the country. • a field of *rice* = a *rice* field/paddy

rice paper *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a type of thin paper that is made from an Asian plant
2 : a food that looks like paper and that is used for wrapping other foods

rice pudding *noun* [*noncount*] : a sweet food made of rice cooked with milk and sugar

rich /'rɪtʃ/ *adj* **rich•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having a lot of money and possessions : WEALTHY • a *rich* person • Her investments have made her *rich*. • a *rich* country/area/neighborhood • She is very *rich*. • (*informal + often disapproving*) She is ***filthy rich***. = She is ***stinking rich***. [=she is extremely rich; she has so much money that her wealth is disgusting or offensive] • He wrote a book on how to ***get rich quick***. [=how to make a large amount of money quickly] — opposite POOR
2 : very expensive and beautiful, impressive, etc. • *rich* [=*luxurious*] robes • *rich* decorations
3 a : having or supplying a large amount of something that is wanted or needed • The dictionary is a *rich* source of information. • a *rich* gold mine • *rich* [=*fertile*] soils • protein-*rich* foods [=foods that contain a lot of protein] — often + *in* or *with* • a land *rich in* resources • foods that are *rich in* protein • He had a life *rich with* blessings. **b** : containing a large amount of fat, oil, etc. : having a lot of flavor and making your stomach feel full • *rich* [=*heavy*] foods • a *rich* and spicy soup • The food was a little too *rich* for me. **c** : very interesting and full of many different things • Their country has a *rich* cultural heritage. • This area has a *rich* history. • She has a *rich* vocabulary.
4 : having a pleasingly strong quality • a *rich* [=dark and vivid] red • a singer with a full, *rich* voice • *rich* perfumes
5 *informal* — used to say that a person's comment or criticism is surprising or amusing because the same comment or criticism could be made about that person • His remarks about the importance of saving money are pretty *rich* coming from a man who just bought another new car. • "She says we're working too slowly." "Oh, ***that's rich***. She's the one who keeps delaying things with all her meetings."
strike it rich see [1]STRIKE
the rich : people who are rich • *the rich* and famous/powerful
– **rich•ness** /'rɪtʃnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the *richness of* the soil • the *richness of* the food • the *richness of* the painter's colors

rich•es /'rɪtʃəz/ *noun* [*plural*]
1 : large amounts of money and possessions • He acquired *riches* [=*wealth*] and fame.
2 : good things that are available to use or choose • We live in a culture that offers many *riches*. • With so many fine restaurants in the city, diners are faced with an ***embarrassment of riches***. [=there are so many fine restaurants that it is difficult to choose one]
from rags to riches see [1]RAG

rich•ly /'rɪtʃli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : in a beautiful and expensive way • The room was *richly* decorated/ornamented. • *richly* dressed
2 : in a pleasingly strong way • *richly* fragrant/colored/flavored • a *richly* rewarding [=very satisfying] experience
3 : in a generous way • They were *richly* rewarded for their efforts.
4 : completely or fully • The reward/punishment he received was ***richly deserved***.
5 : having a large amount of something • The book is *richly* illustrated. [=the book has many illustrations] • a *richly* detailed description

Rich•ter scale /'rɪktə-/ *noun*
the Richter scale *technical* : a system of measurement used for showing the strength of an earthquake • The earthquake was a 4.5 on *the Richter scale*. = The earthquake measured 4.5 on *the Richter scale*.

rick /'rɪk/ *verb* **ricks**; **ricked**; **rick•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to injure

R

(a body part) by twisting it ▪ I *ricked* [=*sprained, wrenched*] my back/neck.

rick•ets /ˈrɪkəts/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a disease in children that is caused by a lack of vitamin D and that causes bones to become soft and to bend

rick•ety /ˈrɪkəti/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : not strong or stable and likely to break ▪ *rickety* stairs ▪ a *rickety* little/old table

rick•shaw /ˈrɪkˌʃɑː/ *noun, pl* **shaws** [*count*] : a small, light vehicle with two wheels that is pulled by one person on foot or on a bicycle and that is used in some Asian countries

[1]ric•o•chet /ˈrɪkəˌʃeɪ/ *verb* **-chets**; **-cheted** /-ˌʃeɪd/; **-chet•ing** /-ˌʃejɪŋ/ [*no obj*] : to bounce off a surface and continue moving in a different direction ▪ The bullet *ricocheted* off the wall.

[2]ricochet *noun, pl* **-chets**

1 [*count*] : something (such as a bullet or stone) that ricochets off a surface ▪ He was hit by a *ricochet*.

2 [*noncount*] : the action of ricocheting off a surface ▪ the *richochet* of the bullet off the wall

ri•cot•ta /rɪˈkɑːtə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a soft, white Italian cheese — called also *ricotta cheese*

rid /ˈrɪd/ *verb* **rids**; **rid** *also* **rid•ded**; **rid•ding**

be rid of : to no longer have or be affected or bothered by (someone or something that is unwanted or annoying) ▪ I thought I'd never *be rid of* that cold. [=I thought that cold would never go away] ▪ He thought he'd never *be rid of* her. ▪ It's just as well that he left you. You're ***well rid of*** him. [=you're better off without him]

get rid of : to do something so that you no longer have or are affected or bothered by (something or someone that is unwanted) ▪ It's time to *get rid of* [=*throw away*] our old computer and buy a new one. ▪ I *got rid of* some old furniture by selling/giving it to my nephew. ▪ I've tried everything to *get rid of* this cold, but it just won't go away. ▪ He kept talking and talking. She finally *got rid of* him [=she finally got him to leave] by saying she had to make dinner.

rid of [*phrasal verb*] ***rid (someone or something) of (someone or something)*** : to cause (someone or something) to no longer have or be affected by (someone or something unwanted) ▪ The police are trying to *rid* the town *of* drug dealers. ▪ *rid* the garden *of* pests ▪ She went to the beach to relax and ***rid herself of*** all her worries.

want rid of *chiefly Brit* : to want to no longer have or be affected or bothered by (something or someone unwanted) : to want to be rid of (something or someone) ▪ I could tell that he *wanted rid of* me.

rid•dance /ˈrɪdn̩s/ *noun*

good riddance — used to say that you are glad that someone is leaving or that something has gone ▪ "Did you hear? Jack is leaving for a new job." "Well, *good riddance* (to him)! We'll be better off without him!" ▪ Winter is finally over, and I say *good riddance*!

[1]rid•den /ˈrɪdn̩/ *adj* : filled with or containing something unpleasant or unwanted ▪ He was *ridden* with guilt. [=he felt very guilty] — usually used in combination ▪ a flea-*ridden* dog ▪ a slum-*ridden* city ▪ He was/felt guilt-*ridden* for the way he had neglected his son.

[2]ridden *past participle of* [1]RIDE

[1]rid•dle /ˈrɪdl̩/ *noun, pl* **rid•dles** [*count*]

1 : a difficult question that is asked as a game and that has a surprising or funny answer ▪ The first person to solve the *riddle* wins a candy bar. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Stop speaking in *riddles*. [=stop speaking in a confusing way]

2 : someone or something that is difficult to understand or solve ▪ the *riddle* of the origins of the universe ▪ My brother has always been a *riddle* to me.

[2]riddle *verb* **riddles**; **rid•dled**; **rid•dling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make many holes in (something or someone) *with* something ▪ The robbers *riddled* the car *with* bullets.

2 : to fill (something) with something that is bad or unpleasant — usually used as *(be) riddled with* ▪ The book *is riddled with* mistakes. [=the book has many mistakes] ▪ Their theory *is riddled with* contradictions.

[1]ride /ˈraɪd/ *verb* **rides**; **rode** /ˈroʊd/; **rid•den** /ˈrɪdn̩/; **rid•ing**

1 : to sit on and control the movements of (a horse, motorcycle, bicycle, etc.) [+ *obj*] She learned how to *ride* a horse when she was young. ▪ Most children learn to *ride* a bicycle at an early age. ▪ He *rides* his motorcycle to work every day. [*no obj*] I never *rode* on a horse before. ▪ She got on her bicycle and *rode* away.

2 a : to travel to a place as a passenger on or in (something that is moving, such as a bus, a train, or an elevator) [+ *obj*] (*chiefly US*) ▪ He decided to walk to the movies instead of *riding* the bus. ▪ She *rides* the subway home from school. ▪ They *rode* the elevator/escalator to the second floor. [*no obj*] We *rode* through the park in a horse-drawn carriage. ▪ The dog *rode* in the back of the truck. ▪ He has never *ridden* aboard a cruise ship. **b** : to go on a mechanical ride at an amusement park or similar place [*no obj*] We *rode* on the Ferris wheel. [+ *obj*] We *rode* the roller coaster five times.

3 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to travel over or on (a road, railway, trail, etc.) in a car, on a train, on a bicycle, etc. ▪ He spends hours *riding* the back roads in his truck. ▪ *riding* the rails ▪ We *rode* the bike trails for hours.

4 [*no obj*] *of a vehicle* : to move over the surface of a road in a specified way ▪ The car *rides* smoothly/well.

5 [+ *obj*] : to be supported or carried on (a wave) : to move on (a wave) ▪ We watched the surfers *riding* the waves.

6 [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to criticize or make jokes about (someone) constantly or frequently in usually a harsh or annoying way ▪ The fans have been *riding* him pretty hard.

be riding for a fall *informal* : to be doing something that is likely to lead to failure or disaster ▪ They're feeling pretty confident now, but if you ask me, they'*re riding for a fall*.

be riding high *informal* **1** : to be very happy and excited ▪ She'*s riding high* [=*flying high*] after her recent win. **2** : to be very successful ▪ The company's stock *was riding high* after the merger.

let (something) ride *informal* : to allow (something) to go unnoticed : to ignore (something) ▪ He made a rude remark, but I *let* it *ride*. ▪ You have to *let* his comment *ride*.

ride herd on *US, informal* : to keep (someone or something) under close watch or control ▪ We had to *ride herd on* them to make sure they completed the work on time.

ride on [*phrasal verb*] ***ride on (something or someone)*** **1** : to depend on (something or someone) ▪ The future of the company *rides on* the success of this deal. ▪ Our hopes are *riding on* you. **2** ✧ If you have money *riding on* something or someone, you have bet money on that thing or person. ▪ I have a lot of money *riding on* this game. ▪ There is a lot of money *riding on* the outcome of the race.

ride out [*phrasal verb*] ***ride (something) out*** *or* ***ride out (something)*** : to succeed in surviving or getting through (something dangerous or harmful that cannot be stopped or avoided) ▪ The ship/crew *rode out* the storm. ▪ We managed to *ride out* the stock market downturn.

ride shotgun *informal* : to ride in the front passenger seat of a vehicle ▪ You can drive, but only if I can *ride shotgun*.

ride up [*phrasal verb*] *of clothing* : to move up your body as you move ▪ These jeans keep *riding up* on me. ▪ Her skirt *rode up* when she sat down.

[2]ride *noun, pl* **rides** [*count*]

1 a : a usually short journey in or on a vehicle ▪ a two-hour car *ride* ▪ We went for a *ride* in the country. ▪ He took me for a *ride* on his motorcycle. = He gave me a *ride* on his motorcycle. ▪ I had my first *ride* in a limousine. ▪ Can I take your bike for a *ride*? = Can I go for a *ride* on your bike? [=can I ride your bike?] ▪ Can you give me a *ride* [=*lift*] back to town? ▪ I need a *ride* to work. ▪ She caught/hitched a *ride* with her coworker. — see also HAYRIDE, JOYRIDE **b** : a usually short journey on a horse or other animal ▪ We went on a horseback *ride*. ▪ The kids had a *ride* on a horse. ▪ They offered pony *rides* at the fair.

2 — used to describe what the experience of riding in a car or other vehicle is like; usually singular ▪ The car has/offers a smooth/comfortable *ride*. ▪ The road wasn't paved, so we had a pretty bumpy *ride*. — often used figuratively ▪ Investors are preparing for a bumpy/rough *ride* [=a difficult time] in the stock market.

3 a : a large machine at an amusement park, fair, etc., that people ride on for enjoyment ▪ The Ferris wheel is my favorite *ride*. **b** : the act of riding on such a machine ▪ We went for a *ride* on the roller coaster. — see also FREE RIDE

along for the ride *informal* : doing something with other people without being seriously involved in it or having a serious interest in it ▪ He wasn't really interested in buying anything when we went to the store; he was just *along for the ride*. ▪ He wasn't really interested, but he ***came/went along for the ride***.

take (someone) for a ride *informal* : to trick or fool (someone) especially in order to get money ▪ I figured out that he was *taking* me *for a ride*.

rid•er /ˈraɪdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who rides something ▪ a horseback *rider* ▪ Watch

out for bike *riders* while driving. ▪ *riders* on the bus — see also DISPATCH RIDER

2 a : an official document that is attached to another document and that adds to or changes information in the original document ▪ She added a *rider* to her life insurance policy that increased her coverage. **b :** an additional part added to a legislative bill ▪ Congress added a *rider* to the health insurance bill.

ridge /ˈrɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **ridg·es** [*count*]

1 : a long area of land that is on top of a mountain or hill ▪ We hiked along the *ridge*.

2 : a raised part or area on the surface of something ▪ the *ridges* on the sole of a boot

3 : the place where two sloping surfaces meet ▪ the *ridge* of a roof

4 *weather* **:** a long area of high atmospheric pressure ▪ A *ridge* of high pressure is coming up from the south. — compare TROUGH 4

ridged /ˈrɪʤd/ *adj* **:** having ridges ▪ *ridged* potato chips

[1]rid·i·cule /ˈrɪdəˌkju:l/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the act of making fun of someone or something in a cruel or harsh way **:** harsh comments made by people who are laughing at someone or something ▪ She didn't show anyone her artwork for fear of *ridicule*. ▪ He was a ***subject/object of ridicule*** to his coworkers. [=he was ridiculed by his coworkers] ▪ They ***held him up to (public) ridicule*** [=they made fun of him publicly]

[2]ridicule *verb* **-cules**; **-culed**; **-cul·ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to laugh at and make jokes about (someone or something) in a cruel or harsh way **:** to make fun of (someone or something) ▪ The other kids *ridiculed* him for the way he dressed. ▪ They *ridiculed* all of her suggestions.

ri·dic·u·lous /rəˈdɪkjələs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] **:** extremely silly or unreasonable ▪ She looks *ridiculous* in that outfit. ▪ Don't be *ridiculous*! ▪ It was a *ridiculous* suggestion. ▪ That's an absolutely *ridiculous* price for that sweater. ▪ He makes a *ridiculous* amount [=an extremely large amount] of money.

– ri·dic·u·lous·ly *adv* ▪ The movie was *ridiculously* long.

– ri·dic·u·lous·ness *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]rid·ing /ˈraɪdɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the sport or activity of riding a horse, bicycle, motorcycle, etc. ▪ (*US*) horseback *riding* = (*Brit*) horse *riding* ▪ We'll ***go riding*** after the rain stops.

[2]riding *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : related to or used for riding and especially for riding a horse ▪ *riding* lessons/gear/boots ▪ a *riding* helmet

2 *US* **:** controlled by a person who sits on it ▪ a *riding* lawnmower [=a lawnmower that you ride on]

rife /ˈraɪf/ *adj, not used before a noun* **:** very common and often bad or unpleasant ▪ She visited a country where malaria was *rife*. [=*widespread*] ▪ Speculation about who would be fired ***ran rife*** for weeks.

rife with **:** having a large amount of (something bad or unpleasant) **:** full of (something bad or unpleasant) ▪ The school was *rife with* rumors. ▪ a history *rife with* scandal

[1]riff /ˈrɪf/ *noun, pl* **riffs** [*count*]

1 *music* **:** a short and usually repeated pattern of notes in a song ▪ a guitar *riff* ▪ He stole that *riff* from another song.

2 *US, informal* **:** a short set of comments on a particular subject — often + *on* ▪ a comedian's *riff on* modern love

[2]riff *verb* **riffs**; **riffed**; **riff·ing** [*no obj*]

1 *music* **:** to play a riff ▪ The guitarist *riffed* over the bass line.

2 *US, informal* **:** to talk about a particular subject in usually a quick and lively way **:** to deliver a riff on or about a particular subject ▪ He *riffed* on/about how great the economy was doing.

rif·fle /ˈrɪfəl/ *verb* **rif·fles**; **rif·fled**; **rif·fling** *chiefly Brit* **:** to look through something quickly and not very closely [*no obj*] He ***riffled through*** [=*rifled through*] her purse while she was out of the room. ▪ I *riffled through* [=flipped through] the magazine. [+ *obj*] He *riffled* the pages of the magazine.

riff·raff /ˈrɪfˌræf/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving* **:** people who are not respectable **:** people who have very low social status ▪ Try not to associate with that *riffraff*. — often used in a humorous or exaggerated way to suggest the attitudes of wealthy and powerful people ▪ The doorman kept the *riffraff* out of the hotel.

[1]ri·fle /ˈraɪfəl/ *noun, pl* **ri·fles** [*count*] **:** a gun that has a long barrel and that is held against your shoulder when you shoot it — see picture at GUN; see also AIR RIFLE, ASSAULT RIFLE

[2]rifle *verb* **rifles**; **ri·fled**; **ri·fling :** to search through something quickly and carelessly often in order to take or steal something [+ *obj*] He *rifled* the papers on his desk. ▪ Someone *rifled* his wallet and took his money. [*no obj*] He ***rifled through*** the papers on his desk. — compare [3]RIFLE

[3]rifle *verb* **rifles**; **rifled**; **rifling** [+ *obj*] **:** to throw or hit (a ball) with a lot of speed and force ▪ The shortstop *rifled* a throw to second base for the out. ▪ The forward *rifled* the ball toward the goal. — compare [2]RIFLE

ri·fle·man /ˈraɪfəlmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*]

1 : a soldier who carries a rifle

2 : a person who is skilled at shooting a rifle

rift /ˈrɪft/ *noun, pl* **rifts** [*count*]

1 : a situation in which two people, groups, etc., no longer have a friendly relationship ▪ The fight will only widen the *rift* with his brother. — often + *between* ▪ Nothing could heal the *rift between* them.

2 a : a deep crack or opening in the ground, a rock, etc. ▪ the *rift* in the rock ▪ We could see some stars through the *rifts* in the clouds. **b** *geology* **:** a break in the Earth's crust ▪ Scientists are studying the Mid-Atlantic *Rift*.

rift valley *noun, pl* ~ **-leys** [*count*] *geology* **:** a long, steep valley formed when two parallel rifts form in the Earth's crust and the land between them sinks

[1]rig /ˈrɪg/ *verb* **rigs**; **rigged**; **rig·ging** [+ *obj*] **:** to control or affect (something, such as a game or election) in a dishonest way in order to get a desired result ▪ They are suspected of *rigging* [=*fixing*] the election. — compare [3]RIG

– rigged *adj* ▪ The boxing match was *rigged*. ▪ a *rigged* election

[2]rig *noun, pl* **rigs** [*count*]

1 : equipment or machinery that is used for a particular purpose ▪ an oil-drilling *rig* = an oil *rig* ▪ a radio *rig*

2 *US* **:** a large truck that is attached to a trailer ▪ He drives a big *rig*.

3 : the way the sails and masts are arranged on a ship or boat ▪ the *rig* of a schooner

[3]rig *verb* **rigs**; **rigged**; **rigging** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to build or set up (something) usually quickly and for temporary use ▪ We *rigged* (up) a lean-to. ▪ Aid workers *rigged* (up) a shelter for the hurricane victims. — see also JERRY-RIGGED, JURY-RIG **b :** to place (something) in the proper position for use ▪ The stage crew *rigged* (up) the lights.

2 : to provide (a boat or ship) with ropes, sails, etc. ▪ They *rigged* (up) the ship and prepared to set sail.

3 a : to provide (someone or something) with particular clothing or equipment — usually + *out* ▪ They *rigged* the volunteer firefighters *out* in nonflammable suits. **b :** to put something secretly in (a place) — usually + *with* ▪ They *rigged* the enemy base *with* explosives.

– compare [1]RIG

– rigged *adj* ▪ a fully-*rigged* ship

rigamarole *variant spelling of* RIGMAROLE

rig·a·to·ni /ˌrɪgəˈtoʊni/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a type of pasta that is shaped like short, wide tubes

rig·ging /ˈrɪgɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the ropes and chains that are used on a ship to help support the masts and sails ▪ They checked the *rigging* before they set sail.

2 : equipment that is used for supporting and using lights, curtains, etc., in a theater

[1]right /ˈraɪt/ *adj*

1 *usually not used before a noun* **:** morally or socially correct or acceptable ▪ Stealing is not *right*. ▪ You can't treat me like this! It's not *right*! ▪ You were *right* to tell the teacher about the girl who you saw cheating. ▪ Telling the teacher was the ***right thing*** to do. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) "After I was treated so rudely, I complained to the management." "And ***quite right*** too!" [=complaining was the right thing to do] ▪ Since they helped him, it's ***only right*** that he should help them too. [=since they helped him, he should help them too] — opposite WRONG

2 a : agreeing with the facts or truth **:** accurate or correct ▪ the *right* answer ▪ "Is that clock *right*? Is it noon already?" "Yes. That's *right*." ▪ There's something not quite *right* about his story. ▪ Their theory was proved *right*. ▪ ***Let me get this right***—you want me to lend you $1,000?! — opposite WRONG **b** *not used before a noun* **:** speaking, acting, or judging in a way that agrees with the facts or truth ▪ You're *right*; the answer is six. ▪ I bet you like baseball. Am I *right*? ▪ Am I *right* in thinking that he should have never loaned her the money? ▪ We thought it was a bad idea, and time proved us *right*. — often + *about* ▪ He was *right about* her not having a job. ▪ "Relationships aren't easy." "You're definitely *right about* that." ▪ Let me ***put/set you right about*** one thing: I did

R

not start this argument! — often followed by *to + verb* ▪ You're *right to take* things slowly with your new boyfriend. — opposite WRONG **c** — used in speech to ask if a statement is correct or to say that a statement is correct ▪ "You took the dog out for a walk, *right*?" "Yes, I did." ▪ "We met her at the party." "(That's) *Right*. Now I remember." ▪ "I'll pay for the damages." "(You're) ***Damn right*** you will!" [=(more politely) you certainly will] ▪ (*Brit*) "I'll pay for the damages." "***Too right*** you will." ▪ (*Brit*) "Things are going from bad to worse." "*Too right*, mate!" **d** — used in speech to say you understand and accept what someone has said ▪ "It's getting late." "Oh, *right*. I'll be ready in a minute." ▪ "I'd like a coffee, please." "*Right*." = "***Right you are***." **e** — used for emphasis at the beginning of a statement ▪ *Right*. [=*all right, OK*] Let's get this over with. **f** — used in speech to express disbelief ▪ "I'm actually quite famous." "*Right*. And I'm the Pope." "No, it's true." "***Yeah, right***. I don't believe you."

3 : suitable or appropriate for a particular purpose, situation, or person ▪ She is the *right* person for the job. ▪ They're not *right* for each other. ▪ You made the *right* decision. ▪ Let me show you the *right* way to do it. ▪ He kept practicing his technique until he got it *right*. ▪ Hold the bat like this—that's *right*! ▪ This apartment is just the *right* size. ▪ That picture would be just *right* [=*perfect*] for my living room. ▪ I need to find the *right* moment to ask him for the money. ▪ I don't have the *right* tools to do the job. ▪ I'll buy the car if the price is *right*. ▪ He knows all the *right* people to succeed in this business. ▪ Becoming a star is often a matter of being in ***the right place at the right time***. ▪ He always knows the ***right thing*** to say. — opposite WRONG; see also MR. RIGHT

4 a : in a normal or healthy state or condition ▪ I don't feel quite *right*. [=I feel somewhat ill] ▪ The fish you bought doesn't smell *right*. [=it doesn't smell the way it should] ▪ (*informal*) That boy is not ***right in the head***. ▪ She is not in her ***right mind***. [=she is mentally ill] **b** *not used before a noun* : in a proper state or condition ▪ Things are not *right* between them. [=they do not have a good/happy relationship] ▪ He apologized and tried to ***put/set things right*** (with her).

5 *always used before a noun* **a** : located on the side of your body that is away from your heart ▪ He felt a pain in his *right* side. ▪ her *right* hand/leg **b** : done with your right hand ▪ He hit him with a *right* hook to the jaw. **c** : located nearer to the right side of your body than to the left ▪ on the *right* side of the street ▪ a chair's *right* arm ▪ taking a *right* turn — opposite LEFT

6 *US* — used to refer to the side of something that is meant to be on top, in front, or on the outside ▪ The CD fell and landed ***right side up/down***. ▪ He turned his socks ***right side out***. — opposite WRONG

7 *always used before a noun, Brit, informal* : complete or total — used for emphasis ▪ I felt a *right* fool after making that mistake! ▪ We were in a *right* mess!

(as) right as rain *informal* : in excellent health or condition ▪ After a few days of rest, you'll be *right as rain* again.

get off on the right foot see ¹FOOT

give your right arm see ¹GIVE

push the right buttons see ¹BUTTON

– see also ALL RIGHT

– **right·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She questioned the *rightness* of his actions/decision.

²right *adv*

1 : in the exact location, position, or moment that is mentioned ▪ The keys are *right* where I said they would be. ▪ "Where are my keys?" "They're *right* here/there." ▪ The bank is *right* next to the pharmacy. ▪ The parking lot is *right* in front/back of the building. ▪ He left his bags *right* in the middle of the floor. ▪ She was waiting *right* outside the door. ▪ The ball hit me *right* in the face. ▪ We arrived *right* at noon. ▪ I'm *right* behind you. ▪ You are ***right on time***. ▪ When the boss yelled at him, he quit ***right then and there***. ▪ If you need me, I am ***right here*** for you. [=I am available to support/help you]

2 : in a direct course or manner ▪ We went *right* [=*straight, directly*] home after the game. ▪ He walked *right* past me without saying hello. ▪ Come *right* this way, please. ▪ She came *right* out and said it. [=she said it without hesitating]

3 : in a way that agrees with the facts or truth : CORRECTLY ▪ You guessed *right*. ▪ You heard *right*. I got the job. — opposite WRONG

4 : in a suitable, proper, or desired way ▪ He eats *right* and exercises daily. ▪ You're not doing it *right*. [=*correctly*] ▪ Nothing is ***going right*** for me today. — opposite WRONG

5 : all the way ▪ We stayed up to watch the game *right* to the very end. ▪ The car went *right* [=*completely*] off the road. ▪ The baby slept *right* through the night.

6 : without delay : very soon or immediately ▪ She got pregnant *right* after they got married. ▪ I'll be *right* with you. ▪ He stepped out for a moment, but he'll be *right* back.

7 a : toward the right ▪ Turn *right*. ▪ She looked *right* and then left. ▪ Please move *right*. ▪ She ran *right* and caught the ball. **b** : towards the political right ▪ a political party that has shifted *right* ▪ His political views are slightly ***right of center***. [=are slightly conservative] **c** *US* : using the right hand ▪ He bats/throws *right*. [=*right-handed*] — opposite LEFT

8 : in a complete manner ▪ He felt *right* [=*completely*] at home at his new job. ▪ She knew *right* [=(more commonly) *very*] well what was happening.

play your cards right see ¹CARD

right and left *or Brit* ***right, left, and centre*** : in a very quick and uncontrolled way ▪ She has been spending money *right and left*. : in all directions ▪ He was calling out names *right and left*. ▪ The police were stopping cars *right and left*.

right away *also* ***right off*** : without delay or hesitation : IMMEDIATELY ▪ Please send out this letter *right away*. ▪ I could tell *right off* that he was lying.

right now **1** : in the next moment : IMMEDIATELY ▪ Please clean up this mess *right now*. **2** : at the present time ▪ He is out of the office *right now*.

serve someone right see ¹SERVE

³right *noun, pl* **rights**

1 : behavior that is morally good or correct [*noncount*] He's old enough to know the difference between *right* and wrong. = He's old enough to know ***right from wrong***. ▪ You ***did right*** [=you did the right thing] to tell the teacher. ▪ (*old-fashioned*) He always tried to ***do right by*** his employees. [=to treat his employees fairly] [*count*] We discussed the ***rights and wrongs*** of genetic cloning. — opposite WRONG

2 [*count*] : something that a person is or should be morally or legally allowed to have, get, or do ▪ women fighting for equal *rights* ▪ The government has denied the people their *rights*. [=has not allowed the people to do the things that they should be allowed to do] ▪ Knowing the truth is her *right*. — often followed by *to + verb* ▪ She has a *right to know* the truth. ▪ They demanded the *right to vote*. ▪ You have no *right to order* me around! ▪ What gives you the *right to read* my diary? ▪ He has every *right to be* angry. ▪ You are ***within your rights*** *to demand* a refund. [=you have the right to demand a refund] — often + *of* ▪ The government must protect the *rights of* its citizens. ▪ the constitutional *right of* privacy — see also BILL OF RIGHTS, BIRTHRIGHT, BRAGGING RIGHTS, CIVIL RIGHTS, DIVINE RIGHT, HUMAN RIGHT, WOMEN'S RIGHTS

3 *rights* [*plural*] : the legal authority to reproduce, publish, broadcast, or sell something ▪ broadcast *rights* ▪ movie *rights* — often + *to* ▪ The poet's family owns the publishing *rights to* all his books. — see also COPYRIGHT

4 a [*noncount*] : a location closer to the right side of your body than to the left : the right side ▪ Swing the bat from *right* to left. — often used with *on* ▪ As you come down the street, my house will be *on* your/the *right*. — often used with *to* ▪ Move it *to* the *right*. ▪ The picture is ***to the right of*** the window. **b** [*count*] : a turn or movement toward the right ▪ Take a *right* at the next intersection. = (*US*) Make/hang a *right* at the next intersection. ▪ two *rights* and then a left

5 [*count*] : a punch made with the right hand ▪ He hit him with a left to the stomach followed by a *right* to the jaw.

6 a *the Right* : political groups who favor traditional attitudes and practices and conservative policies ▪ His nomination is opposed by *the* country's *Right*. ▪ The new law is disliked by *the Right*. ▪ Members of *the Right* have voiced their opinions on this matter. **b *the right*** : the position of people who support the beliefs and policies of the political Right ▪ The party has shifted to *the right*. [=has become more conservative] — compare LEFT; see also *the far right* at ²FAR

by right : according to what is legally or morally correct ▪ The money is mine *by right*. [=I have the right to have the money]

by rights *also* ***by all rights*** : according to what is proper and reasonable ▪ *By rights*, you should have been the one to receive the promotion.

dead to rights *US* **1** *or Brit* ***bang to rights*** : with proof that you are guilty ▪ The police had him *dead to rights*. ▪ She was caught *dead to rights* on a bribery charge. **2** *sports* : with no chance of winning or succeeding ▪ The other team had us *dead to rights* by the end of the first half.

in its own right : because of its own special qualities and not because of a connection with something else ▪ Though

it's based on a best-selling novel, the movie is great *in its own right*.

in the right : in the position or situation of being right ▪ You are *in the right* to demand a refund/apology. ▪ The judge agreed that he was *in the right*.

in your own right : because of your own efforts, talent, etc., and not because of your connection with someone else ▪ Her husband is a well-known novelist, but she is a successful writer *in her own right*.

might makes right see ²MIGHT

of right *formal* : according to what is legally or morally correct ▪ The estate belongs *of right* to him. ▪ (*law*) The federal court may intervene ***as of right*** [=the federal court has a right to intervene]

put/set (something) to rights : to put (something) back into the normal or proper condition ▪ He helped his mother *put* things *to rights* [=put things in order] after his father died.

two wrongs don't make a right see ³WRONG

⁴right *verb* **rights**; **right•ed**; **right•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (something) right : to correct (something wrong or unjust) ▪ It was time to *right* an old wrong. ▪ No one can *right* all the wrongs in the world.

2 : to return (something) to a proper state or condition ▪ The government needs to do something to *right* the economy.

3 : to put (something or someone) back in an upright position ▪ They *righted* the capsized boat. ▪ He quickly *righted* himself after he fell off the chair.

right angle *noun, pl* ~ **angles** [*count*] : an angle formed by two lines that are perpendicular to each other : an angle that measures 90° ▪ A square has four *right angles*. ▪ Hold the nail ***at a right angle to*** the board. ▪ The two boards are joined ***at right angles to*** each other.

right–angled triangle *noun, pl* ~ **-angles** [*count*] *Brit* : RIGHT TRIANGLE

right–click *verb* **-clicks**; **-clicked**; **-clicking** [*no obj*] *computers* : to press the button on the right side of a mouse or similar device in order to make something happen on a computer ▪ *Right-click* on the icon and select "Open" from the menu. — compare ¹CLICK 2

righ•teous /ˈraɪʧəs/ *adj, formal*

1 : morally good : following religious or moral laws ▪ a *righteous* person ▪ leading a *righteous* life

2 *always used before a noun* : caused by something that you believe is not morally right or fair ▪ *righteous* anger/indignation — see also SELF-RIGHTEOUS

– **righ•teous•ly** *adv* – **righ•teous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

right field *noun* [*noncount*] : the part of a baseball outfield that is to the right when you are looking out from home plate ▪ a fly ball to (deep/shallow) *right field*; *also* : the position of the player defending right field ▪ He plays *right field*.

– **right fielder** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*]

right•ful /ˈraɪtfəl/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal*

1 : according to the law ▪ The property should be returned to its *rightful* owner.

2 : proper or appropriate ▪ He will be given his ***rightful place*** in the history books.

– **right•ful•ly** *adv* ▪ The property is *rightfully* mine. ▪ She was *rightfully* praised for all the work she did.

right–hand /ˈraɪtˌhænd/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : located closer to your right hand : located on the right side ▪ Our building will be on the *right-hand* side. ▪ Please write your name on the bottom *right-hand* corner of the page. ▪ Take a *right-hand* turn. — compare LEFT-HAND

2 : made for the right hand ▪ *right-hand* [=(more commonly) *right-handed*] tools — compare LEFT-HAND

right–hand•ed /ˈraɪtˈhændəd/ *adj*

1 : using the right hand more easily than the left hand ▪ a *right-handed* person/pitcher ▪ Most people in my family are *right-handed*, but I'm left-handed.

2 a : made for the right hand ▪ a *right-handed* glove **b** : using or done with the right hand ▪ a *right-handed* pitch/punch

3 : swinging from the right side of the body to the left side in sports like baseball and golf ▪ a *right-handed* batter/hitter

– **right–handed** *adv* ▪ She bats *right-handed*. – **right–hand•ed•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

right–hand•er /ˈraɪtˈhændɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a right-handed person; *especially* : a right-handed pitcher in baseball ▪ The team has more *right-handers* than left-handers.

right–hand man *noun* [*singular*] : a very important assistant who helps someone do a job ▪ He/She is the CEO's *right-hand man*.

Right Honourable *adj, Brit* — used as a title for a member of Parliament

right•ist *or* **Right•ist** /ˈraɪtɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a person who belongs to or supports the political Right — compare LEFTIST

– **rightist** *or* **Rightist** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *rightist* government ▪ *rightist* intellectuals

right•ly /ˈraɪtli/ *adv*

1 : in a way that is correct : CORRECTLY ▪ If I remember *rightly*, today is his birthday. ▪ She *rightly* anticipated a decline in the value of the stock. ▪ He points out, ***quite rightly***, that there are flaws in the theory. ▪ Many people, ***rightly or wrongly***, believe the economy will soon improve.

2 : for a good reason : in a way that is proper or appropriate ▪ She *rightly* admires his paintings. ▪ People are *rightly* upset about the city's rising crime rate. ▪ ***Quite rightly***, the police commissioner is being blamed for the city's rising crime rate. ▪ She is proud of her children, ***and rightly so***.

3 *informal* : with certainty : for sure — usually used in negative statements ▪ I ***don't rightly know*** where she went. [=I don't know where she went; I'm not sure where she went] ▪ I ***can't rightly say*** what happened.

right–mind•ed /ˈraɪtˈmaɪndəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having beliefs, opinions, etc., that most people think are morally or socially right ▪ *right-minded* citizens

righto /ˌraɪtˈoʊ/ *interj, Brit, informal + old-fashioned* — used to say that you agree with, understand, or accept something that you have been told ▪ "We need to leave soon." "*Righto*. I'll get ready."

right–of–way /ˌraɪtəvˈweɪ/ *noun, pl* **rights–of–way** *also* **right–of–ways**

1 [*noncount*] : the right to move onto or across a road before other people or vehicles ▪ The other car has the *right-of-way*. ▪ Pedestrians have the *right-of-way* here.

2 [*count*] **a** : a legal right to go across another person's land **b** : a path on a person's land which other people have a legal right to use **c** : a long, narrow area of land that is used for a road, railway, etc. ▪ a railroad *right-of-way*

right on *adj*

1 *US* **a** : exactly correct ▪ Her assessment of the situation was *right on*. **b** *informal + somewhat old-fashioned* — used to say that you agree completely with what someone has said ▪ "Make love, not war!" "*Right on*, man!"

2 *usually* ***right-on*** [*more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly Brit, informal + sometimes disapproving* : having or supporting liberal or left-wing beliefs and opinions about how people should be treated ▪ one of the *right-on* people

Right Reverend *adj* — used as a title for a high-ranking member of the clergy

right•size /ˈraɪtˌsaɪz/ *verb* **-siz•es**; **-sized**; **-siz•ing** : to make a company smaller and more efficient by reducing the number of workers : DOWNSIZE [*no obj*] The company plans to *rightsize*. [+ *obj*] The company has *rightsized* [=*downsized*] its staff.

right–to–life /ˈraɪttəˈlaɪf/ *adj, always used before a noun* : opposed to abortion ▪ *right-to-life* groups/activists

– **right–to–life•er** /ˈraɪttəˈlaɪfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

right triangle *noun, pl* ~ **-angles** [*count*] *US* : a triangle that has a right angle — called also (*Brit*) *right-angled triangle*

right•ward (*chiefly US*) /ˈraɪtwɚd/ *or chiefly Brit* **right•wards** /ˈraɪtwɚdz/ *adv* : toward the right ▪ Turn the boat *rightward*. ▪ She stepped *rightward* into the light. ▪ He has moved *rightward* in his political beliefs. — opposite LEFTWARD

– **rightward** *adj* ▪ a *rightward* turn

right wing *noun* [*singular*] : the part of a political group that consists of people who support conservative or traditional ideas and policies : the part of a political group that belongs to or supports the Right ▪ His nomination is supported by the party's left wing but opposed by the *right wing*.

right–wing /ˈraɪtˈwɪŋ/ *adj* : of, relating to, or belonging to the political Right : having or supporting ideas and policies that are associated with conservative groups ▪ *right-wing* politics/politicians

– **right–wing•er** /ˈraɪtˈwɪŋɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a policy opposed by *right-wingers*

righty /ˈraɪti/ *noun, pl* **right•ies** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : RIGHT-HANDER ▪ Our starting pitcher is a *righty*. — compare LEFTY

rig•id /ˈrɪʤəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not able to be bent easily : STIFF ▪ a *rigid* steel beam ▪ The patient's legs were *rigid*.

2 : not easily changed ▪ a *rigid* procedure ▪ The periodical has *rigid* [=*strict*, *inflexible*] guidelines for submissions. ▪ a *rigid* [=*strict*, *unwavering*] adherence to the rules
3 : not willing to change opinions or behavior ▪ He is a *rigid* disciplinarian.
– **ri•gid•i•ty** /rə'ʤɪdəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *rigidity* of the plant's stem ▪ the *rigidity* of the guidelines – **rig•id•ly** *adv* ▪ The law was *rigidly* enforced. ▪ The soldiers stood *rigidly* at attention.

rig•ma•role *or US* **rig•a•ma•role** /'rɪgəmə,roʊl, 'rɪgmə,roʊl, *Brit* 'rɪgmə,rəʊl/ *noun* : a long, complicated, and annoying process, description, etc. [*singular*] We had to go through the *rigmarole* of installing, registering, and activating the software before we found out it wouldn't work. [*noncount*] He just told us what to do without all the usual *rigamarole*.

rig•or (*US*) *or Brit* **rig•our** /'rɪgɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ors**
1 ***rigors*** [*plural*] : the difficult and unpleasant conditions or experiences that are associated with something ▪ They underwent the *rigors* of military training. ▪ the *rigors* of life in the wilderness
2 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being very exact, careful, or strict ▪ They conducted the experiments with scientific *rigor*. ▪ a scholar known for her intellectual *rigor*

rig•or mor•tis /ˌrɪgɚ'moɚtəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a temporary stiffness of the body that happens soon after death

rig•or•ous /'rɪgərəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : very strict and demanding ▪ *rigorous* enforcement of the rules ▪ *rigorous* training ▪ a *rigorous* course of study
2 : done carefully and with a lot of attention to detail ▪ We subjected the data to a *rigorous* analysis. ▪ a *rigorous* investigation
3 : difficult to endure because of extreme conditions ▪ a harsh, *rigorous* climate
– **rig•or•ous•ly** *adv* ▪ The rules must be *rigorously* followed. ▪ The data was *rigorously* analyzed. – **rig•or•ous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

rile /'rajəl/ *verb* **riles**; **riled**; **ril•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (someone) angry : to irritate or annoy (someone) ▪ Her comments *riled* the professor. — usually + *up* ▪ It doesn't take much to get him *riled up*. [=*angry*]
2 *US, informal* : to make (someone) very excited — usually + *up* ▪ His antics got the kids all *riled up*.

[1]rim /'rɪm/ *noun, pl* **rims** [*count*]
1 : the outer edge of a usually round object ▪ There were chips on the *rim* of the plate. ▪ eyeglasses with wire *rims* ▪ The basketball bounced off the *rim* (of the hoop). ▪ the *rim* of the volcano
2 : the part of a wheel that the tire is put on ▪ He bought stainless steel *rims* for his new car. — see picture at BICYCLE
– **rim•less** /'rɪmləs/ *adj* ▪ *rimless* glasses

[2]rim *verb* **rims**; **rimmed**; **rim•ming** [+ *obj*] : to form or put a rim around (something) ▪ Sharp rocks *rimmed* [=*bordered*] the pond. ▪ She *rimmed* her eyes with eyeliner. ▪ a porcelain bowl *rimmed* with gold

rime /'raɪm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : FROST ▪ a heavy coating of *rime* ▪ *rime* ice

rimmed /'rɪmd/ *adj* : having a particular type of rim — used in combination ▪ horn-*rimmed* glasses ▪ dark-*rimmed* glasses ▪ a gold-*rimmed* plate

rind /'raɪnd/ *noun, pl* **rinds**
1 : the tough, outer skin of some fruits that is usually removed before the fruit is eaten [*count*] an orange *rind* ▪ the *rind* of a watermelon [*noncount*] grated lemon *rind* — see color picture on page C5
2 [*count, noncount*] : a tough, outer surface of some foods (such as certain cheeses) ▪ the *rind* of a cheese ▪ bacon *rind* — see also PORK RIND

[1]ring /'rɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **rings** [*count*]
1 a : a piece of jewelry that is worn usually on a finger ▪ He gave her an engagement/diamond *ring*. — see color picture on page C11 **b** : a piece of jewelry that is shaped like a circle and worn in a special hole made in the skin ▪ a navel/nose *ring* — see also EARRING
2 a : something that is shaped like a circle ▪ He blew smoke *rings*. ▪ the *rings* of the planet Saturn ▪ Put the napkins in/through the napkin *rings*. ▪ I can't find my ***key ring***. [=a metal circle to which keys are attached] — see also ONION RING, TEETHING RING **b** : something that forms a circle around something else ▪ They built a *ring* of houses around an open area. ▪ The moon was surrounded by a *ring* of clouds. **c** : a circular or curved mark or shape ▪ a white *ring* around the dog's eye ▪ a *ring* of dirt in the bathtub ▪ I hadn't slept all night and had dark *rings* [=(more commonly) *circles*] under my eyes.
3 : an area that is used for shows and contests and is usually surrounded by ropes or a fence ▪ a circus/rodeo *ring* ▪ a boxing/wrestling *ring* — see also BULLRING
4 : a group of people who are involved in some illegal or dishonest activity ▪ Police broke up a *ring* of car thieves. ▪ a smuggling *ring*
5 *Brit* : the part on the top of a stove where the heat or flame is produced : BURNER
rings around — used in phrases like ***run rings around*** to say that one person or thing is much better than others ▪ There's an architect in our firm who *runs rings around* [=does much better work than] the rest of us. ▪ These are talented kids who can *dance rings around* [=dance much better than] most of their peers.
throw/toss your hat in/into the ring see HAT
– compare [4]RING

[2]ring *verb* **rings**; **ringed**; **ring•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to form a circle around (something or someone) : to surround (something or someone) ▪ Police *ringed* the building. ▪ Little cottages *ring* the lake.
2 *Brit* : to draw a circle around (something) ▪ He *ringed* [=*circled*] the words that were misspelled.
– compare [3]RING
– **ringed** /'rɪŋd/ *adj* ▪ a bird with a *ringed* bill ▪ Saturn, the *ringed* planet

[3]ring *verb* **rings**; **rang** /'ræŋ/; **rung** /'rʌŋ/; **ringing**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (an object or device, such as a bell) to make a sound ▪ She *rang* the little bell. ▪ *Ring* the doorbell. ▪ When she discovered the fire she immediately *rang* [=(more commonly) *sounded*] the alarm. **b** [*no obj*] *of an object or device* : to make a sound especially as a signal of something ▪ The church bells were *ringing*. ▪ The alarm/doorbell is *ringing*. ▪ Excuse me, my cell phone is *ringing*. [=my cell phone is making the sound which signals that someone is calling] **c** [*no obj*] : to call someone or something by ringing a bell ▪ You *rang*, madam? [=you rang a bell to call for me; how can I help you?] — usually + *for* ▪ She *rang for* the servants. ▪ He *rang for* a nurse.
2 [*no obj*] **a** : to fill a place or area with sound ▪ Cheers *rang* through the hall as the winner was announced. ▪ Gunshots *rang* in the air. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ His words were still ***ringing in my ears/head***. [=I was still thinking about or remembering what he had said] ▪ She entered cautiously, the teacher's warning *ringing in her ears*. **b** : to be filled *with* the sound of something ▪ The hall *rang with* their cheers. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The whole town *rang with* news of the victory. [=many people in the town were talking about the victory] **c** *of the ears* : to be filled with a sound that other people cannot hear ▪ His ears were *ringing* after the concert.
3 [*no obj*] : to seem to have a specified quality or character ▪ Her explanation didn't ***ring true***. = Her explanation ***rang false***. [=her explanation didn't seem true; it seemed false] ▪ His apology ***rang hollow***. [=his apology did not sound sincere]
4 *chiefly Brit* : to make a telephone call to someone or something : CALL [+ *obj*] I'll *ring* you (up) tomorrow. ▪ He called me yesterday, and I *rang* him back today. [*no obj*] I *rang* this morning. ▪ He's not here right now. Can you *ring* back later?
have/get your bell rung see BELL
ring a bell *informal* : to be familiar ▪ Yes, that name *rings a bell*. ▪ The term didn't *ring a bell* with me.
ring in [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***ring in (something)*** *also* ***ring (something) in*** : to celebrate the beginning of (something, such as a new year) ▪ How did you *ring in* the new millennium? ▪ We're going to New York to ***ring in the New Year***. **2** *chiefly Brit* **a** : to make a telephone call to a place (such as the place where you work) ▪ She ***rang in sick*** [=(*US*) *called in sick*] yesterday. [=she telephoned the place where she works to say that she was sick and would not be coming to work] **b** : to make a telephone call to a radio or television program ▪ Thousands of people *rang in* [=(*US*) *called in*] to make a donation. **3** ***ring in at (an amount)*** : to cost (a certain amount of money) ▪ These hats *ring in at* 200 dollars.
ring off [*phrasal verb*] *Brit* : to end a telephone call : to hang up ▪ He said he didn't have time to talk and quickly *rang off*.
ring off the hook *US, of a telephone* : to ring constantly or frequently ▪ The phone was *ringing off the hook* all morning. [=many people called during the morning]

R

ring out [*phrasal verb*] : to be heard loudly and clearly ▪ A shot *rang out*. [=a loud shot was heard] ▪ Cheers *rang out* as the winner was announced.

ring the changes *Brit* : to make changes in order to do something differently, make it more interesting, etc. ▪ The team's manager *rang the changes* at halftime so that more players would have a chance to play.

ring up [*phrasal verb*] ***ring (something) up*** *or* ***ring up (something)*** **1** : to use a special machine (called a cash register) to calculate the cost of (something, such as goods or services) ▪ The cashier *rang up* our purchases. **2** : to achieve (something) ▪ The company *rang up* huge profits last quarter. ▪ She *rang up* another tournament win.

– compare ²RING

⁴ring *noun, pl* **rings**

1 [*count*] **a** : the sound that a bell makes ▪ the *ring* of the doorbell **b** : the act of making a bell ring ▪ He gave the doorbell a *ring*. [=he rang the doorbell]

2 [*count*] **a** : the sound that a telephone makes when someone is calling ▪ The telephone's *ring* is loud. — compare RINGTONE **b** : one of the sounds in the series of sounds that a telephone makes when someone is calling ▪ She waited until the third *ring* to answer the phone.

3 [*singular*] : a specified quality ▪ Her story had a *ring* of truth about it. [=her story seemed true] ▪ His name had a familiar *ring* to it. [=his name was familiar]

give (someone) a ring *chiefly Brit* : to make a telephone call to (someone) ▪ I'll *give you a ring* [=*give you a call*] tomorrow.

– compare ¹RING

ring binder *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a cover for sheets of paper that are fastened into rings that pass through holes on the edge of the paper

ring•er /ˈrɪŋɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : someone who rings a bell ▪ a bell *ringer*

2 : the part of a telephone that rings to signal that someone is calling ▪ Turn off the *ringer* on the telephone.

3 *informal* : a person or animal that enters a contest illegally by using a false name, pretending not to have much skill, etc. ▪ One of the players on the winning team was a *ringer*.

4 *informal* : someone who looks very much like another person ▪ He's a *ringer* for the President. ▪ She's a ***dead ringer*** for my cousin Julie. [=she looks exactly like my cousin Julie]

ring–fence *verb* **-fenc•es**; **-fenced**; **-fenc•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to put (an amount of money) aside for a specific purpose : EARMARK ▪ The money was *ring-fenced* for education programs.

ring finger *noun, pl* ~ **-gers** [*count*] : the third finger especially of your left hand when you count the index finger as the first finger — see picture at HAND

ring•ing /ˈrɪŋɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 a : very loud and clear ▪ a *ringing* voice **b** : like the sound a bell or alarm makes ▪ Do you hear that *ringing* sound?

2 : made forcefully or with confidence ▪ a *ringing* endorsement/condemnation

ring•lead•er /ˈrɪŋˌliːdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : the leader of a group that causes trouble or is involved in an illegal activity ▪ the *ringleader* of a gang of criminals

ring•let /ˈrɪŋlət/ *noun, pl* **-lets** [*count*] : a long curl of hair — usually plural ▪ She wore her hair in *ringlets*.

ring•mas•ter /ˈrɪŋˌmæstɚ, *Brit* ˈrɪŋˌmɑːstə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person whose job is to introduce the performers in a circus and to talk to the audience between performances

ring pull *noun, pl* ~ **pulls** [*count*] *Brit* : PULL TAB

ring road *noun, pl* ~ **roads** [*count*] *Brit* : a road that goes around a city or town

ring•side /ˈrɪŋˌsaɪd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the area that is closest to the space used for circus acts, boxing matches, etc. : the seats that are closest to the ring ▪ We were seated at *ringside*.

– **ringside** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ We had *ringside* seats. – **ringside** *adv* ▪ We sat *ringside*.

ring•tone /ˈrɪŋˌtoʊn/ *noun, pl* **-tones** [*count*] : the sound that a cell phone makes when someone is calling

ring toss *noun, pl* ~ **tosses** [*count, noncount*] *US* : a game in which players try to throw a ring so that it will fall over an upright stick

ring•worm /ˈrɪŋˌwɚm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a disease that causes ring-shaped marks to appear on the skin

rink /ˈrɪŋk/ *noun, pl* **rinks** [*count*] : an often enclosed area that has a special surface of ice, smooth pavement, etc., and that is used for skating ▪ an ice-skating/roller-skating *rink* ▪ a hockey *rink* ▪ The hockey team is practicing at the *rink*.

rinky–dink /ˈrɪŋkiˌdɪŋk/ *adj, US, informal* + *disapproving* : not very large or important : involving only a few people or only a small area ▪ a *rinky-dink* operation/business ▪ a *rinky-dink* [=*small-time*] drug dealer

¹rinse /ˈrɪns/ *verb* **rins•es**; **rinsed**; **rins•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to wash (something) with clean water and without soap ▪ I *rinsed* my face in the sink. ▪ *Rinse* out your mouth. ▪ *Rinse* (off) the apple before you eat it. ▪ *rinse* (out) a cup ▪ He washed the dishes and then *rinsed* them thoroughly. **b** : to wash (something) with a liquid other than clean water ▪ The tools were *rinsed* in alcohol.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to remove (something) from an object by washing the object with clean water ▪ She *rinsed* the dirt off the lettuce. ▪ He *rinsed* the soap out of the cup.

²rinse *noun, pl* **rinses**

1 [*count*] : an act of washing something with a liquid and especially with clean water ▪ Give the apple a *rinse* [=rinse the apple] before you eat it.

2 : liquid that is used for rinsing something [*count*] a mouth *rinse* [*noncount*] She dunked the dish in the *rinse* water. ▪ Use sanitizing *rinse* on the scissors.

3 [*count, noncount*] : a dye that you put on your hair to change its color for a short time ▪ a bottle of hair *rinse*

¹ri•ot /ˈrajət/ *noun, pl* **ri•ots**

1 [*count*] : a situation in which a large group of people behave in a violent and uncontrolled way ▪ The news about the election caused/started/sparked a *riot* in the city. ▪ a prison *riot* ▪ A lot of property was damaged in the recent *riots*. ▪ *riot* gear/police

2 [*singular*] : a place that is filled with something ▪ The field was a *riot* of wildflowers. [=the field was filled with many kinds of wildflowers] ▪ The woods are a ***riot of color*** in the autumn.

3 [*singular*] *informal* : someone or something that is very funny ▪ She's a *riot*. ▪ The movie was an absolute *riot*.

read (someone) the riot act : to speak in an angry and critical way to (someone who has done something wrong) : to tell (someone) that bad behavior will be severely punished if it continues ▪ His boss *read him the riot act* for making careless mistakes.

run riot : to behave in a violent and uncontrolled way ▪ People were *running riot* in the streets. — often used figuratively ▪ Crazy thoughts were *running riot* through my head. ▪ The weeds have *run riot* over our poor garden. [=the weeds in our garden have grown quickly and have taken over the garden]

²riot *verb* **riots**; **ri•ot•ed**; **ri•ot•ing** [*no obj*] *of a group of people* : to behave in a violent and uncontrolled way ▪ Students *rioted* after their team lost the football game.

– **ri•ot•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ *Rioters* looted the store. – **rioting** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Police stopped the *rioting*.

ri•ot•ous /ˈrajətəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal*

1 *of a group of people* : behaving in a violent and uncontrolled way ▪ a *riotous* assembly/crowd

2 : very exciting, fun, or full of energy ▪ a *riotous* party/celebration ▪ *riotous* humor

3 : existing or occurring in large amounts : ABUNDANT ▪ a *riotous* profusion of flowers

– **ri•ot•ous•ly** *adv* ▪ The fans celebrated *riotously*. ▪ He gave a *riotously* funny performance.

¹rip /ˈrɪp/ *verb* **rips**; **ripped**; **rip•ping**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to tear, split, or open (something) quickly or violently ▪ She *ripped* the fabric in half. ▪ He *ripped* open the package. ▪ The dog ***ripped*** the pillow ***to shreds/pieces***. ▪ The dog ***ripped a hole*** [=made a hole] in the pillow. ▪ The force of the explosion *ripped a hole* in the wall. **b** [*no obj*] : to become torn or split ▪ Her coat *ripped* when it caught on the doorknob. ▪ The seam has *ripped*.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to remove (something) quickly or violently ▪ I *ripped* the poster off the wall. ▪ The sink had been *ripped* from the wall. ▪ He *ripped* the page out of the magazine. ▪ She *ripped* off her mask. ▪ He *ripped* the letter from my hands.

3 [*no obj*] : to go or move very quickly *through* or *into* something ▪ The fire *ripped through* the forest. ▪ an epidemic that *ripped through* the region ▪ The bullet *ripped into* her leg.

4 [+ *obj*] : to criticize (someone or something) in a very harsh or angry way ▪ (*US*) The coach *ripped* [=*ripped into*] his team for their sloppy play. ▪ His latest movie was ***ripped to shreds/pieces*** by the critics.

R

let rip *informal* **1 :** to do something in a way that is full of anger or energy ▪ For the concert finale, the band *let rip* with a fantastic version of the song that made them famous. ▪ I don't think anyone expected the senator to *let rip* at the press conference like that. [=to speak in such an angry way] **2 *let (something) rip* :** to make (a car, boat, machine, etc.) go very fast — usually used in phrases like ***let it rip*** and ***let her/'er rip*** ▪ Once we got the boat out into the open water, we *let it rip*.

rip apart [*phrasal verb*] **1 *rip (something) apart or rip apart (something)* :** to completely destroy (something) by tearing it into pieces ▪ The child *ripped* the toy *apart*. ▪ Strong winds had *ripped apart* many of the little beach bungalows. — often used figuratively ▪ a tragedy/scandal that almost *ripped* the family *apart* **2 *rip (someone or something) apart or rip apart (someone or something)* :** to criticize (someone or something) in a very harsh or angry way especially by describing weaknesses, flaws, etc. ▪ Critics *ripped* the author's latest novel *apart*. ▪ an article that *rips apart* the mayor's plan

rip into [*phrasal verb*] ***rip into (someone or something)* :** to criticize (someone or something) in a very harsh or angry way ▪ The coach *ripped into* [=*tore into*] the team after the game. ▪ She *ripped into* the band's last performance.

rip off [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1 *rip (someone) off or rip off (someone)* :** to steal from or cheat (someone) ▪ Hundreds of people were *ripped off* in a scam involving two people who claimed to be collecting money for disaster victims. ▪ The store had been *ripping* customers *off* for years. ▪ I wasn't trying to *rip* you *off*. I thought $50 was a fair price. **2 *rip (something) off or rip off (something)* a :** to steal (something) ▪ The organization's treasurer *ripped off* almost $6,000 before being caught. ▪ Somebody *ripped off* [=*stole*] all our equipment. = All our equipment got *ripped off*. [=*stolen*] **b** *disapproving* **:** to copy or imitate (something) improperly : to make something that is too much like (something made by someone else) ▪ The film has done well, but its makers have been accused of *ripping off* another movie made 30 years ago. — see also RIP-OFF

rip up [*phrasal verb*] ***rip (something) up or rip up (something)*** **:** to completely destroy (something) by tearing it into pieces ▪ He *ripped up* the letter.

[2]rip *noun, pl* **rips** [*count*] **:** a long tear in something ▪ She has a *rip* in her coat.

R.I.P. *or chiefly Brit* **RIP** /ˌɑɚˌaɪˈpiː/ *abbr* rest in peace ✧ *R.I.P.* is often written on a gravestone as a wish that the person buried there will have peace in death.

rip cord *noun, pl* **~ cords** [*count*] **:** a cord or wire that is pulled to open a parachute

ripe /ˈraɪp/ *adj* **rip•er**; **rip•est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 *of fruits and vegetables* **:** fully grown and developed and ready to be eaten ▪ a *ripe* tomato ▪ The apples are nearly *ripe*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ the violin's full, *ripe* sound ▪ a story ***ripe with*** details [=a story that includes many details] — opposite UNRIPE

2 *not used before a noun* **:** ready or suitable for something — usually + *for* ▪ The army was *ripe for* action. ▪ a system that is ***ripe for abuse*** [=a system that is in such bad condition that it could easily be used wrongly] ▪ The ***time was ripe for*** proposing his plan. ▪ We'll make these changes when the *time is ripe*.

3 *of food and especially cheese* **:** brought to full flavor or the best state by being stored for a period of time ▪ a *ripe* cheese

4 : having a strong and unpleasant smell ▪ Those old sneakers smell pretty *ripe*.

ripe old age **:** a very old age ▪ She took up painting at the *ripe old age* of 85. ▪ They both lived to a *ripe old age*. — sometimes used humorously ▪ She decided at the *ripe old age* of 23 that she'd learned all there was to know about human nature.

– ripe•ness *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Check the *ripeness* of the fruit before you buy it. ▪ the cheese's *ripeness*

rip•en /ˈraɪpən/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing**

1 [*no obj*] **:** to become ripe and ready to eat ▪ The tomatoes finished *ripening* on the windowsill.

2 [+ *obj*] **:** to make (something) ripe ▪ You can *ripen* the fruit by placing it in a paper bag and storing it at room temperature for a few days.

rip–off /ˈrɪpˌɑːf/ *noun, pl* **-offs** [*count*] *informal* + *disapproving*

1 : something that is too expensive : something that is not worth its price ▪ The food was decent but the drinks were a *rip-off*. ▪ The bike turned out to be a real *rip-off*.

2 : something that is too much like something made by someone else ▪ The song is an obvious *rip-off*. ▪ His new movie's just a *rip-off* of another movie made 30 years ago. — see also *rip off* at [1]RIP

ri•poste /rɪˈpoʊst/ *noun, pl* **-postes** [*count*] *formal* **:** a quick and clever reply ▪ a witty *riposte* [=*retort*]

ripped *adj*

1 : having rips : torn, split, or opened ▪ She was wearing *ripped* jeans.

2 *US, informal* **:** having a strong and muscular body or shape with little fat ▪ *ripped* [=*chiseled*] abs ▪ a *ripped* body ▪ He is *ripped*.

[1]rip•ple /ˈrɪpəl/ *verb* **rip•ples**; **rip•pled**; **rip•pling**

1 : to move in small waves [*no obj*] Water *rippled* under the dock. ▪ We could see the lion's muscles *ripple*. [+ *obj*] A cool breeze *rippled* the water.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] **:** to pass or spread through or over (someone or something) ▪ Fear/excitement *rippled* through the room. [=people in the room suddenly felt fear/excitement] ▪ Economists predict that these costs will *ripple* through the economy. [=will affect the entire economy]

[2]ripple *noun, pl* **ripples** [*count*]

1 a : a small wave on the surface of a liquid ▪ The pebble made *ripples* in the pond when I threw it in. **b :** a shape or pattern having small waves ▪ *ripples* of sand

2 : a sound that gradually becomes louder and then quieter — usually + *of* ▪ *ripples of* laughter

3 : something that passes or spreads through or over someone or something — usually singular; often + *of* ▪ A *ripple of* fear/excitement spread through the room. [=people in the room suddenly felt fear/excitement]

ripple effect *noun, pl* **~ -fects** [*count*] **:** a situation in which one event causes a series of other events to happen ▪ These kinds of crimes create a *ripple effect* throughout the city. [=they cause more crimes, problems, etc.] ▪ These costs will have a huge/major *ripple effect* on the economy. [=the costs will cause important changes in the economy]

rip–roar•ing /ˈrɪpˈrorɪŋ/ *adj, informal* **:** very loud, lively, and exciting ▪ a *rip-roaring* party

– rip–roaring *adv* ▪ He was *rip-roaring* drunk. [=he was very drunk in a lively and noisy way]

rip•tide /ˈrɪpˌtaɪd/ *noun, pl* **-tides** [*count*] **:** a strong usually narrow current of water that flows away from a shore

[1]rise /ˈraɪz/ *verb* **ris•es**; **rose** /ˈroʊz/; **ris•en** /ˈrɪzn̩/; **ris•ing** /ˈraɪzɪŋ/ [*no obj*]

1 a : to move upward ▪ Smoke was *rising* into the air. ▪ Bubbles *rose* to the surface of water. ▪ The airplane *rose* [=(more formally) *ascended*] into the sky. — often + *up* ▪ Smoke was *rising up* into the air. ▪ The airplane *rose up* from the runway. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ His ***spirits rose*** [=he began to feel happier] when he heard the good news. **b :** to become higher ▪ The tide *rose* and fell. ▪ The river is *rising*. **c :** to slope or extend upward ▪ The land *rises* as you move away from the coast. ▪ The road *rose* gently/steeply. ▪ a tower *rising* above the little town ▪ steeply/sharply *rising* mountain peaks — often + *up* ▪ The mountains *rose up* before us.

2 : to advance to a higher level or position : to become more popular, successful, etc. ▪ a politician who *rose* to fame/power/prominence very quickly ▪ Empires *rise* [=become powerful, important, etc.] and fall. ▪ The book has *risen* to the top of best-seller lists. ▪ She ***rose through the ranks*** of the company to become president. [=she began her career with the company with little power or authority and gradually gained more power and authority until she had become president] ▪ She ***has risen in my estimation***. [=I think more highly of her; I respect/admire her more]

3 a : to increase in amount, number, level, etc. : to become more ▪ Sales have *risen* [=*increased*] in recent months. ▪ People are angry about *rising* gasoline prices. ▪ The population has been *rising* [=*growing*] dramatically/sharply/markedly. ▪ Stocks *rose* (by) several points in early trading today. ▪ The market is continuing to *rise*. **b :** to become stronger : to increase in strength ▪ The wind *rose* in the afternoon. ▪ My anger *rose* as I thought about what she had said. **c :** to become louder : to increase in volume ▪ The music *rose* and fell. ▪ Her voice *rose* to an angry shout.

4 a : to stand up ▪ He *rose* slowly (to his feet). ▪ She quickly *rose* from the chair and began to walk away. **b :** to get up from sleeping in a bed ▪ He *rose* refreshed after a good night's sleep. ▪ ***Rise and shine!*** [=wake up and get out of bed]

5 *of the sun or moon* **:** to appear above the horizon ▪ The sun

rises [=*comes up*] in the morning and sets at night. ▪ We watched as the moon *rose* in the eastern sky. — opposite [1]SET 11

6 *of bread, cake, etc.* : to become bigger because of being filled with air bubbles made through a chemical process ▪ Yeast will make the dough *rise*.

7 : to begin to fight in order to remove a ruler or government ▪ The people *rose* in rebellion/revolt. — often + *up* ▪ He told the people that they should *rise up* and overthrow the corrupt government.

8 : to live again after dying : to come back to life ▪ a belief that the dead will ***rise again*** [=will live again] ▪ Christians believe that Jesus Christ ***rose from the dead***.

rise above [*phrasal verb*] ***rise above (something)*** **1** : to not allow yourself to be hurt or controlled by (something bad or harmful) ▪ We need to *rise above* our anger/frustration and find a way to get along with each other. ▪ She *rose above* the prejudice of her time to become a great civil rights leader. ▪ It's time to *rise above* petty bickering/politics. **2** : to be or become better than (something) ▪ The quality of the food never *rises above* average.

rise to the occasion/challenge : to make the special effort that is required to successfully deal with a difficult situation ▪ No one was sure if he could handle the pressure of making a speech, but he *rose to the occasion* and did an excellent job. ▪ When the company needed to increase its sales, its employees *rose to the challenge*.

your gorge rises see [1]GORGE

[2]rise *noun, pl* **rises**

1 [*count*] : an increase in amount, number, level, etc. — usually singular ▪ There has been a sharp/dramatic *rise* in property values. ▪ The town's population has grown by 200—a *rise* of more than 20 percent. ▪ a steady *rise* [=*increase*] in the number of available jobs ▪ a *rise* in prices/taxes = (*chiefly Brit*) a price/tax *rise* — opposite DECREASE

2 [*singular*] : an upward movement ▪ We watched the *rise* and fall of the waves.

3 [*singular*] : the act of advancing to a higher level or position : the process by which something or someone becomes established, popular, successful, etc. ▪ The book describes the empire's *rise* and fall. ▪ the meteoric/sudden *rise* of the Internet ▪ a politician's *rise* to fame/power/prominence ▪ the *rise* of nationalism/feminism

4 [*count*] **a** : an upward slope ▪ There was a gentle/steep *rise* in the road as we approached the town. **b** : an area of ground that is higher than the ground around it : a small hill ▪ We could see the valley below us as we came over the *rise*.

5 [*count*] *Brit* : an increase in the amount of money paid to a worker : RAISE ▪ I asked my boss for a *rise*. ▪ a pay *rise*

get a rise out of *informal* : to cause (someone) to react in an angry way : to make (someone) angry or upset ▪ Ignore her. She's just trying to *get a rise out of* you.

give rise to : to cause or produce (something) ▪ His strange behavior *gave rise to* rumors about his health. ▪ The recent increase in prices has *given rise to* concerns about inflation.

on the rise **1** : increasing in amount, number, level, etc. ▪ Prices were falling last year, but now they are *on the rise* again. ▪ The water level in the lake is *on the rise*. **2** : becoming more successful, popular, etc. ▪ an actress whose career is *on the rise*

ris•er /ˈraɪzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers**

1 [*count*] : a person who gets out of bed after sleeping — used in the phrases ***early riser*** and ***late riser*** ▪ I'm an *early/late riser*. [=I get out of bed early/late in the morning]

2 [*count*] *technical* : the upright board between two stairs

3 ***risers*** [*plural*] *US* : a set of tall and wide steps for standing or sitting on ▪ The school choir stood on the *risers* for the concert.

ris•i•ble /ˈrɪzəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal + disapproving* : deserving to be laughed at : very silly or unreasonable ▪ a *risible* [=(more commonly) *ridiculous*] title ▪ The suggestion was downright *risible*.

rising *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a violent attempt by a group of people in a country to remove a leader or government : UPRISING ▪ He was the leader of an armed *rising* against the elected government.

rising star *noun, pl* ~ **stars** [*count*] : a person who is quickly becoming popular, successful, etc. ▪ a politician who is a *rising star* in the Republican/Democratic Party

[1]risk /ˈrɪsk/ *noun, pl* **risks**

1 : the possibility that something bad or unpleasant (such as an injury or a loss) will happen [*noncount*] I prefer not to expose my money to too much *risk*. ▪ The degree of *risk* is minimal. ▪ All investments have/involve an ***element of risk***. [*count*] The trip didn't seem like much of a *risk*. ▪ I'm aware of the *risks* associated with this treatment. ▪ There is a *risk* of liver damage with this medication. ▪ Wearing a seatbelt greatly reduces the *risk* of injury or death in a car accident. ▪ We feel that this product presents a significant *risk* to public health. ▪ To me, skydiving is not ***worth the risk***.

2 [*count*] : someone or something that may cause something bad or unpleasant to happen ▪ Smoking is a *risk* to your lungs. ▪ Kids think it's fun, but they don't realize the *risks* involved. ▪ Excess body fat is a serious/significant health *risk*. ▪ The government claims she is a *risk* to national security. — see also SECURITY RISK

3 [*count*] : a person or thing that someone judges to be a good or bad choice for insurance, a loan, etc. ▪ Drivers who are considered poor *risks* have to pay more for car insurance. ▪ The bank will determine if a potential borrower is a good/bad ***credit risk***. [=someone who is likely/unlikely to pay back money the bank loans]

at risk : in a dangerous situation : in a situation in which something bad or harmful could happen ▪ They believe that the policy puts the country *at risk*. ▪ people who are *at risk* of developing heart disease [=who might develop heart disease] ▪ The program is designed for students who are *at risk* for/of failure. [=who are in danger of failing] ▪ Many residents remain *at risk* from floodwaters. ▪ He placed his life *at risk* to save them. [=he risked his life to save them] ▪ The firefighter went back into the burning building to save the dog—*at* considerable *risk* to his own life.

at the risk of (doing something) : despite the possibility of (doing something that could be considered improper, wrong, etc.) ▪ *At the risk of* being/sounding rude, I have to ask you how old you are. [=I have to ask how old you are even though you may consider me rude for asking] ▪ *At the risk of* sounding repetitive, I want to say again that our basic problem is a lack of effective leadership.

at your own risk : with full understanding that what you are doing is dangerous and that you are responsible for your own safety ▪ There's no lifeguard here, so if you swim you'll be doing it *at your own risk*.

calculated risk see CALCULATED

run a risk : to do something that may result in loss, failure, etc. ▪ He is not afraid of *running risks*. [=(more commonly) *taking risks*]

run the risk of : to do something that may result in (something bad or unpleasant happening) ▪ You *run the risk of* being misunderstood if you don't explain your purpose carefully. ▪ That strategy *runs the risk of* undermining their authority. ▪ It's a dangerous policy that *runs the risk of* failure/failing.

take a risk : to do something that may result in loss, failure, etc. ▪ Every time you invest money, you're *taking a risk*.

[2]risk *verb* **risks**; **risked**; **risk•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to put (something) in a situation in which it could be lost, damaged, etc. ▪ She *risked* her life to save her children. ▪ He *risked* all his money on starting his own business. — see also *risk life and limb* at [1]LIFE, *risk your neck* at [1]NECK

2 : to do something that could result in (something bad or unpleasant) ▪ He *risked* breaking his neck. ▪ She's *risking* being considered too sentimental. ▪ The country *risked* a war. ▪ brave people who *risked* being killed to help others ▪ I'm not willing to *risk* getting lost. I'm going to buy a map. ▪ The company is *risking* the loss of millions of dollars.

3 : to do (something that may have harmful or bad results) ▪ It's not wise to *risk* traveling so soon after surgery. ▪ We should stop for more gas. We probably have enough, but I don't want to ***risk it***. [=I don't want to possibly not have enough gas]

risk factor *noun, pl* ~ **-tors** [*count*] : something that increases risk; *especially* : something that makes a person more likely to get a particular disease or condition ▪ Age is one of the *risk factors* for this disease.

risk–taking *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or fact of doing something that involves danger or risk in order to achieve a goal ▪ Starting a business always involves some *risk-taking*. — **risk–taker** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ I'm not much of a *risk-taker*. [=I don't like to take risks]

risky /ˈrɪski/ *adj* **risk•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : involving the possibility of something bad or unpleasant happening : involving risk ▪ The proposal seems *risky*. ▪ It's not as *risky* [=*dangerous*] as people think. ▪ a less/slightly *risky* investment ▪ Her plan is too *risky*. ▪ Love is a ***risky business***.

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[=love involves the possibility of being hurt] ▪ It's a ***risky move*** [=an action that may result in something bad or unpleasant happening] for the company.

– **risk•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I don't like the *riskiness* of the plan.

ri•sot•to /rɪ'sɑ:toʊ/ *noun, pl* **-tos** [*count, noncount*] : an Italian dish made with rice and often vegetables or meat

ris•qué /rɪ'skeɪ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : referring to sex in a rude and slightly shocking way ▪ a *risqué* joke/topic ▪ a song with *risqué* lyrics

ris•sole /'rɪˌsoʊl/ *noun, pl* **-soles** [*count*] *Brit* : a small mass or ball of chopped and fried meat

Rit•a•lin /'rɪtələn/ *trademark* — used for a drug that is given to people who suffer from attention deficit disorder

rite /'raɪt/ *noun, pl* **rites** [*count*] : an act that is part of a usually religious ceremony ▪ Incense is often burned in their religious *rites*. ▪ funeral/purification *rites* ▪ Police suspect that the crime was a gang ***initiation rite***. [=an act that someone must do in order to officially join a gang] — see also LAST RITES

rite of passage *noun, pl* **rites of passage** [*count*] : an act that is a symbol of an important change in someone's life ▪ Her ears were pierced as a *rite of passage*. ▪ For many, going to college is a *rite of passage*.

[1]rit•u•al /'rɪʧəwəl/ *noun, pl* **-als**

1 : a formal ceremony or series of acts that is always performed in the same way [*count*] a religious *ritual* ▪ an ancient fertility *ritual* ▪ The priest will perform the *ritual*. [*noncount*] He was buried simply, without ceremony or *ritual*.

2 : an act or series of acts done in a particular situation and in the same way each time [*count*] the daily *ritual* of preparing breakfast ▪ the bird's mating *ritual* [*noncount*] His day-to-day life is based on *ritual*.

[2]ritual *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : done as part of a ceremony or ritual ▪ a *ritual* dance ▪ perform a *ritual* purification

2 : always done in a particular situation and in the same way each time ▪ *ritual* acts ▪ a *ritual* greeting/gesture

– **rit•u•al•ly** *adv*

rit•u•al•is•tic /ˌrɪʧəwə'lɪstɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : relating to or done as part of a rite or ritual ▪ *ritualistic* acts ▪ the *ritualistic* use of incense

– **rit•u•al•is•ti•cal•ly** /ˌrɪʧəwə'lɪstɪkli/ *adv*

ritzy /'rɪtsi/ *adj* **ritz•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : very fashionable and expensive often in a showy way ▪ a *ritzy* resort/club/wedding

[1]ri•val /'raɪvəl/ *noun, pl* **-vals** [*count*]

1 : a person or thing that tries to defeat or be more successful than another ▪ The teams have been longtime *rivals*. ▪ The men are romantic *rivals* for her affection. ▪ her *rival* [=*competitor, opponent*] in the election ▪ the company's ***chief/main rival*** — often used before another noun ▪ a *rival* team/gang/candidate/company/school ▪ He told a *rival* version of the story. [=a version that disagrees with another version]

2 : something or someone that is as good or almost as good as another person or thing ▪ The company's paper is the *rival* of any in the world. [=it is as good as any paper in the world] ▪ The company's latest cell phone has no *rival/rivals*. [=the company's newest cell phone is much better than all others available]

[2]rival *verb* **rivals**; *US* **ri•valed** *or Brit* **ri•valled**; *US* **ri•val•ing** *or Brit* **ri•val•ling** [+ *obj*] : to be as good or almost as good as (someone or something) ▪ The company manufactures paper that *rivals* the world's best. ▪ The new museum will *rival* the largest in the world.

ri•val•ry /'raɪvəlri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** : a state or situation in which people or groups are competing with each other [*count*] There is a bitter/friendly *rivalry* between the two groups. [*noncount*] a strong sense of *rivalry* ▪ In our family there was plenty of ***sibling rivalry***. [=competition or jealousy between sisters and brothers]

rive /'raɪv/ *verb* **rives**; **rived**; **riv•en** /'rɪvən/; **riv•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to divide or split (something) especially in a forceful or violent way — usually used as *(be) riven* ▪ The country *was riven* by civil war. ▪ a family *riven* with jealousy

riv•er /'rɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a large natural flow of water that crosses an area of land and goes into an ocean, a lake, etc. ▪ the Mississippi *River* ▪ The raft is too small to use on this part of the *river*. ▪ They have a house on the *river*. [=on land next to the river] ▪ Large boats came ***up/down the river***. [=in the opposite/same direction that the river is flowing] ▪ the ***mouth of the river*** = the ***river's mouth*** = the ***river mouth*** [=the place where the river enters the ocean] — see color picture on page C7; compare STREAM

2 : a large flow of something ▪ *Rivers* of mud flowed down the hillside. — often + *of* ▪ The jet stream is a *river of* air. ▪ I cried a *river of* tears. [=I cried a lot]

sell (someone) down the river see [1]SELL

up the river *US, old-fashioned + informal* : to prison ▪ They sent him *up the river* for 10 years.

riv•er•bank /'rɪvɚˌbæŋk/ *noun, pl* **-banks** [*count*] : the ground at the edge of a river ▪ They set up their camp next to the *riverbank*. [=next to the edge of the river]

riv•er•bed /'rɪvɚˌbɛd/ *noun, pl* **-beds** [*count*] : the ground at the bottom of a river

riv•er•boat /'rɪvɚˌboʊt/ *noun, pl* **-boats** [*count*] : a boat that is used on a river

riv•er•front /'rɪvɚˌfrʌnt/ *noun, pl* **-fronts** [*count*] *chiefly US* : the land that is next to a river ▪ We went for a walk down at the *riverfront*. — often used before another noun ▪ *riverfront* property

riv•er•side /'rɪvɚˌsaɪd/ *noun, pl* **-sides** [*count*] : the land that is next to a river ▪ We walked along the *riverside*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *riverside* community/camp

[1]riv•et /'rɪvət/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*] : a special kind of metal bolt or pin that is used to hold pieces of metal together

[2]rivet *verb* **-ets**; **-et•ed**; **-et•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to attract and hold all of someone's attention — usually used as *(be) riveted* ▪ I *was riveted* by her story. [=her story was so interesting that I was giving all of my attention to it] ▪ All eyes *were riveted* on her as she walked past. [=everyone watched her as she walked past] ▪ the kind of performance that keeps an audience *riveted*

2 : to make (someone) unable to move because of fear, shock, etc. — usually used as *(be) riveted* ▪ He *was* ***riveted to the spot*** with fright/amazement. ▪ She stood ***riveted in place***, staring straight ahead.

3 : to fasten (something) with rivets ▪ The iron plates are *riveted* rather than welded.

– **riv•et•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ He worked as a *riveter* in an airplane factory.

riv•et•ing /'rɪvətɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very exciting or interesting ▪ The movie/book/narrative was *riveting*. ▪ a *riveting* story

Ri•vi•era /ˌrɪvi'erə/ *noun*

the Riviera : an area by the sea that has warm weather and is a popular place for people to go for vacations ▪ *the* French/Italian *Riviera*

riv•u•let /'rɪvjələt/ *noun, pl* **-lets** [*count*] : a small stream of water or liquid ▪ *rivulets* of water/sweat

rm. *abbr* room

[1]RN /ˌɑɚ'ɛn/ *noun, pl* **RNs** [*count*] : REGISTERED NURSE

[2]RN *abbr, Brit* Royal Navy

RNA /ˌɑɚˌɛn'eɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a substance in the cells of plants and animals that helps make proteins — called also *ribonucleic acid*; compare DNA

[1]roach /'roʊʧ/ *noun, pl* **roach•es** [*count*]

1 *US* : COCKROACH

2 *informal* : the part of a marijuana cigarette that is left after it has been smoked

– compare [2]ROACH

[2]roach *noun, pl* **roach** *also* **roaches** [*count*] : a small European fish that lives in rivers and lakes — compare [1]ROACH

road /'roʊd/ *noun, pl* **roads**

1 : a hard flat surface for vehicles, people, and animals to travel on [*count*] a paved/gravel/dirt *road* ▪ We'll cross the *road* up ahead at the crosswalk. ▪ He drove off the *road*. ▪ We parked by the side of the *road*. ▪ There are lots of cars on the *road* this morning. ▪ The *roads* around here are pretty bad. [=the roads are in bad condition] ▪ This is a busy *road*. [=many cars, trucks, etc., use this road] ▪ These country/mountain *roads* are beautiful. ▪ icy *roads* ▪ The post office is ***up/down this road*** a bit. [=a short distance further on this road] ▪ There's likely to be a lot of traffic on the ***main/major roads*** [=the roads most commonly used], so you may want to take ***back/side roads***. [=roads that are less commonly used and that do not go through the main part of a city, town, etc.] ▪ the county's ***public/private roads*** — often used in names ▪ The library is on River *Road*. [*noncount*] a desolate stretch of *road* ▪ Miles of *road* lay ahead. ▪ The cabin is accessible ***by road***. ▪ traveling on ***the open road*** [=on roads that are away from cities and towns] — see also MIDDLE-OF-THE-

ROAD, OFF-ROAD, SERVICE ROAD

2 [*count*] : a process or a course of action that leads to a certain result ▪ the *road* to riches/success/victory ▪ They're heading down a dangerous *road*. [=they're following a course of action that could lead to a bad result] ▪ She had a stroke recently but is on ***the road to recovery***. [=in the process of becoming healthy again] ▪ I've been/gone ***down this road*** before. [=I've had this kind of experience before; I've done this kind of thing before] — see also HIGH ROAD

down the road : in or into the future ▪ We don't know what the situation will be like a month/year *down the road*. ▪ They hope to expand the business ***somewhere down the road***. [=at some time in the future]

for the road — used to refer to an alcoholic drink that you have quickly before leaving a place ▪ I'll just have ***one (more) for the road***. [=I'll have one more drink before I leave]

get the/this show on the road see ²SHOW

hit the road *informal* : to begin a journey ▪ We got up early and *hit the road* around 7:00. : to go away : LEAVE ▪ Well, I guess it's time to *hit the road*. ▪ She angrily told him to *hit the road*. [=*get lost*]

on the road **1** : traveling especially in a car, truck, bus, etc. ▪ We've been *on the road* since Tuesday. ▪ Musicians often spend many months *on the road*. **2** *of a vehicle* **a** : being used ▪ You don't see too many of those cars *on the road* anymore. **b** : in good enough condition to be legally driven ▪ It will cost $1,500 to get the car back *on the road*.

the end of the road see ¹END

road•block /ˈroʊdˌblɑːk/ *noun, pl* **-blocks** [*count*]
1 : a place where police or military officers stop drivers especially in order to examine vehicles
2 *US* : something that stops progress ▪ That's the one *roadblock* to the plan. ▪ *roadblocks* on the path to success

road hog *noun, pl* ~ **hogs** [*count*] *informal + disapproving* : someone who drives a vehicle in a way that blocks other drivers

road•house /ˈroʊdˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-houses** [*count*] *US, old-fashioned* : a restaurant or bar that is on a main road outside a city or town

road•ie /ˈroʊdi/ *noun, pl* **-ies** [*count*] *informal* : a person whose job is to help move and set up the equipment of traveling musicians

road•kill /ˈroʊdˌkɪl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : animals that have been killed by being hit by cars and other vehicles ▪ There is a lot of *roadkill* along the highway.

road map *noun, pl* ~ **maps** [*count*]
1 : a map that shows the roads in a particular area ▪ Did you bring a *road map*?
2 *chiefly US* : a plan for achieving a goal ▪ a *road map* to/for peace

road rage *noun* [*noncount*] : anger and aggressive behavior by a driver who is upset by how another person is driving

road•run•ner /ˈroʊdˌrʌnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*] : a North American bird that lives in the desert and runs very fast

road show *noun, pl* ~ **shows** [*count*] : a group of people who travel to different places to entertain people or to advertise something

road•side /ˈroʊdˌsaɪd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the land that is along a road : the area beside a road ▪ a hamburger stand on/by/at the *roadside* — often used before another noun ▪ a *roadside* restaurant ▪ *roadside* vegetation

road sign *noun, pl* ~ **signs** [*count*] : a sign near a road that has information for drivers

road•ster /ˈroʊdstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sters** [*count*] : a car that has two seats and a fabric top that folds back

road test *noun, pl* ~ **tests** [*count*]
1 : a test to see how well a vehicle works when it is driven on roads ▪ The car performed well on the *road test*.
2 *US* : a test to see how well someone is able to drive a car or other vehicle ▪ I have to take a *road test* [=driving test] before I can get my license.
– **road test** *verb* ~ **tests**; ~ **tested**; ~ **testing** [+ *obj*] ▪ The car has not yet been *road tested*.

road trip *noun, pl* ~ **trips** [*count*] *US*
1 : a long trip in a car, truck, etc. ▪ a cross-country *road trip*
2 : a trip that is taken by a sports team in order to play one or more games ▪ The team won three of five games on its *road trip*.

road warrior *noun, pl* ~ **-riors** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : a person who travels a lot especially as part of his or her job ▪ a lightweight laptop computer that's perfect for *road warriors*

road•way /ˈroʊdˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways** [*count*] : the part of a road that is used by vehicles ▪ Police cleared the *roadway* for the parade.

road•work /ˈroʊdˌwɚk/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : work that is done to build or repair roads ▪ The *roadwork* caused a backup in traffic. — called also (*Brit*) *roadworks*

road•wor•thy /ˈroʊdˌwɚði/ *adj* : safe and suitable for using on a road ▪ a *roadworthy* vehicle — compare AIRWORTHY, SEAWORTHY
– **road•wor•thi•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The trucks were all tested for *roadworthiness*.

roam /ˈroʊm/ *verb* **roams**; **roamed**; **roam•ing** : to go to different places without having a particular purpose or plan [*no obj*] The cattle *roamed* in search of water. ▪ Goats *roam* free on the mountain. ▪ He *roamed* about in search of work. ▪ The chickens are able to *roam* around freely in the farmyard. ▪ We *roamed* around town for a while before dinner. ▪ She liked to *roam* through the woods. [+ *obj*] Sheep *roamed* the hills. ▪ Tourists *roamed* the streets. ▪ She spent the day *roaming* [=*surfing*] the Internet. ▪ His ***eyes roamed*** [=he looked carefully around] the room in search of the cat.

roaming *noun* [*noncount*] : the use of a cell phone in an area that is outside the usual area and that requires the use of a different network ▪ There are high fees for *roaming*. — often used before another noun ▪ *roaming* charges/fees

roan /ˈroʊn/ *noun, pl* **roans** [*count*] : a horse that has white hairs mixed in with hairs of a darker color
– **roan** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *roan* horse/mare/colt

¹roar /ˈroɚ/ *verb* **roars**; **roared**; **roar•ing**
1 [*no obj*] **a** : to make the loud sound of a wild animal (such as a lion) ▪ We heard a lion *roar* in the distance. **b** : to make a long, loud sound ▪ The guns/siren *roared*. ▪ The fans were *roaring* [=yelling and cheering loudly] after their team scored. ▪ The campfire was *roaring*. [=the campfire was burning brightly and loudly] ▪ The engine suddenly ***roared (back) to life***. [=it made the loud sound of an engine and began running well] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ His career suddenly *roared back to life*.
2 [*no obj*] : to laugh loudly ▪ The joke got the crowd *roaring*. ▪ The audience *roared* with laughter. [=the audience laughed loudly for a long time]
3 : to shout (something) very loudly [+ *obj*] "Watch out," he *roared*. ▪ The crowd *roared* its approval. — often + *out* ▪ The general *roared out* his orders. [*no obj*] She *roared* at him for being late.
4 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move noisily and quickly ▪ The truck *roared* away/off. ▪ The car *roared* down the street. ▪ The wind *roared* through the open barn. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The team came *roaring* back in the second half to win the game.

²roar *noun, pl* **roars** [*count*]
1 : the loud sound of a wild animal (such as a lion)
2 : a loud, low sound that continues for a long time ▪ the *roar* of the airplane engines ▪ the *roar* of the river/crowd ▪ *roars* of laughter/approval

¹roaring /ˈrorɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : very loud, active, or strong ▪ the *roaring* river ▪ a *roaring* fire ▪ The store does a ***roaring business/trade***. [=the store is very busy and successful] ▪ The show was a ***roaring success***. [=a very great success] ▪ life during the ***roaring twenties*** [=the 1920s, when many people lived in a very wild and lively way]

²roaring *adv, informal* : extremely or very ▪ We had a *roaring* good time. ▪ He was ***roaring drunk***. [=very drunk]

¹roast /ˈroʊst/ *verb* **roasts**; **roast•ed**; **roast•ing**
1 a : to cook (food such as chicken, potatoes, or beef) with dry heat in an oven or over a fire [+ *obj*] He *roasted* the chicken. [*no obj*] The chicken is *roasting* in the oven. — compare BAKE, GRILL **b** : to dry (something, such as a bean or nut) with heat [+ *obj*] We *roasted* the peanuts over the fire. [*no obj*] The peanuts *roasted* over the fire.
2 [*no obj*] *informal* : to be very hot ▪ We were *roasting* in the hot sun. ▪ You must be *roasting* [=*baking, sweltering*] in that sweater.
3 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to criticize (someone or something) severely ▪ The movie is being *roasted* by the critics.
4 [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to criticize (someone who is being honored at a special event) in a friendly or joking way : to tell jokes or funny stories about (someone) ▪ Friends and family *roasted* him at his 40th birthday party.

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– **roasted** *adj* ▪ *roasted* potatoes/garlic/tomatoes ▪ *roasted* coffee beans ▪ *roasted* peanuts – **roasting** *adj* ▪ the smell of *roasting* meat ▪ a ***roasting pan*** [=a pan used for roasting]

²roast *noun, pl* **roasts**

1 : a piece of meat that is roasted [*count*] She made a *roast* for dinner. [*noncount*] We're having pork *roast* for dinner. — see also POT ROAST

2 [*count*] *US* **:** an outdoor party at which food is cooked over an open fire ▪ a pig *roast*

3 [*count*] *US* **:** an event at which someone is honored and people tell jokes or funny stories about that person in a friendly way ▪ a celebrity *roast*

³roast *adj, always used before a noun* **:** cooked by roasting ▪ *roast* [=*roasted*] chicken/pork/potatoes

roast•er /ˈroʊstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a device used for roasting meat

2 *chiefly US* **:** a young chicken that is suitable for roasting — compare BROILER, FRYER

roasting *noun* [*singular*] *Brit* **:** the act of severely criticizing someone ▪ My father ***gave me a roasting*** [=yelled at me] for coming home late. ▪ He ***got a roasting*** from his boss. [=his boss criticized him severely]

rob /ˈrɑːb/ *verb* **robs**; **robbed**; **rob•bing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to take money or property from (a person or a place) illegally and sometimes by using force, violence, or threats ▪ Someone tried to *rob* me. ▪ They *robbed* the bank. ▪ The cashier was *robbed* at gunpoint. — often + *of* ▪ They *robbed* her *of* her life savings. ▪ He was *robbed of* all his money. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ You paid $300 to fix that old car? You ***got robbed***. [=you were overcharged; you spent too much]

2 : to keep (someone) from getting something expected or wanted ▪ He made a great shot, but the goalie *robbed* him. [=the goalie blocked his shot and prevented him from scoring a goal] — often + *of* ▪ The other team *robbed* them *of* a victory by getting a last-minute goal. ▪ The center fielder made a great catch to *rob* him *of* a home run. ▪ Her illness *robbed* her *of* a normal childhood. [=she wasn't able to have a normal childhood because of her illness]

rob Peter to pay Paul **:** to take money that was meant for one person or thing and use it to pay someone else or to pay for something else ▪ She was trying to keep her creditors at bay by *robbing Peter to pay Paul*. [=using one credit card to make the payments on another credit card]

rob (someone) blind **:** to steal a lot of things or money from someone ▪ If you're not careful, they'll *rob you blind*.

rob the cradle see ¹CRADLE

rob•ber /ˈrɑːbɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bers** [*count*] **:** a criminal who steals money or property **:** a thief who robs people ▪ The store was held up by a gang of *robbers*. ▪ a bank *robber*

robber baron *noun, pl* ~ **-ons** [*count*] *old-fashioned* **:** a wealthy person who tries to get land, businesses, or more money in a way that is dishonest or wrong

rob•bery /ˈrɑːbəri/ *noun, pl* **-ber•ies** **:** the crime of stealing money or property **:** the crime of robbing a person or place [*count*] a series of armed *robberies* ▪ They foiled a bank *robbery*. [*noncount*] He is charged with attempted *robbery*. ▪ She was arrested for *robbery*. — see also HIGHWAY ROBBERY

robe /ˈroʊb/ *noun, pl* **robes** [*count*]

1 : a long, loose piece of clothing that is worn on top of other clothes to show that someone has a high rank or an important job ▪ The priest wore a purple *robe*. — often plural ▪ a judge's *robes* ▪ The king was dressed in red *robes*.

2 *chiefly US* **:** a loose piece of clothing that wraps around your body and that you wear before or after bathing, swimming, etc., or while resting at home — called also *dressing gown*; see also BATHROBE

robed /ˈroʊbd/ *adj* **:** covered with a robe **:** dressed in robes ▪ The priests were *robed* in black. ▪ *robed* monks

rob•in /ˈrɑːbən/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*]

1 : a North American bird with a grayish back and reddish breast — see color picture on page C9

2 : a small European bird with a brownish back and orange face and breast

ro•bot /ˈroʊˌbɑːt/ *noun, pl* **-bots** [*count*]

1 : a real or imaginary machine that is controlled by a computer and is often made to look like a human or animal ▪ a talking toy *robot* ▪ science fiction *robots* ▪ a *robot* dog — sometimes used figuratively to describe a person who seems to do things automatically or who seems to have no feelings or emotions ▪ He answered the questions like a *robot*.

2 : a machine that can do the work of a person and that works automatically or is controlled by a computer ▪ The cars are assembled by *robots*. ▪ *robot* technology

– **ro•bot•ic** /roʊˈbɑːtɪk/ *adj* ▪ A *robotic* arm is used to mix the chemicals. ▪ *robotic* movements – **ro•bot•i•cal•ly** /roʊˈbɑːtɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The cars are assembled *robotically*. ▪ He answered their questions *robotically*.

ro•bot•ics /roʊˈbɑːtɪks/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** technology that is used to design, build, and operate robots

ro•bust /roʊˈbʌst/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : strong and healthy ▪ *robust* young men and women ▪ He is in *robust* health.

2 a : strongly formed or built ▪ *robust* furniture **b :** successful or impressive and not likely to fail or weaken ▪ a *robust* company ▪ a *robust* economy ▪ She offered a *robust* [=*forceful*] argument against the plan. **c :** impressively large ▪ a *robust* [=*hearty*] dinner ▪ *robust* profits

3 : having a rich, strong flavor ▪ a *robust* [=*full-bodied*] wine ▪ The sauce has a *robust* flavor.

– **ro•bust•ly** *adv* ▪ *robustly* healthy young men and women ▪ The food was *robustly* seasoned. – **ro•bust•ness** /roʊˈbʌstnəs/ *noun, pl* **-nesses** [*count, noncount*]

¹rock /ˈrɑːk/ *verb* **rocks**; **rocked**; **rock•ing**

1 : to move (someone or something) back and forth or from side to side [+ *obj*] She gently *rocked* the baby to sleep. ▪ Waves *rocked* the boat. [*no obj*] He *rocked* back and forth while he stood waiting. ▪ The boat *rocked* back and forth on the waves.

2 [+ *obj*] **:** to cause (something) to shake violently ▪ An earthquake *rocked* the town. ▪ The building was *rocked* by an explosion. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The discovery *rocked* [=*shook*] the very foundations of their theory.

3 [+ *obj*] *informal* **a :** to cause (someone or something) to be upset or shocked ▪ The news of the murders *rocked* the town. **b :** to affect or influence (someone or something) very powerfully ▪ Their invention *rocked* the computer industry. **c :** to entertain (someone) in a very powerful and effective way ▪ The band *rocked* the crowd. ▪ His performance ***rocked the house***. [=the audience loved his performance] ▪ The new video game will ***rock your world***. [=you will really like the new video game]

4 [*no obj*] *informal* **:** to sing, dance to, or play rock music ▪ We were *rocking* all night long.

5 [*no obj*] *slang* **:** to be very enjoyable, pleasing, or effective ▪ Her new car really *rocks*. [=her new car is really great]

rock out [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **:** to play music in a loud or energetic way ▪ The band *rocks out* on their new album.

rock the boat see ¹BOAT

– **rocking** *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count, noncount*] ▪ a slow *rocking*

²rock *noun, pl* **rocks**

1 a [*noncount*] **:** the hard, solid material that the surface of the Earth is made of ▪ They drilled through several layers of solid *rock*. ▪ Moss can grow on bare *rock*. ▪ The miners made a tunnel through the *rock*. ▪ volcanic *rock* — often used before another noun ▪ The mountain had many amazing *rock* formations. — see also BEDROCK, SHEETROCK **b** [*count*] **:** a piece of rock ▪ a flat *rock* ▪ (*US*) We threw *rocks* [=*stones*] into the water. ▪ a pile of *rocks* **c** [*count*] **:** a large piece of rock that sticks up from the surface of the Earth ▪ She climbed the *rock*. ▪ The ship crashed into the *rocks*.

2 — used in phrases to say that something is very hard, steady, etc. ▪ This bread is (as) ***hard as a rock***. = The bread is ***rock-hard***. [=the bread is very hard] ▪ Her hand was ***steady as a rock***. [=her hand was very steady] ▪ His muscles are ***solid as a rock***. [=very strong/solid] ▪ The frozen chicken is ***rock-solid***. ▪ The beat of the drum was ***rock-steady***.

3 [*singular*] *informal* **a :** a strong person who can be relied on ▪ We could always count on him—he was our *rock*. **b :** someone whose ideas, values, ways of doing things, etc., do not change ▪ Once she makes up her mind, she's (like) a *rock*. [=nobody can change her mind once she decides something]

4 [*count*] *informal* **:** a diamond or other jewel ▪ Look at the size of that *rock* on her finger.

5 [*noncount*] *Brit* **:** hard candy that is made in a stick ▪ a stick of *rock* — compare ROCK CANDY

6 [*count*] *informal* **:** a small hard piece of a drug ▪ a *rock* of crack cocaine

between a rock and a hard place *informal* **:** in a very difficult or bad position or situation with no good way of getting out of it ▪ He is caught/stuck *between a rock and a hard place*.

get your rocks off *informal* **1** *of a man* **:** to have an orgasm **2 :** to feel great pleasure or satisfaction ▪ He *gets his rocks off* bossing everyone around.

live under a rock : to be unaware of things that most people know about ▪ How could you have not heard about it? Do you *live under a rock*?

on the rocks **1** : having a lot of problems and likely to fail ▪ Their marriage is *on the rocks*. [=*in trouble*] **2** *of an alcoholic drink* : with ice cubes ▪ He ordered a whiskey/Scotch *on the rocks*.

– compare ³ROCK

³rock *noun* [*noncount*] : a kind of popular music with a strong beat that is played on instruments that are made louder electronically ▪ My favorite types of music are jazz and *rock*. — often used before another noun ▪ *rock* music ▪ a *rock* concert/band/star — see also HARD ROCK, SOFT ROCK — compare ²ROCK

rock·a·bil·ly /ˈrɑːkəˌbɪli/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a kind of popular music that combines rock and country music

rock and roll *or* **rock 'n' roll** /ˌrɑːkənˈroʊl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : rock music

– **rock and roll·er** *or* **rock 'n' roll·er** /ˌrɑːkənˈroʊlɚ/ *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*]

rock bottom *noun* [*noncount*] : the lowest possible level or point ▪ Prices have ***hit/reached rock bottom***. [=have reached the lowest point they can reach] ▪ After years of heavy drug use, she has finally *reached rock bottom*. ▪ Their marriage has *hit rock bottom*.

rock–bottom *adj, always used before a noun, of a price* : very low ▪ The furniture is being sold at *rock-bottom* prices.

rock candy *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : hard candy that is made on a string

rock climbing *noun* [*noncount*] : the sport or activity of climbing the steep sides of a mountain or cliff ▪ a book about *rock climbing* ▪ We are going *rock climbing*.

– **rock climb** *verb* ~ **climbs**; ~ **climbed**; ~ **climbing** [*no obj*] ▪ He *rock climbs* and skydives. – **rock climber** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] ▪ She's a skillful *rock climber*.

rock·er /ˈrɑːkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a curved piece of wood or metal on which an object (such as a cradle or chair) moves back and forth or from side to side

2 *chiefly US* : ROCKING CHAIR

3 a : someone who plays or performs rock music **b** : someone who enjoys listening to rock music

off your rocker *informal* : CRAZY ▪ You must be *off your rocker* if you think I'm going to do that!

rock·ery /ˈrɑːkəri/ *noun, pl* **-er·ies** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : ROCK GARDEN

¹rock·et /ˈrɑːkət/ *noun, pl* **-ets**

1 [*count*] : a type of very powerful engine that is powered by gases that are released from burning fuel ▪ a car powered by a *rocket* = a *rocket*-powered car — often used before another noun ▪ a *rocket* engine

2 [*count*] : a spacecraft or missile that is powered by a rocket engine ▪ a moon *rocket* ▪ antiaircraft *rockets* ▪ a *rocket* launcher

3 [*count*] : a firework that goes high in the air before exploding — called also *skyrocket*

4 [*noncount*] *Brit* : ARUGULA

²rocket *verb* **-ets**; **-et·ed**; **-et·ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to increase quickly and suddenly ▪ Prices *rocketed*. [=*skyrocketed*] ▪ Sales *rocketed* from 1,000 units last week to 5,000 units this week. — often + *up* ▪ Interest rates have been *rocketing up*.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move or rise quickly [*no obj*] The train *rocketed* through the tunnel. ▪ The spacecraft *rocketed* into outer space. ▪ He *rocketed* to stardom. ▪ Her novel *rocketed* to the top of the best-seller list. ▪ Their album *rocketed* up the charts. [+ *obj*] His role in the movie *rocketed* him to fame.

rocket science *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the science of designing or building rockets

2 : something that is very difficult to learn or understand ▪ The job is challenging, but it's not exactly *rocket science*.

– **rocket scientist** *noun, pl* ~ **-tists** [*count*] ▪ You don't have to be a *rocket scientist* [=you don't have to be unusually smart] to understand the instructions.

rocket ship *noun, pl* ~ **ships** [*count*] : a spaceship that is powered by rockets

rock garden *noun, pl* ~ **-dens** [*count*] : a garden in which plants grow between rocks — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *rockery*

rocking chair *noun, pl* ~ **chairs** [*count*] : a chair that moves back and forth on rockers that are attached to its legs — see picture at LIVING ROOM

rocking horse *noun, pl* ~ **horses** [*count*] : a toy horse that is attached to rockers and that moves back and forth while a child sits on it

rock 'n' roll *variant spelling of* ROCK AND ROLL

rock salt *noun* [*noncount*] : salt that is in the form of large pieces or crystals ▪ I put some *rock salt* on the sidewalk to melt the ice.

rock·slide /ˈrɑːkˌslaɪd/ *noun, pl* **-slides** [*count*] : a large mass of rocks that suddenly and quickly moves down the side of a mountain or hill ▪ a dangerous *rockslide*

rocky /ˈrɑːki/ *adj* **rock·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : full of rocks : having many rocks ▪ The soil is very *rocky*. ▪ a *rocky* coastline

2 : full of problems or difficulties ▪ a *rocky* journey/marriage ▪ The team had a *rocky* start this season. ▪ He knew he had a long ***rocky road*** ahead of him if he wanted to become a doctor. [=he knew that becoming a doctor would be very difficult]

ro·co·co /rəˈkoʊkoʊ/ *adj* : of or relating to a style of artistic expression that involves fancy curved forms and much decoration and was popular in the 18th century ▪ The chairs are carved in a *rococo* style. ▪ *rococo* art

rod /ˈrɑːd/ *noun, pl* **rods** [*count*]

1 : a straight, thin stick or bar ▪ a curtain *rod* — see also LIGHTNING ROD, RAMROD

2 : a pole with a line and usually a reel that is used in fishing ▪ a fishing *rod*

3 *old-fashioned* : a stick used to hit or whip someone as a form of punishment ▪ He grew up in a time when people still believed in the old saying: spare the *rod* and spoil the child. [=believed that children should be physically punished for bad behavior in order to be raised correctly]

rule with a rod of iron see ²RULE

– see also HOT ROD

rode *past tense of* ¹RIDE

ro·dent /ˈroʊdn̩t/ *noun, pl* **-dents** [*count*] : a small animal (such as a mouse, rat, squirrel, or beaver) that has sharp front teeth — see picture on next page

ro·deo /ˈroʊdiˌoʊ, roʊˈdejoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-de·os** [*count*] : an event in which people compete at riding horses and bulls, catching animals with ropes, etc.

roe /ˈroʊ/ *noun, pl* **roes** [*count, noncount*] : the eggs of a fish or sea animal ▪ salmon *roe*

rog·er /ˈrɑːʤɚ/ *interj* — used to say that a message has been received and understood when you are talking to someone on a radio

¹rogue /ˈroʊg/ *noun, pl* **rogues** [*count*]

1 *old-fashioned* : a man who is dishonest or immoral ▪ a lying *rogue* [=*scoundrel*]

2 : a man who causes trouble in a playful way ▪ He's a lovable old *rogue*.

²rogue *adj, always used before a noun* — used to describe something or someone that is different from others in usually a dangerous or harmful way ▪ A *rogue* wave flipped the boat over. ▪ *rogue* police officers [=dishonest police officers who commit crimes] ▪ *rogue* states/regimes [=dangerous states/regimes that do not obey international laws] ▪ a ***rogue elephant*** [=a dangerous elephant that lives apart from other elephants]

rogues' gallery *noun* [*singular*]

1 : a collection of pictures of criminals

2 : a collection or list of bad or dangerous people or things ▪ a *rogues' gallery* of dictators ▪ a *rogues' gallery* of deadly viruses

rogu·ish /ˈroʊgɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing in a playful way that you have done something wrong ▪ a *roguish* wink/smile

– **rogu·ish·ly** *adv*

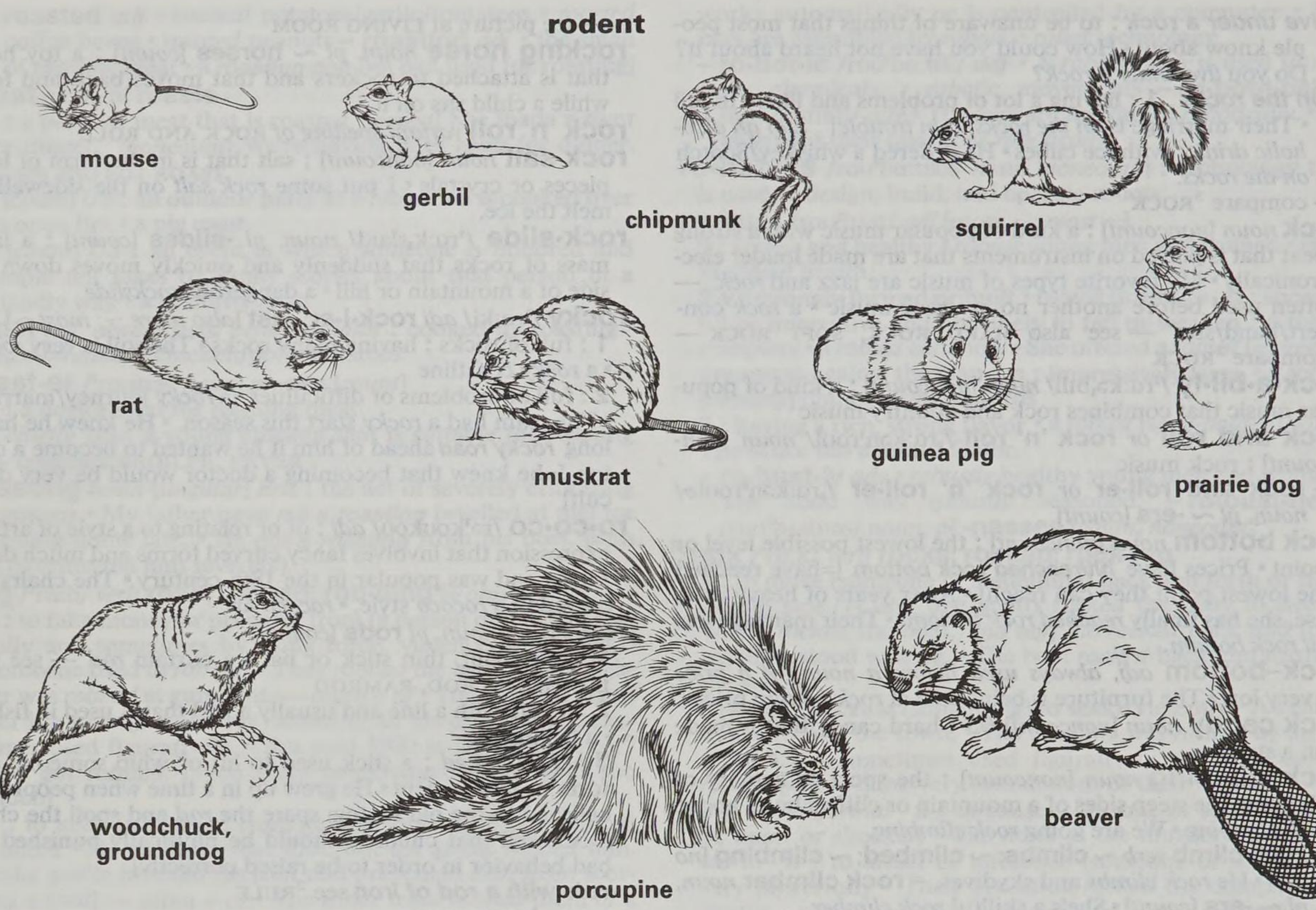
roil /ˈrojəl/ *verb* **roils**; **roiled**; **roil·ing** *chiefly US*

1 [+ *obj*] : to upset (someone or something) very much : to cause (someone or something) to become very agitated or disturbed ▪ Financial markets have been *roiled* by the banking crisis.

2 [*no obj*] : to move in a violent and confused way ▪ *roiling* river rapids — often used figuratively ▪ A lot of different emotions were *roiling* (around) inside her. [=she was experiencing many emotions in a way that was disturbing or confusing]

role /ˈroʊl/ *noun, pl* **roles** [*count*]

1 : the character played by an actor ▪ He plays the *role* of the



villain. ▪ She was given the starring/lead/leading *role*. ▪ I had a minor/major *role* in the play.

2 a : a part that someone or something has in a particular activity or situation — usually + *in* ▪ Everyone had a *role* [=*hand*] *in* winning the game. [=everyone helped to win the game] ▪ The government is taking an active *role in* improving public schools. [=the government is actively involved in improving public schools] ▪ He had a key *role in* designing the bridge. ▪ She talked about the *roles* of exercise and a healthy diet *in* preventing heart disease. ▪ Newspapers play a major *role in* determining how people think about politics. ▪ Religion plays an important *role in* his life. [=religion is very important to him] **b :** the part that someone has in a family, society, or other group ▪ After her husband left her, she had to take on the dual *role* of mother and father for her children. ▪ She likes to play the *role* of matchmaker with her friends. ▪ She challenged the traditional *roles* assigned to women. ▪ We'll switch/reverse *roles* this time, and you can wash the dishes while I dry them. ▪ It was a case of ***role reversal***: the father stayed home with the children while the mother worked.

role model *noun, pl* ~ **-els** [*count*] : someone who another person admires and tries to be like ▪ Parents need to be good *role models* (for their children). ▪ Athletes should remember that they are *role models*.

role–play /ˈroʊlˌpleɪ/ *noun, pl* **-plays** : an activity in which people do and say things while pretending to be someone else or while pretending to be in a particular situation [*noncount*] The teacher used *role-play* to show how people should act at an interview. [*count*] The students did *role-plays* to practice for their interviews.

– **role–play** *verb* **-plays**; **-played**; **-play•ing** [*no obj*] ▪ children learning to *role-play* – **role–playing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We do a lot of *role-playing* in this class.

[1]roll /ˈroʊl/ *verb* **rolls**; **rolled**; **rol•ling**

1 a : to move across the ground or another surface by turning over and over [*no obj*] The children *rolled* down the hill. ▪ The ball *rolled* slowly to a stop. [+ *obj*] She *rolled* the dice. ▪ He *rolled* the ball to me. = He *rolled* me the ball. **b :** to turn over one or more times [*no obj*] He *rolled* (over) onto his back. ▪ The pigs *roll* (around) in the mud to keep cool. ▪ The car *rolled* (over) into the ditch. [+ *obj*] *Roll* the chicken wings in the batter. ▪ The paramedics *rolled* him onto the gurney. ▪ (*US*) He *rolled* his car in the accident.

2 : to move smoothly on wheels [*no obj*] The car *rolled* slowly to a stop. ▪ A police car *rolled* up next to us. [+ *obj*] The children *rolled* the toy car to each other. ▪ The patient was *rolled* into the emergency room.

3 [*no obj*] **:** to move in a smooth, continuous way ▪ We left the movie theater as the final credits *rolled*. [=were moving across the screen] ▪ The fog soon *rolled* away. ▪ The clouds *rolled* past.

4 [+ *obj*] **a :** to form (something) into the shape of a ball or tube ▪ She *rolled* the dough into a ball. ▪ He *rolled* up the newspaper and swatted the fly. **b :** to put (something) inside a tube ▪ He *rolled* the coins. **c :** to wrap up (something or someone) in a way that forms the shape of a tube ▪ He *rolls* his own cigarettes. — often + *up* ▪ She *rolled up* the meat in a tortilla. ▪ He lay there snugly *rolled up* in blankets.

5 : to form your body into a ball — usually + *up* [*no obj*] He lay down on the bed and *rolled* [=*curled*] *up* (into a ball). [+ *obj*] He ***rolled himself up*** (into a ball).

6 [+ *obj*] **a :** to make (something) smooth, even, or flat with a special tool (called a roller or rolling pin) ▪ She *rolled* (out) the dough. ▪ He *rolled* the clay flat. ▪ *rolled* steel/oats **b :** to spread (something) *on* a surface with a special tool (called a roller) ▪ She *rolled* the paint *on* (the wall).

7 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] **:** to move forward along the normal course of time ▪ The days *rolled* [=*passed*] quickly by. ▪ It got hotter as the day *rolled* on/along.

8 [*no obj*] **:** to move or lean from side to side ▪ The ship heaved and *rolled* in the storm. ▪ He walked with a *rolling* gait.

9 [*no obj*] **a :** to make a deep, continuous sound ▪ Thunder *rolled* in the distance. ▪ *rolling* thunder **b :** to make a continuous, quick, beating sound ▪ The drums *rolled*.

10 : to operate (something, such as a movie camera) [+ *obj*] *Roll* the cameras when I say "action." [*no obj*] The camera was not *rolling* [=*filming*] at the time.

11 [*no obj*] **:** to have a series of successes ▪ The team *rolled* through the play-offs.

12 : to cause (your eyes) to look up toward the sky in an expression which shows that you think someone or something is foolish or annoying [+ *obj*] He ***rolled his eyes*** at her suggestion. [*no obj*] Her eyes *rolled* when he told her his idea.

get rolling *informal* **1 :** to leave ▪ We ought to *get rolling* if we don't want to be late. **2 :** to start doing something ▪ You should *get rolling* on that assignment. ▪ The project finally *got rolling*. [=got started]

get/set/start the ball rolling see [1]BALL

heads roll see [1]HEAD

keep the ball rolling see [1]BALL

let's roll *chiefly US, informal* — used to tell another person

or a group of people to start leaving a place or to start doing something ▪ *"Let's roll,"* the sergeant shouted to his men.

ready to roll *informal* **1 :** ready to leave ▪ I am all packed and *ready to roll*. **2 :** ready to start doing something ▪ After we got the loan approved, we were *ready to roll*.

roll around *also Brit* ***roll about*** [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **:** to arrive or happen again ▪ By the time Friday *rolls around*, I'm ready for the weekend. ▪ We'll be better prepared the next time the elections *roll around*.

roll back [*phrasal verb*] ***roll back (something) or roll (something) back*** *chiefly US* **1 :** to reduce (something, such as a price) ▪ The store is *rolling back* its prices for this weekend only. **2 :** to change (something) back to the way it was at an earlier time **:** to reverse or undo (something) ▪ The manufacturers are lobbying to *roll back* [=*rescind*] environmental regulations. ▪ His proposal would ***roll back the clock*** on civil rights.

roll down [*phrasal verb*] ***roll down (something) or roll (something) down*** **1 :** to move (something) down especially by turning a handle ▪ She *rolled down* the car window. **2 :** to unfold the edge of (something, such as a shirt sleeve or pants leg) to make it longer ▪ He *rolled down* his sleeves.

rolled into one **:** combined together into one thing or person ▪ It's a shopping center, amusement park, and nightclub (all) *rolled into one*.

roll in [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1** ***be rolling in (something)*** **:** to have a large amount of (something) ▪ They *were rolling in* money/cash. = They ***were rolling in (the) dough***. = They ***were rolling in it***. **2 :** to appear or arrive in large numbers or amounts ▪ The money has been *rolling in*. ▪ Donations *rolled in* to help the hurricane victims. **3 :** to arrive at a place especially later than usual or expected ▪ Delegates *rolled in* from all parts of the country. ▪ He finally *rolled in* at 3:30 in the morning.

rolling in the aisles see AISLE

roll off the tongue see [1]TONGUE

roll on *Brit, informal* — used to say that you want a time or event to come quickly ▪ *Roll on* Friday. I can't wait for the weekend!

roll out [*phrasal verb*] ***roll out (something) or roll (something) out*** **1 :** to offer or sell (something) for the first time ▪ The company is expected to *roll out* [=*launch*] several new products next year. — see also ROLLOUT **2 :** to make (something that has been rolled into the shape of a tube) long and flat again ▪ He *rolled out* [=*unrolled*] the sleeping bags.

roll out of bed *informal* **:** to rise after sleeping in a bed and especially after sleeping later than usual ▪ She *rolled out of bed* just before noon.

roll out the red carpet see RED CARPET

roll over [*phrasal verb*] **1** *informal* **:** to allow yourself to be easily defeated or controlled **:** to make no effort to fight or compete ▪ I'm not going to just *roll over* and let them do what they want. **2** ***roll over (something) or roll (something) over*** **a :** to delay the payment of (something, such as a debt) ▪ He wanted to *roll over* the repayment of the loan until later. **b :** to place (invested money) in a new investment of the same kind ▪ She *rolled over* her investments from one fund to another. — see also ROLLOVER

roll the dice see [1]DICE

roll up [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***roll up (something) or roll (something) up*** **a :** to move (something) up especially by turning a handle ▪ She *rolled up* the car window. **b :** to fold up the ends of (something, such as a shirt sleeve or pants leg) to make it shorter ▪ She *rolled up* her jeans and stepped into the water. **2** *informal* **:** to arrive at a place in a vehicle ▪ Celebrities *rolled up* in their limousines. **3** *Brit* — used to invite people to gather around to see a show or to buy things ▪ *Roll up, roll up* [=(*chiefly US*) *step right up*]— you won't find cheaper watches anywhere else! — see also [1]ROLL 4c, 5 (above)

roll up your sleeves *informal* **:** to prepare to work hard ▪ It's time to *roll up our sleeves* and get the job done. ▪ Congress needs to *roll up its sleeves* and pass the bill now.

roll with the punches *informal* **:** to not allow yourself to become upset by things that happen ▪ *Roll with the punches* and don't let life get you down!

roll your r's **:** to pronounce the sound /r/ with a trill ▪ He *rolls his r's* when he speaks Spanish.

[2]roll /ˈroʊl/ *noun, pl* **rolls** [*count*]

1 : a long piece of cloth, paper, film, tape, etc., that is rolled to form the shape of a tube or ring ▪ There are two photos left on this *roll*. ▪ *rolls* of film/tape ▪ a *roll* of toilet paper

2 : a paper tube that holds candies, coins, etc., inside ▪ a *roll* of mints/quarters

3 a : a small loaf of bread for one person to eat ▪ a dinner *roll* ▪ tuna salad (served) on a *roll* ▪ a hamburger *roll* [=*bun*] **b :** a sandwich made with a bread roll ▪ a ham/cheese *roll* ▪ (*US*) a clam/lobster *roll* **c :** a usually round sweet cake ▪ cinnamon/sweet *rolls* — compare STICKY BUN; see also JELLY ROLL, SWISS ROLL

4 : a food that is rolled up for cooking or serving ▪ cabbage/sausage/sushi *rolls* ▪ *rolls* of sliced ham/turkey — see also EGG ROLL

5 : a thick fold of fat, skin, etc. ▪ A *roll* of fat stuck out from under his shirt. ▪ *rolls* of flesh/skin

6 : an official list of names ▪ the voter *rolls* = (*US*) the election *rolls* [=a list of the people who can vote in an election] ▪ welfare *rolls* [=a list of people on welfare] ▪ The teacher called out the names on the *roll*. = The teacher ***called/took the roll***. — see also HONOR ROLL, PAYROLL

– compare [3]ROLL; see also BANKROLL

[3]roll *noun, pl* **rolls** [*count*]

1 : a sound that is produced by a series of quick hits on a drum ▪ a *roll* of the drum — see also DRUM ROLL

2 : a deep, continuous sound ▪ We heard the *roll* of thunder/cannons in the distance.

3 : an act of rolling something ▪ With a *roll of* the dice, he won $100. ▪ She showed her annoyance with a *roll of* her eyes. [=showed her annoyance by rolling her eyes]

4 *chiefly US* **:** a movement in which your body makes a complete turn forward or backward on the ground ▪ a forward/backward *roll* [=*somersault*]

5 : the act of moving or leaning from side to side ▪ We felt the *roll* of the ship.

6 : a movement of an airplane in which the airplane is turned upside down and then right side up again

a roll in the hay *informal + old-fashioned* **:** an act of having sex with someone

a roll of the dice see [1]DICE

on a roll *informal* **:** experiencing a series of successes ▪ The team has been *on a roll* [=has been playing well and winning many games] since midseason. ▪ He's a funny guy, and last night he was really *on a roll*. [=he was saying many funny things]

– compare [2]ROLL; see also ROCK AND ROLL

roll•back /ˈroʊlˌbæk/ *noun, pl* **-backs** [*count*] *chiefly US* **:** the act of rolling back something: such as **a :** a reduction or decrease in something ▪ *rollbacks* in mortgage rates ▪ a government-ordered *rollback* of gasoline prices ▪ a *rollback* in environmental regulations **b :** the act of reversing or undoing something ▪ a *rollback* of previous wage concessions

roll bar *noun, pl* **~ bars** [*count*] **:** a metal bar in the roof of a car or other vehicle that is designed to protect riders if the vehicle rolls over

roll call *noun, pl* **~ calls**

1 : the act of saying each of the names on a list to find out who is present [*count*] — usually singular ▪ The sergeant began a/the *roll call*. [*noncount*] Two students missed *roll call*.

2 [*count*] **:** a list of people or things — usually singular ▪ The policy is supported by an impressive *roll call* of scientists.

roll•er /ˈroʊlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 a : a part that rolls and is used to move, press, shape, spread, or smooth something ▪ the *rollers* of a conveyor belt ▪ They moved the monument on *rollers*. ▪ He flattened the clay with a *roller*. ▪ a paint *roller* — see also STEAMROLLER **b :** a cylinder or rod on which something (such as a window shade or a map) is rolled up

2 : a small plastic or metal tube around which hair is wrapped to make it curl ▪ Her hair was in *rollers*. [=*curlers*]

3 : a long, powerful ocean wave

4 : a ball that rolls slowly along the ground ▪ (*baseball*) He hit a slow *roller* to the shortstop.

– see also HIGH ROLLER

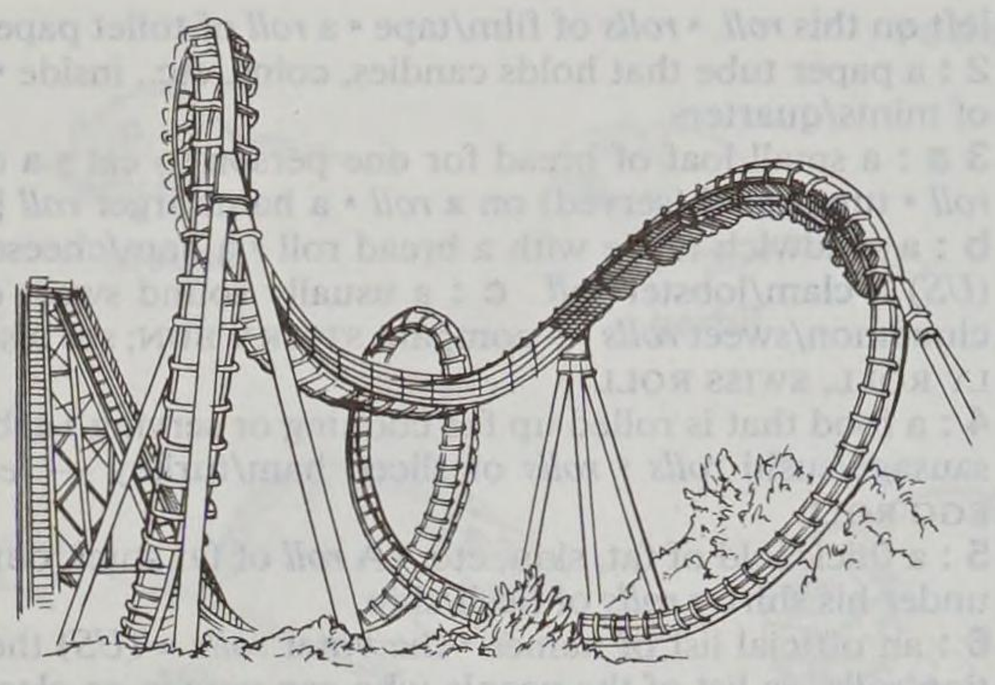
Roll•er•blade /ˈroʊlɚˌbleɪd/ *trademark* — used for a skate that has wheels set in a straight line on the bottom

roll•er coast•er /ˈroʊlɚˌkoʊstɚ/ *noun, pl* **~ -ers** [*count*]

1 : a ride at an amusement park which is like a small, open train with tracks that are high off the ground and that have sharp curves and steep hills ▪ We went for a ride on the *roller coaster*. ▪ a *roller-coaster* ride

2 : a situation or experience that involves sudden and extreme changes ▪ The divorce was an emotional *roller coaster*

R



roller coaster

for both of them. ▪ He's had a *roller-coaster* career. [=a career with many ups and downs]

Roller Derby *service mark* — used for a sports event in which two teams skate on roller skates around an oval track

roller rink *noun, pl* ~ **rinks** [*count*] *chiefly US* : an enclosed area with a smooth floor that is used for roller-skating

roller skate *noun, pl* ~ **skates** [*count*] : a shoe that has wheels on the bottom and that you wear on your foot in order to skate on a flat surface — usually plural ▪ a pair of *roller skates* — see picture at SKATE

roller–skate *verb* **-skates**; **-skat•ed**; **-skat•ing** [*no obj*] : to skate on a flat surface with roller skates ▪ I had never *roller-skated* until last week.
– **roller skater** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] – **roller–skating** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She loves *roller-skating*. ▪ Let's ***go roller-skating***.

[1]rol•lick•ing /ˈrɑːlɪkɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun, informal* : enjoyable in a lively or noisy way ▪ We had a *rollicking* good time. ▪ a *rollicking* tale/tune

[2]rollicking *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : the act of angrily criticizing someone who has done something wrong ▪ Their boss ***gave them a rollicking***. [=*scolding, tongue-lashing*] = They ***got a rollicking*** from their boss.

rolling /ˈroʊlɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : having gentle slopes or hills ▪ *rolling* hills/prairies

rolling pin *noun, pl* ~ **pins** [*count*] : a long cylinder that is used for making dough flat and smooth — see picture at KITCHEN

rolling stock *noun* [*noncount*] : the wheeled vehicles that are owned and used by a railroad

roll of honour *noun, pl* **rolls of honour** [*count*] *Brit* : HONOR ROLL

roll–on /ˈroʊlˌɑːn/ *adj, always used before a noun* : rubbed or spread on the body with a bottle that has a rolling ball set into its top ▪ a *roll-on* deodorant/antiperspirant
– **roll–on** *noun, pl* **-ons** [*count*] ▪ deodorants sold as *roll-ons*, sprays, or sticks

roll•out /ˈroʊlˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count, noncount*] : an occasion when a new product or service is first offered for sale or use ▪ the national *rollout* of a new wireless service — see also *roll out* at [1]ROLL

roll•over /ˈroʊlˌoʊvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-overs** [*count, noncount*]
1 a : the act of delaying the payment of a debt **b** : the act of placing invested money in a new investment of the same kind — see also *roll over* at [1]ROLL
2 *chiefly US* : an accident in which a car, truck, etc., turns over ▪ He was injured in a *rollover* (accident) on the highway.
3 *chiefly Brit* : prize money in a lottery that is not won and so is added to the prize money of the next lottery

roll•up /ˈroʊlˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] : something that is rolled into the shape of a tube: such as **a** *US* : a food that is rolled up for cooking or serving **b** *usually* ***roll-up*** *Brit* : a cigarette that you roll yourself
– **roll–up** *adj* ▪ *roll-up* blinds

[1]ro•ly–po•ly /ˌroʊliˈpoʊli/ *adj, informal* : short and fat ▪ a *roly-poly* man

[2]roly–poly *noun, pl* **-lies** [*count, noncount*] *Brit* : a sweet dough that is spread with jam, rolled up, and baked or steamed — called also *roly-poly pudding*

ROM /ˈrɑːm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the part of a computer in which information that cannot be changed is stored — called also *read-only memory*; compare RAM; see also CD-ROM

ro•maine /roʊˈmeɪn/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a type of lettuce that has long, crisp leaves — called also (*US*) *romaine lettuce*, (*Brit*) *cos lettuce*; see color picture on page C4

[1]Ro•man /ˈroʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-mans**
1 [*count*] **a** : a person born, raised, or living in Rome **b** : a citizen of the ancient Roman Empire
2 ***roman*** [*noncount*] : letters, numbers, etc., that stand upright instead of slanting : roman type ▪ The type should be set in *roman*. — see picture at FONT

[2]Roman *adj*
1 a : of or relating to Rome or the people of Rome ▪ the *Roman* population ▪ the *Roman* skyline **b** : of or relating to the ancient Roman Empire ▪ a *Roman* emperor ▪ *Roman* law
2 ***roman*** : having letters, numbers, etc., that stand upright instead of slanting ▪ These words are roman. ▪ *roman* type

Roman alphabet *noun*
the Roman alphabet : the alphabet that was used for writing Latin and that is now used for writing English and many other European languages

Roman candle *noun, pl* ~ **-dles** [*count*] : a firework that is a long tube that shoots out balls or stars of fire one at a time

Roman Catholic *adj* : belonging or relating to the Christian church that is led by the pope ▪ a *Roman Catholic* priest
– **Roman Catholic** *noun, pl* ~ **-lics** [*count*] ▪ Most of the people in this part of the country are *Roman Catholics*.
– **Roman Catholicism** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]ro•mance /roʊˈmæns/ *noun, pl* **-manc•es**
1 : an exciting and usually short relationship between lovers [*count*] They had a brief *romance* when they were younger. ▪ a summer *romance* ▪ They've ended their *romance*. [*noncount*] Their friendship blossomed into *romance*. ▪ a tale of love and *romance*
2 [*noncount*] : the feeling of being in love ▪ After only three years together, the *romance* in their relationship was gone.
3 [*count*] **a** : an exciting story often set in the past ▪ a medieval *romance* **b** : a love story ▪ She likes reading paperback *romances*. ▪ an old-fashioned Hollywood *romance* — often used before another noun ▪ a *romance* novel
4 [*noncount*] **a** : the quality of something that makes it exciting and attractive ▪ the *romance* of the old West ▪ The novel evoked the *romance* of Paris in the 20s. **b** : the excitement or emotional attraction that people feel for something ▪ a book about America's *romance* with the open road

[2]romance *verb* **-mances**; **-manced**; **-manc•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to have or try to have a romantic relationship with (someone) ▪ He was always *romancing* younger women. ▪ She was *romanced* by several wealthy young men.
2 [+ *obj*] *US* : to give special attention to (someone) in order to get something that you want from that person ▪ The museum's director spends a lot of time *romancing* potential donors. ▪ a college athlete who's being *romanced* by several pro teams
3 [*no obj*] : to talk about something in a way that makes it seem better than it really is ▪ They were *romancing* about the past.

Ro•mance language /roʊˈmæns-/ *noun, pl* ~ **-guages** [*count*] : a language (such as French, Italian, or Spanish) that developed from Latin

Ro•man•esque /ˌroʊməˈnɛsk/ *adj* : of or relating to a style of architecture that was used in Europe during the 11th and 12th centuries and that included round arches, thick and heavy walls, and small windows ▪ a *Romanesque* cathedral

Roman nose *noun, pl* ~ **noses** [*count*] : a large nose that curves outward at the top

Roman numeral *noun, pl* ~ **-als** [*count*] : one of the letters that were used by the ancient Romans to represent numbers and that are still used today ▪ In *Roman numerals* "X" is equal to the number 10. — compare ARABIC NUMERAL

[1]ro•man•tic /roʊˈmæntɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : of, relating to, or involving love between two people ▪ She had *romantic* feelings for him. ▪ He had a *romantic* relationship with a coworker. ▪ Her latest movie is a *romantic* comedy. [=a comedy about two people who fall in love with each other] ▪ His brother was having *romantic* troubles at the time. ▪ She won't discuss her *romantic* life with the press. **b** : making someone think of love : suitable for romance ▪ a *romantic* sunset/dinner/song **c** : thinking about love and doing and saying things to show that you love someone ▪ Why can't you be more *romantic*?
2 : not realistic or practical : not based on what is real ▪ He has some *romantic* notions about life on a farm. ▪ She had a lot of big *romantic* dreams of becoming an actress.

3 *Romantic* : of or relating to Romanticism : stressing or appealing to the emotions or imagination ▪ the *Romantic* poets/movement ▪ Beethoven was the first great *Romantic* composer.

– **ro·man·ti·cal·ly** /roʊˈmæntɪkli/ *adv* ▪ They were *romantically* involved. [=they had a romantic/sexual relationship with each other]

²romantic *noun, pl* **-tics** [*count*]

1 : a person who thinks a lot about love and does and says things that show strong feelings of love for someone ▪ She married a real *romantic* who brings her roses every day.

2 : someone who is not realistic or practical : someone who thinks that things are better or more exciting than they really are ▪ Law school is no place for idealists and *romantics*. ▪ She's a hopeless/incurable *romantic*.

3 *Romantic* : a writer, musician, or artist whose work stresses emotion and imagination : a writer, musician, or artist of Romanticism ▪ Beethoven was the first great *Romantic* among composers.

ro·man·ti·cism /roʊˈmæntəˌsɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *Romanticism* : a style of art, literature, etc., during the late 18th and early 19th centuries that emphasized the imagination and emotions

2 : the quality or state of being impractical or unrealistic : romantic feelings or ideas ▪ Try not to discourage the *romanticism* of college students.

ro·man·ti·cize *also Brit* **ro·man·ti·cise** /roʊˈmæntəˌsaɪz/ *verb* **-ciz·es**; **-cized**; **-ciz·ing** : to think about or describe something as being better or more attractive or interesting than it really is : to show, describe, or think about something in a romantic way [+ *obj*] The movie *romanticizes* [=*idealizes*] the old South. ▪ He has *romanticized* notions of army life. ▪ a *romanticized* view of politics [*no obj*] We were *romanticizing* about the past.

Rom·a·ny /ˈrɑːməni, ˈroʊməni/ *noun, pl* **-nies**

1 [*count*] : GYPSY

2 [*noncount*] : the language of the Gypsies

– **Romany** *adj*

Ro·meo /ˈroʊmijoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-me·os** [*count*] : a man who has many lovers or who shows strong feelings of love by doing romantic things ▪ He was quite a *Romeo* when he was younger.

¹romp /ˈrɑːmp/ *noun, pl* **romps** [*count*] *informal*

1 : an enjoyable time of rough and noisy play ▪ The dogs love a good *romp* through the woods.

2 : an easy victory ▪ The game turned into a *romp* in the second half.

3 : an enjoyable and lively movie, book, play, etc. ▪ His latest film is a wildly amusing *romp*.

4 *often humorous* : an act of sexual intercourse ▪ a movie about a businessman having a *romp* with his secretary

²romp *verb* **romps**; **romped**; **romp·ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to play in a rough and noisy way ▪ The kids were *romping* in the yard.

2 : to easily win a race, contest, etc. — often + *to* ▪ The home team *romped to* a 21–6 win/victory. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) He is now the favorite to ***romp home*** (*to* victory) in the upcoming election.

3 *informal* : to move, go, or proceed in a quick, easy, or playful way — usually + *through* ▪ Hundreds of fans *romped through* the streets. ▪ She *romped through* the early rounds of the tournament. ▪ The team *romped through* the season undefeated.

romp·er /ˈrɑːmpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a piece of clothing that consists of a shirt with attached pants and that is worn especially by children — usually plural ▪ a little girl wearing *rompers* — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *romper suit*

ron·do /ˈrɑːndoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-dos** [*count*] : a type of music for instruments in which the main tune at the beginning is repeated after each of the other tunes that are used

¹roof /ˈruːf/ *noun, pl* **roofs** [*count*]

1 : the cover or top of a building, vehicle, etc. ▪ a shingle/slate/tile *roof* ▪ The *roof* is leaking. ▪ the *roof* of a car ▪ The *roof* of the old barn collapsed. ▪ We don't have much money, but at least we ***have a roof over our heads***. [=at least we have somewhere to live] ▪ You'll do what I say as long as you're living ***under my roof***. [=as long as you are living in my house] ▪ They all live ***under the same roof***. [=in the same house] ▪ We hope to have sales and service ***under one roof*** [=at the same location] in the near future. — see also MOONROOF, SUNROOF

2 : the top of the inside of a tunnel, cave, etc.

3 : the top of the inside of your mouth ▪ He bit into a hot slice of pizza and burned the *roof* of his mouth.

go through the roof *informal* **1** : to become very angry or upset ▪ When they realized he'd lied to them, his parents *went through the roof*. **2** : to rise to a very high level ▪ Sales of their new CD have *gone through the roof*.

hit the roof see ¹HIT

raise the roof *informal* : to make a lot of noise by playing music, celebrating, shouting, etc. ▪ The crowd *raised the roof* when the winning goal was scored. ▪ His mother *raised the roof* when he came home late.

through the roof *chiefly US, informal* : at an extremely high level ▪ Ticket prices are *through the roof*.

– **roof·less** /ˈruːfləs/ *adj* ▪ a *roofless* stadium

²roof *verb* **roofs**; **roofed**; **roof·ing** [+ *obj*] : to cover (something, such as a building) with a roof — often + *over* or *in* ▪ We *roofed over/in* the patio. — often used as *(be) roofed* ▪ Our house *is roofed* with asphalt shingles.

– **roofed** /ˈruːft/ *adj* ▪ a *roofed* front porch ▪ thatch-*roofed* houses

roof·er /ˈruːfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who builds or repairs roofs

roof·ing /ˈruːfɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : material that is used for building or repairing a roof ▪ asphalt shingles used for *roofing*

2 : the work of building or repairing roofs ▪ He did some *roofing* in the summer. ▪ a *roofing* contractor

roof·line /ˈruːfˌlaɪn/ *noun, pl* **-lines** [*count*] : the outline or outer edge of a roof

roof rack *noun, pl* ~ **racks** [*count*] : a frame that is attached to the roof of a vehicle and that is used for holding luggage, bicycles, skis, etc.

roof·top /ˈruːfˌtɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-tops** [*count*] : the upper surface of a roof ▪ They have a garden on the *rooftop* of the apartment building. ▪ He wanted to ***shout from the rooftops*** when he got the job. — often used before another noun ▪ a *rooftop* television antenna ▪ a *rooftop* garden

rook /ˈrʊk/ *noun, pl* **rooks** [*count*]

1 : a large, black European bird that is related to the crow

2 : a piece in the game of chess that looks like a castle tower : CASTLE — see picture at CHESS

rook·ie /ˈrʊki/ *noun, pl* **-ies** [*count*] *chiefly US*

1 : a first-year player in a professional sport ▪ There are three *rookies* in the starting lineup. — often used before another noun ▪ a *rookie* quarterback ▪ This is his *rookie* season. [=his first season playing]

2 : a person who has just started a job or activity and has little experience : BEGINNER ▪ an experienced policeman whose partner is a *rookie* — often used before another noun ▪ a *rookie* cop

¹room /ˈruːm/ *noun, pl* **rooms**

1 [*count*] **a** : a part of the inside of a building that is divided from other areas by walls and a door and that has its own floor and ceiling ▪ Cigarette smoke filled the *room*. ▪ I could hear the TV from the next *room*. ▪ The salesman went into the ***back room*** [=a room in the back of a building] to get another pair of shoes for me to try. **b** : a room in a house, hotel, etc., where someone sleeps ▪ a double *room* [=a room in a hotel where two people can sleep] ▪ Go to your *room*! ▪ He rents *rooms* to college students. — see also BEDROOM, GUEST ROOM

2 [*noncount*] : space that is used for something ▪ We're running out of *room* in the office. ▪ The sofa takes up too much *room*. ▪ In the backyard there is enough *room* to run and play. ▪ Is there enough *room* to turn the car around? ▪ There's only *room* for five people in the car. ▪ Don't eat too much. You should leave some *room* for dessert. ▪ There's no more *room* on the computer disk to save the file. ▪ Can we ***make/find room*** in the garage for the bicycles? — see also ELBOW ROOM, HEADROOM, LEGROOM, STANDING ROOM

3 [*singular*] : the people in a room ▪ The whole *room* cheered/applauded.

4 [*noncount*] : the possibility for something to happen or exist — often + *for* ▪ There is *room for* improvement in your essay. [=your essay is not as good as it could be] ▪ There is no *room for* doubt about his guilt. [=his guilt is certain]

5 *rooms* [*plural*] *Brit, old-fashioned* : APARTMENT ▪ I visited his *rooms* in London.

²room *verb* **rooms**; **roomed**; **room·ing** [*no obj*] *US* : to live in a room, apartment, or house with another person — + *together* or *with* ▪ We *roomed together* in college. [=we were

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roommates in college] ▪ He *roomed with* his brother for several years.

room and board *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : a place to stay with meals provided and included in the price ▪ We paid $50 (for) *room and board*. [=(*chiefly Brit*) *bed and board*]

room•er /ˈruːmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a person who pays rent to live in a house with its owner

room•ful /ˈruːmfəl/ *noun, pl* **room•fuls** /ˈruːmfəlz/ *also* **rooms•ful** /ˈruːmzfəl/ [*count*] : the amount of people or things that are in a room — usually + *of* ▪ a *roomful of* strangers ▪ A *roomful of* wiring and circuits can now be reduced to a tiny computer chip.

room•ie /ˈruːmi/ *noun, pl* **-ies** [*count*] *US, informal* : ROOMMATE ▪ She was my *roomie* in college.

rooming house *noun, pl* ~ **houses** [*count*] *US* : a house where rooms with furniture are rented to people to live in ▪ After losing his job, he moved to a cheap *rooming house*.

room•mate /ˈruːmˌmeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-mates** [*count*] : a person who shares a room, apartment, or house with someone else ▪ She was my college *roommate*. = We were *roommates* in college.

room service *noun* [*noncount*] : the service that is provided to hotel guests so that they can have food, drinks, etc., brought to their rooms ▪ *Room service* is available. ▪ He ordered a meal from *room service*. ▪ She called *room service*.

room temperature *noun* [*noncount*] : a comfortable temperature that is not too hot or too cold ▪ Store the wine at *room temperature*.

roomy /ˈruːmi/ *adj* **room•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : having plenty of space or room ▪ The car was *roomy* [=*spacious*] inside.
– **room•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *roominess* of the car

[1]roost /ˈruːst/ *noun, pl* **roosts** [*count*] : a place where birds rest or sleep
rule the roost *informal* : to have the most control or authority in a group ▪ In my small elementary school, bullies *ruled the roost*.

[2]roost *verb* **roosts**; **roost•ed**; **roost•ing** [*no obj*] *of a bird* : to rest or sleep somewhere ▪ Pigeons *roost* on the building's ledge.
come home to roost ✧ If something from your past *comes home to roost* or ***your/the chickens come home to roost***, you experience problems that you deserve because they are caused by your past actions or are like the problems you have caused for other people. ▪ Her bad decisions are *coming home to roost*. ▪ He's been cheating people for years but now *the chickens are* (finally) *coming home to roost*. [=he is getting what he deserves]

roost•er /ˈruːstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US* : an adult male chicken ▪ We heard the crow of a *rooster*. — called also *cock*; compare HEN

[1]root /ˈruːt/ *noun, pl* **roots**
1 [*count*] : the part of a plant that grows underground, gets water from the ground, and holds the plant in place ▪ Elm trees have shallow *roots*. ▪ Pull weeds up by the *roots* so that they don't grow back. — see color picture on page C6
2 [*count*] : the part of a tooth, hair, fingernail, etc., that is attached to the body ▪ You can tell that she dyes her hair blonde because her dark *roots* are showing.
3 [*count*] **a** : the cause or source of something — usually singular ▪ He believes that money is the *root* of all evil. [=money causes people to do bad things] ▪ We need to get to the *root* of the problem. = We need to get to the ***root cause*** of the problem. ▪ Simple greed was ***at the root of*** the robbery. [=was the reason for the robbery] **b** : the origin of something — usually plural ▪ Rock-and-roll music has its *roots* in blues music. [=rock-and-roll music originated/developed from blues music]
4 ***roots*** [*plural*] **a** : the family history of a person or a group of people ▪ They have traced their *roots* [=*ancestry*] back several generations. **b** : a special connection to something — + *in* ▪ She's a dedicated teacher with *roots in* the community. ▪ His family has *roots in* the New York theater scene. ▪ a novelist with *roots* deep *in* Southern life — see also GRASS ROOTS
5 [*count*] *mathematics* : a number that is multiplied by itself a certain number of times to produce another number ▪ 2 is the 4th *root* of 16. [=2 x 2 x 2 x 2 = 16] — see also CUBE ROOT, SQUARE ROOT
6 [*count*] : a word from which other words are formed ▪ "Butler" and "bottle" come from the same Latin *root*. ▪ "Hold" is the *root* of "holder."
put down roots : to become a member of a community and begin to feel that it is your home : to settle and live in one place ▪ The family *put down roots* in New England. [=they made New England their home]
root and branch *chiefly Brit* **1** : complete or thorough ▪ a *root and branch* overhaul of local schools **2** : completely or thoroughly ▪ The laws were reformed *root and branch*.
take root **1** *of a plant* : to grow and develop roots ▪ There isn't enough time for the grass to *take root* before winter. **2** : to begin to develop ▪ The classroom should be a place where creativity can *take root* and flourish. ▪ It was years before democratic ideals *took root* in that part of the world.

[2]root *verb* **roots**; **root•ed**; **root•ing**
1 *of a plant* **a** [*no obj*] : to grow and develop roots ▪ The plants had difficulty *rooting* in the poor soil. **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (a plant) grow and develop roots ▪ She *rooted* the seedlings in pots before planting them in the garden. ▪ The lichen *rooted* itself to the rock. ▪ The lichen was *rooted* to the rock.
2 [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) unable to move ▪ Fear *rooted* me to my chair. — usually used as *(be) rooted* ▪ I *was rooted* to my chair by/with fear.
root in [*phrasal verb*] ***root (something) in (something)*** : to form, make, or develop (something) by using (something) as a basis ▪ He *roots* his art *in* reality. [=bases his art on the real world] — usually used as *(be) rooted in* ▪ His art *is rooted in* reality. ▪ Her opinions *are* deeply *rooted in* her faith. ▪ a dance *rooted in* African tradition
– compare [3]ROOT, [4]ROOT

[3]root *verb* **roots**; **rooted**; **rooting** [*no obj*]
1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to search for something by moving around or by turning things over ▪ We *rooted* through the desk drawers for the phone bill. ▪ She *rooted* around in her purse to find her keys. ▪ I think I'll *root* around for some leftovers in the fridge.
2 *of animals* : to look for food under the ground by digging with the nose : GRUB ▪ a *rooting* pig
root out [*phrasal verb*] ***root (something or someone) out*** *or* ***root out (something or someone)*** **1** : to find and remove (something or someone) ▪ The mayor was determined to *root out* corruption in city government. **2** : to find (something or someone) after searching for a long time ▪ He finally *rooted out* the cause of the problem.
– compare [2]ROOT, [4]ROOT

[4]root *verb* **roots**; **rooted**; **rooting**
root for [*phrasal verb*] ***root for (someone or something)*** : to express or show support for (a person, a team, etc.) ▪ They always *root for* the home team. ▪ We're *rooting for* the underdog. : to hope for the success of (someone or something) ▪ Remember that we're all *rooting for* you. [=we all want to see you succeed]
root on [*phrasal verb*] ***root (someone or something) on*** *US* : to help (someone or something) to win or succeed by expressing or showing strong support ▪ The team is playing for the championship tomorrow, and thousands of fans will be there to *root* them *on*. ▪ Her friends and family were there to *root* her *on* to victory.
– compare [2]ROOT, [3]ROOT
– **root•er** /ˈruːtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

root beer *noun, pl* ~ **beers** [*count, noncount*] : a sweet, brown drink that is flavored with roots and herbs and that contains bubbles ▪ a bottle of *root beer*

root canal *noun, pl* ~ **-nals** [*count*] : a dental procedure to save a tooth by removing the diseased or injured tissue in its root ▪ I need to have a *root canal*.

root cellar *noun, pl* ~ **-lars** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a room or large hole in the ground where vegetables (such as potatoes and carrots) are kept

root•less /ˈruːtləs/ *adj* : having no home or connection to a place ▪ He was leading a *rootless* existence. ▪ a *rootless* drifter
– **root•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

root vegetable *noun, pl* ~ **-tables** [*count*] : a vegetable (such as a carrot or potato) that grows under the ground

[1]rope /ˈroʊp/ *noun, pl* **ropes**
1 : a strong, thick string that is made by twisting many thin strings or fibers together [*count*] Tie the end of the *rope* to the post. ▪ She made a knot in the *rope*. [*noncount*] a six-foot length of *rope* ▪ We used *rope* to tie down the furniture in the trailer. ▪ The hostages were tied up with *rope*. — see also JUMP ROPE, SKIPPING ROPE, TIGHTROPE, TOWROPE
2 [*count*] : a string on which a number of similar things are held together ▪ a *rope* of pearls

3 *the ropes* : the special way things are done at a particular place or in a particular activity ▪ The veteran cop showed the rookie *the ropes*. ▪ It will take a few weeks for new employees to ***learn the ropes*** ▪ someone who ***knows the ropes***

4 *the ropes* : a fence made of rope that encloses a boxing or wrestling ring ▪ The boxer was pushed back against *the ropes*.

jump/skip rope *US* : to jump over a rope that is being swung near the ground for exercise or as a game ▪ He *jumps rope* to warm up before the game. ▪ The kids are outside *jumping rope*.

money for old rope see MONEY

on the ropes *informal* : in a very bad position or situation : very close to failure or defeat ▪ The company is *on the ropes* and in danger of closing.

the end of your rope see [1]END

[2]rope *verb* **ropes; roped; rop•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to bind, fasten, or tie (something or someone) with a rope ▪ The dog was *roped* to the fence. ▪ The boats were *roped* together at the dock. ▪ Mountain climbers often *rope* themselves together for safety.

2 *chiefly US* : to catch (an animal) by throwing a circle of rope around it : LASSO ▪ He tried to *rope* the calf.

3 *informal* : to use clever or tricky methods to get (someone) to do something — + *in* or *into* ▪ I didn't want to go to the party, but my friends somehow *roped* me *in*. ▪ My friends *roped* me *into* going to the party. ▪ I always seem to get *roped into* driving.

rope off [*phrasal verb*] ***rope off (something)*** *or* ***rope (something) off*** : to separate (an area) from another area with rope ▪ The police *roped off* the street for the summer festival. ▪ Part of the exhibit had been *roped off*.

rope ladder *noun, pl* ~ **-ders** [*count*] : a ladder that has short pieces (called rungs) which are held between two long ropes

ropy *also* **rop•ey** /'roʊpi/ *adj* **rop•i•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : similar to rope : like rope in appearance ▪ *ropy* noodles/vines

2 *Brit, informal* **a** : in bad condition ▪ a *ropy* [=*worn*] suit : of bad quality ▪ *ropy* [=*shoddy*] plumbing **b** : ill or unwell ▪ The passengers looked a bit *ropy* after the bumpy flight.

ro–ro /'roʊˌroʊ/ *noun, pl* **ro–ros** [*count*] *Brit* : a ship that is designed and equipped to allow vehicles (such as cars or tanks) to be driven on and off ✧ *Ro-ro* is an abbreviation of "roll on, roll off."

Ror•schach test /'roɚˌʃɑːk-/ *noun, pl* ~ **tests** [*count*] *technical* : a personality and intelligence test in which someone looks at ink blots of different shapes and then describes what the shapes look like

ro•sa•ry /'roʊzəri/ *noun, pl* **-ries**

1 [*count*] : a string of beads that are used by Roman Catholics for counting prayers

2 *the Rosary* : a set of Roman Catholic prayers that are repeated in a specific order ▪ recite/say *the Rosary*

[1]rose *past tense of* [1]RISE

[2]rose /'roʊz/ *noun, pl* **ros•es**

1 [*count*] : a flower with a sweet smell that is usually white, yellow, red, or pink and that grows on a bush which has thorns on the stems ▪ a bouquet of *roses* ▪ He sent a dozen red *roses* to his girlfriend on Valentine's Day. — see color picture on page C6; see also BED OF ROSES

2 [*noncount*] : a slightly purplish-pink color — see color picture on page C3

come out/up smelling like a rose *or* ***come out/up smelling like/of roses*** *informal* : to have success or good fortune in a situation in which you were likely to fail, be harmed, etc. ▪ The scandal forced several board members to resign, but the chairman *came out smelling like a rose*. [=the chairman's reputation was not damaged at all]

coming up roses *informal* : turning out to be good ▪ Now that he finally has a job, everything's *coming up roses* for him. [=many good things are happening in his life]

(stop and) smell the roses *informal* : to stop being busy and enjoy the pleasant things in life ▪ You shouldn't work so hard. You need to take some time to *stop and smell the roses*.

wake up and smell the roses see [1]WAKE

ro•sé /roʊ'zeɪ, *Brit* 'rəʊzeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-sés** [*count, noncount*] : wine that has a pink color

ro•se•ate /'roʊzijət/ *adj, literary* : having a pink color ▪ a bird with *roseate* feathers

rose•bud /'roʊzˌbʌd/ *noun, pl* **-buds** [*count*] : the flower of a rose that has not opened : the bud of a rose

rose•bush /'roʊzˌbʊʃ/ *noun, pl* **-bush•es** [*count*] : a bush that produces roses

rose–col•ored (*US*) *or Brit* **rose–col•oured** /'roʊzˌkʌlɚd/ *adj*

1 : having a pink color ▪ a *rose-colored* wine

2 : tending to think of things as being better than they really are ▪ They always take a *rose-colored* view of the problem. ✧ If you see or view something through ***rose-colored glasses/spectacles***, you think of it as being better than it really is. ▪ He looks at the world through *rose-colored glasses*. [=he looks at the world in an overly optimistic way]

rose hip *noun, pl* ~ **hips** [*count*] : a small fruit that grows on some rosebushes

rose•mary /'roʊzˌmeri/ *noun* [*noncount*] : an herb that has a sweet smell and that is used in cooking and perfumes ▪ The recipe calls for a tablespoon of *rosemary*. — see color picture on page C6

rose–tinted /'roʊzˌtɪntəd/ *adj* : ROSE-COLORED

ro•sette /roʊ'zɛt/ *noun, pl* **-settes** [*count*]

1 : a badge or ornament that is made of ribbon and folded in the shape of a rose

2 : a design shaped like a rose that is used as a decoration ▪ a *rosette* of chocolate frosting ▪ *Rosettes* are carved in the base of the statue.

rose water *noun* [*noncount*] : liquid made from roses that has a pleasant smell and is used as a perfume or flavoring

rose window *noun, pl* ~ **-dows** [*count*] : a circular window in a church that is made from stained glass with a decorative pattern

rose•wood /'roʊzˌwʊd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the hard, dark, red wood of some tropical trees that is used especially for making furniture and musical instruments

Rosh Ha•sha•nah /ˌrɑːʃhə'ʃɑːnə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the Jewish New Year observed as a religious holiday in September or October

ros•in /'rɑːzn̩/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a hard and slightly sticky substance that has various uses (such as to make the bows of violins and similar instruments move more easily across the strings) — compare RESIN

[1]ros•ter /'rɑːstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]

1 a : a list of the people or things that belong to a particular group, team, etc. ▪ His name has been added to the team *roster*. ▪ a membership *roster* **b** *US* : a group of people or things whose names are included on a roster ▪ The team has a *roster* of 40 players.

2 : a list that shows the order in which a job or duty is to be done by the members of a group ▪ a duty *roster*

[2]roster *verb* **-ters; -tered; -ter•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to include (someone) on a roster of people who will be doing work ▪ He was *rostered* for extra duty.

ros•trum /'rɑːstrəm/ *noun, pl* **ros•trums** *or* **ros•tra** /'rɑːstrə/ [*count*] *formal* : a small raised platform on a stage

rosy /'roʊzi/ *adj* **ros•i•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having a pink color ▪ *rosy* cheeks/peaches

2 : having or producing hope for success or happiness in the future ▪ A young man with a *rosy* [=*promising*] future. ▪ She has a *rosy* [=*optimistic*] outlook on life. ▪ He ***painted a rosy picture*** of the company's future. [=he made the company's future sound very good]

[1]rot /'rɑːt/ *verb* **rots; rot•ted; rot•ting** : to slowly decay or cause (something) to decay [*no obj*] The wood had *rotted* away. ▪ The apples were left to *rot*. ▪ the smell of *rotting* garbage — often used figuratively ▪ He was ***left to rot*** in jail. [=he was left in jail for a very long time] ▪ I hope he ***rots in hell***! [+ *obj*] Eating too much candy can *rot* your teeth. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Too much TV will *rot* your brain. ***synonyms*** see [1]DECAY

[2]rot *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the process of rotting or the condition that results when something rots ▪ They found a lot of *rot* in the house's roof. — often used figuratively ▪ moral *rot* ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) ***The rot set in*** [=things started getting really bad] when the factory closed down. ▪ (*Brit*) The team ***stopped the rot*** [=stopped things from getting worse] with a 5–0 win last night. — see also DRY ROT

2 *informal + somewhat old-fashioned* : foolish words or ideas : NONSENSE ▪ That's a lot of *rot*! ▪ all that *rot*

ro•ta /'roʊtə/ *noun, pl* **-tas** [*count*] *Brit* : a list that shows who must do a certain job ▪ a *rota* of housekeeping duties

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Ro·tar·i·an /roʊˈterijən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] : a member of a Rotary Club

[1]ro·ta·ry /ˈroʊtəri/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : turning around a central point like a wheel ▪ a *rotary* blade ▪ the *rotary* action of the wheel
2 : having a part that turns around a central point like a wheel ▪ an old-fashioned *rotary* phone [=a phone with a dial that turns around a central point]

[2]rotary *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *US* : TRAFFIC CIRCLE

Rotary Club *noun, pl* ~ **Clubs** [*count*] : an international organization of businesspeople who raise money to help the sick or poor in their local area

ro·tate /ˈroʊˌteɪt, *Brit* rəʊˈteɪt/ *verb* **-tates**; **-tat·ed**; **-tat·ing**
1 : to move or turn in a circle [*no obj*] As the gear *rotates*, it turns the other gears. ▪ The Earth *rotates* on its axis. ▪ The planets *rotate* around the sun. ▪ a *rotating* propeller [+ *obj*] The software allows you to *rotate* images. ▪ *Rotate* the sheet of paper 90 degrees.
2 : to regularly change the person who does a particular job so that all the members of a group do it at different times [+ *obj*] The staff *rotates* the weekend shift. [*no obj*] We *rotate*—she does the dishes one week; I do them the next. ▪ The work is done by volunteers ***on a rotating basis***. [=the volunteers take turns doing the work]
3 : to regularly change the place or position of things or people so that each takes the place of another [+ *obj*] You should *rotate* your car's tires once a year. ▪ (*US*) The soldier was *rotated* home after six months. [=the soldier was sent home after six months and another soldier took his place] [*no obj*] The seasons *rotate*.
4 [+ *obj*] : to regularly change (crops grown on one piece of land) to make sure the soil stays healthy ▪ They *rotate* alfalfa and/with corn. [=grow alfalfa one year and corn the next]
– **ro·tat·able** /ˈroʊˌteɪtəbəl, *Brit* rəʊˈteɪtəbəl/ *adj* ▪ a *rotatable* platform

ro·ta·tion /roʊˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 a [*noncount*] : the act or process of moving or turning around a central point ▪ the *rotation* of the Earth around its axis ▪ the *rotation* of the Moon around the Earth **b** [*count*] : a complete turn around a central point ▪ The Earth makes one *rotation* every day.
2 a [*noncount*] : the act of regularly changing something by replacing it with something else ▪ crop *rotation* ▪ Alfalfa and corn are planted ***in rotation***. **b** : the act of regularly changing the place or position of things or people so that each takes the place of another [*noncount*] the *rotation* of the job of club president [*count*] The car needs a tire *rotation*.
3 [*count*] *US* : the group of people who take turns doing something ▪ Where are we in the *rotation*? [=when is it our turn?] ▪ (*baseball*) The team has a good (starting) *rotation*. [=group of pitchers who start games]
– **ro·ta·tion·al** /roʊˈteɪʃənl/ *adj, always used before a noun, technical* ▪ the *rotational* axis ▪ *rotational* motion

ro·ta·tor cuff /ˈroʊˌteɪtɚ-/ *noun, pl* ~ **cuffs** [*count*] *chiefly US, medical* : a group of muscles and tendons that are around your shoulder and that allow it to move in all directions

ROTC /ˌɑɚˌoʊˌtiːˈsiː, ˈrɑːtsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a military program that provides training and financial assistance for college students who become officers in the military at the end of the program ▪ He joined (the) *ROTC*. ▪ *ROTC* training begins tomorrow. ✧ *ROTC* is an abbreviation of "Reserve Officers' Training Corps."

rote /ˈroʊt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the process of learning something by repeating it many times without thinking about it or fully understanding it ▪ The children learned the words to the poem ***by rote***.
– **rote** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *rote* learning/memorization

ro·tis·ser·ie /roʊˈtɪsəri/ *noun, pl* **-ies** [*count*] : a piece of equipment that turns meat over a source of heat so that it cooks on all sides ▪ a chicken cooked on a *rotisserie* = a *rotisserie* chicken

ro·tor /ˈroʊtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] *technical* : a part of a machine that turns around a central point ▪ the *rotor* (blade) of a helicopter ▪ brake *rotors*

[1]rot·ten /ˈrɑːtn̩/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having rotted or decayed and no longer able to be used, eaten, etc. ▪ *rotten* wood ▪ *rotten* teeth ▪ *rotten* eggs ▪ The bananas ***went rotten***. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The whole political system is *rotten*. [=*corrupt*]
2 *informal* **a** : very bad or unpleasant ▪ What *rotten* luck! ▪ They did a *rotten* job. ▪ We played a *rotten* game. [=we did not play well] ▪ What *rotten* weather we're having. **b** *not used before a noun* : not well or healthy ▪ I feel *rotten* today. **c** *not used before a noun* : not happy or pleased ▪ I feel *rotten* [=I feel guilty; I am upset] about what I said. **d** : not morally good : not honest, kind, etc. ▪ He was a *rotten* husband. [=he was not a very good husband] ▪ She's ***rotten to the core***. [=she's a very bad person; she's a very dishonest person] — see also *rotten apple* at APPLE
3 *always used before a noun, informal* — used for emphasis when you are angry ▪ You can keep your *rotten* money!
– **rot·ten·ness** /ˈrɑːtn̩nəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]rotten *adv, informal*
1 : very badly or poorly ▪ He treats her *rotten*.
2 : very much ▪ (*Brit*) He fancies you (something) *rotten*. [=he likes you very much] ▪ Those kids were ***spoiled rotten*** by their mother.

rot·ter /ˈrɑːtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *Brit, informal + old-fashioned* : a very bad person ▪ a selfish *rotter*

Rott·wei·ler /ˈrɑːtˌwaɪlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-lers** [*count*] : a type of large dog that is often used as a guard dog — see picture at DOG

ro·tund /roʊˈtʌnd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *literary + humorous* : fat and round ▪ a *rotund* face ▪ a short, *rotund* man
– **ro·tun·di·ty** /roʊˈtʌndəti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

ro·tun·da /roʊˈtʌndə/ *noun, pl* **-das** [*count*] : a large, round room and especially one covered by a dome ▪ We stood inside the *rotunda* of the U.S. Capitol Building.

rouble *chiefly Brit spelling of* RUBLE

rouge /ruːʒ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *old-fashioned* : a red powder or cream that is used to make your cheeks pinker ▪ She was wearing too much *rouge*.
– **rouged** /ruːʒd/ *adj* ▪ *rouged* ladies ▪ heavily *rouged* cheeks

[1]rough /rʌf/ *adj* **rough·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having a surface that is not even ▪ *rough* tree bark ▪ a cat's *rough* tongue ▪ He trimmed the *rough* edge of the paper. ▪ We traveled over *rough* dirt roads. ▪ They hiked through *rough* terrain/country. — opposite SMOOTH
2 : having or causing sudden, violent movements ▪ a *rough* [=*bumpy*] ride on an old wooden roller coaster ▪ We were a bit shaken from the plane's *rough* landing. — opposite SMOOTH
3 *somewhat informal* : difficult or unpleasant to deal with ▪ She's had a *rough* [=*tough*] life/year/time. ▪ He went through a *rough* patch/period after his divorce. ▪ They've hit a few *rough* spots in their marriage. ▪ Despite a *rough* start, the team won more games this season than last. ▪ I had a *rough* night last night. [=I did not sleep well] ▪ It was ***rough going*** [=things were difficult] for a while. ▪ Our ancestors ***had it rough*** [=had a difficult existence] compared to us. ▪ He's ***having a rough time (of it)***. = He's ***going through a rough time***. [=he is having a difficult time; his life has been difficult recently]
4 : not calm : having large waves, strong winds, storms, etc. ▪ The sea is *rough* today. ▪ *rough* waters off the coast ▪ We ran into some *rough* [=*stormy*] weather.
5 : not gentle or careful : causing or likely to cause harm or injury ▪ These dishes are not made to withstand *rough* handling. ▪ The prisoners complained about *rough* treatment by the guards. ▪ She says the kids are too *rough* [=*rowdy*] when they play. ▪ He doesn't like *rough* sports like hockey. ▪ All right kids—no ***rough stuff***. [=no behaving or playing in a rough way] ▪ Don't ***be so rough on them*** [=don't punish or criticize them so harshly] for making a mistake.
6 : having a lot of crime or danger ▪ I live in a pretty *rough* neighborhood/area.
7 : made or done in a way that is simple or that needs further changes, improvements, etc. ▪ He made a *rough* sketch of the house. ▪ They built a *rough* [=*crude*] shelter out of branches. ▪ He submitted a ***rough draft*** of the article. ▪ The project still has a few ***rough edges***. [=the project still has a few things that need to be changed or finished] ▪ The design is still a bit ***rough around the edges***.
8 *always used before a noun* : not precise or exact : not including all the details ▪ If I were to make a *rough* guess, I might say there were 100,000 people at the parade. ▪ a *rough* translation of a Chinese proverb ▪ This sketch will give you a *rough* idea of what the house looks like.
9 : having a harsh sound ▪ She has a *rough* voice.
10 *Brit, informal* : not well ▪ I'm feeling too *rough* to go out tonight.

– **rough•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *roughness* of the waves ▪ surfaces with varying degrees of *roughness* and smoothness

²rough *adv*

1 : in a rough way ▪ The engine is running a little *rough*. ▪ Life has been treating her pretty *rough*. ▪ He ***plays rough*** with the dog.

2 *Brit* : outside and without shelter ▪ people ***living/sleeping rough*** on the streets

³rough *noun, pl* **roughs**

1 ***the rough*** *golf* : an area on a golf course covered with tall grass that makes it difficult to hit the ball ▪ He hit his drive into *the rough*.

2 [*count*] : something (such as a drawing) that is done quickly and is not detailed or finished ▪ He showed me a few *roughs* of the new building.

3 [*count*] *informal + old-fashioned* : a person who is loud and violent ▪ a gang of *roughs* [=*rowdies*, *hoodlums*]

in rough *Brit* : in an unfinished form ▪ The plans were done *in rough* for preapproval.

in the rough *chiefly US* : in an unfinished or rough state ▪ Some of the turquoise is polished and some is *in the rough*. [=not polished] ▪ He admired the beauty of nature *in the rough*. — see also DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH

take the rough with the smooth *chiefly Brit* : to accept and deal with the bad or unpleasant things that happen in addition to the good or pleasant things ▪ In this business, you have to learn to *take the rough with the smooth*.

⁴rough *verb* **roughs**; **roughed**; **rough•ing** [+ *obj*] *American football + ice hockey* : to hit (a player) very hard in a way that is not allowed by the rules ▪ He was called for *roughing* the kicker/passer.

rough in [*phrasal verb*] ***rough (something) in*** *or* ***rough in (something)*** : to make a rough or unfinished version of (something, such as a design) as the first step in creating the finished version ▪ *Rough in* the lettering on your poster. ▪ He *roughed in* the frame of the new door.

rough it *informal* : to live usually for a short time without the normal things that make life comfortable ▪ She was *roughing it* in the wilderness.

rough out [*phrasal verb*] ***rough (something) out*** *or* ***rough out (something)*** : to make (something, such as a drawing or a list) quickly and without including all the details ▪ We'll *rough out* a general plan.

rough up [*phrasal verb*] ***rough (someone) up*** *or* ***rough up (someone)*** *informal* : to hit and hurt (someone) ▪ The prisoner claimed that he was *roughed up* by the guards.

rough•age /ˈrʌfɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : plant material that cannot be digested but that helps you to digest other food : FIBER

rough–and–ready /ˌrʌfənˈrɛdi/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not complete but good enough to be used ▪ a *rough-and-ready* solution/method

2 : not having polite manners or fancy skills but ready and able to do what needs to be done ▪ *rough-and-ready* soldiers

rough–and–tum•ble /ˌrʌfənˈtʌmbəl/ *adj, always used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : disorderly, loud, and rough ▪ a *rough-and-tumble* group of soccer fans ▪ a *rough-and-tumble* game

2 : very competitive and aggressive ▪ the *rough-and-tumble* world of politics ▪ a *rough-and-tumble* competitor

– **rough–and–tumble** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *rough-and-tumble* of our neighborhood soccer games ▪ She joined the *rough-and-tumble* of politics.

rough diamond *noun, pl* ~ **-monds** [*count*] *Brit* : DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH 1

rough–edged /ˈrʌfˈɛʤd/ *adj* : having a rough quality : not smooth or refined ▪ *rough-edged* blues music ▪ *rough-edged* writing

rough•en /ˈrʌfən/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing** : to become rough or cause (something) to become rough [+ *obj*] *Roughen* the surface with a file before you apply the glue. ▪ Her hands were *roughened* by years of hard work. [*no obj*] Age caused his skin to *roughen*.

rough–hewn /ˈrʌfˈhju:n/ *adj*

1 : having a rough and uneven surface ▪ *rough-hewn* ceiling beams

2 : not polite or educated ▪ a *rough-hewn* peasant

rough•house /ˈrʌfˌhaʊs/ *verb* **-hous•es**; **-housed**; **-hous•ing** [*no obj*] *US, informal* : to play in a rough and noisy way ▪ The kids were *roughhousing* in the living room.

rough•ly /ˈrʌfli/ *adv*

1 : not exactly but close in number, quality, meaning, etc. ▪ *Roughly* translated, it means "hurry up!" ▪ The new product is modeled *roughly* on an earlier design. ▪ *Roughly* [=*approximately*] 20 percent of our land is farmland.

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] **a** : in a way that is not gentle or careful ▪ He threw the package *roughly* in the truck. ▪ The guard told us *roughly* that we had to stand back. ▪ He pushed her *roughly*. **b** : in a very simple or basic way ▪ a *roughly* [=*crudely*] built shelter ▪ *roughly* sketched drawings **c** : in a way that produces a rough surface ▪ *roughly* cut timber

rough•neck /ˈrʌfˌnɛk/ *noun, pl* **-necks** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal*

1 : someone who behaves in a rough, rude, or aggressive way ▪ a town overrun by *roughnecks*

2 : someone who works on an oil rig or at an oil well

rough paper *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : SCRAP PAPER

rough•shod /ˈrʌfˌʃɑ:d/ *adv* : without thinking or caring about the opinions, rights, or feelings of others ▪ They accused the government of ***riding roughshod*** over international law. [=of completely ignoring international law] ▪ (*US*) He achieved success by ruthlessly ***running roughshod*** over anyone who got in his way.

rou•lette /ruˈlɛt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a game in which a small ball is dropped onto a numbered wheel that is spinning and players bet on which numbered section the ball will rest in — see also RUSSIAN ROULETTE

¹round /ˈraʊnd/ *adj* **round•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : shaped like a circle or ball ▪ The Earth is *round*. ▪ little *round* meatballs ▪ a *round* table ▪ The baby has a *round* face. ▪ the owl's big, *round* eyes

2 : shaped like a cylinder ▪ a *round* peg

3 : having curves rather than angles ▪ He has *round* shoulders. ▪ a shirt with a *round* collar ▪ The corners are *round*. ▪ the plant's round *leaves*

4 : slightly fat : PLUMP ▪ a large, *round* man ▪ his big, *round* belly

5 *always used before a noun* **a** ✧ A *round* number is a whole number that often ends in 0 or 5 and that is used instead of a more exact number. ▪ The total actually came to $33.02, but the cashier made it a *round* $33. ▪ ***In round numbers/figures***, the cost of the project adds up to two million dollars. ▪ "How much do you want for it?" "How about 50 dollars? That's a ***nice round number***." **b** : exact or complete ▪ a *round* dozen/million

– **round•ness** /ˈraʊndnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the perfect *roundness* of the stone

²round *adv*

1 *chiefly Brit* : AROUND

2 : from beginning to end ▪ The bush stays green ***all year round***. [=stays green throughout the entire year] — see also YEAR-ROUND

³round *noun, pl* **rounds**

1 [*count*] **a** : one of a series of similar events — often + *of* ▪ A new *round of* negotations is scheduled to begin next week. ▪ Her second *round of* chemotherapy recently ended. **b** : a series of similar actions, events, or things — usually + *of* ▪ She prepared herself for a *round of* appearances on television and radio shows. ▪ an endless *round of* business meetings **c** : a regular series of activities — usually + *of* ▪ my usual *round of* chores

2 ***rounds*** [*plural*] : a series of regular or similar visits or stops ▪ The doctor is on her *rounds* at the hospital. = (*US*) The doctor is ***making/doing her rounds*** at the hospital. [=the doctor is visiting the different patients she sees every day at the hospital] ▪ (*US*) She *made the rounds of* the stores [=she went to many different stores] looking for bargains.

3 : a route that is regularly covered as part of a job [*plural*] (*chiefly US*) The mailman was on his *rounds*. [*count*] (*Brit*) The postman was on his *round*.

4 [*count*] **a** : a stage of a sports competition in which each player or team plays against an opponent and the winner is allowed to continue to the next stage ▪ The team made it to the final *round* of the play-offs. ▪ He made it to the next *round*. **b** : one of the three-minute periods into which a boxing match is divided ▪ The match lasted five *rounds*. **c** : a complete set of holes played in golf : 18 holes of golf ▪ a *round* of golf

5 [*count*] : a number of drinks that are served at the same time to each person in a group ▪ I'll buy the next *round* (of drinks).

6 [*singular*] : a usually short period of applause, cheering, etc. ▪ The winner got a huge *round* of applause.

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7 [*count*] **a** : a shot fired from a weapon ▪ Several *rounds* were fired. **b** : a bullet for one shot ▪ There was only one *round* left in the gun.

8 [*count*] *music* : a song in which three or more singers sing the same melody and words but start at different times

9 [*count*] : a round shape ▪ Cut the carrots into *rounds*. [=round slices] ▪ a *round* [=*wheel*] of cheese

10 [*count*] *Brit* **a** : a whole slice of bread or toast **b** : a sandwich that is made with two whole slices of bread — usually + *of* ▪ a *round of* ham sandwich [=a ham sandwich]

in the round **1** : in a position that allows something to be seen from all sides ▪ a sculpture *in the round* **2** : with a center stage surrounded by an audience ▪ The play was presented *in the round*. ▪ a theater *in the round*

make the rounds (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* ***do/go the rounds*** ✧ When a rumor, a piece of news, etc. *makes/does/goes the rounds*, it is passed from one person to another person and becomes widely known. ▪ Rumors about his resigning as CEO were *making the rounds*. [=were spreading] — see also [3]ROUND 2 (above)

[4]round *verb* **rounds**; **round•ed**; **round•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to go or pass around (something) ▪ When we *rounded* the bend (in the road), we saw two deer in a field. ▪ He slipped when he was *rounding* first base.

2 : to finish or complete (something) in a good or suitable way — + *off* or *out* ▪ They *rounded off* the meal with coffee and dessert. ▪ Winning the tournament was the perfect way to *round out* her career. ▪ Two Nobel Prize winners *round out* the distinguished staff.

3 : to cause (something) to have a round shape — often + *off* ▪ He *rounded off* the corners of the table.

4 *mathematics* : to increase or decrease (a number) to the nearest whole or round number ▪ He *rounded* 10.6 (up) to 11 and 10.3 (down) to 10. — often + *off* ▪ You can *round off* the amounts to the nearest dollar.

round on [*phrasal verb*] ***round on (someone)*** *Brit* : to suddenly turn toward and attack (someone) — usually used figuratively to describe suddenly beginning to speak to someone in an angry or critical way ▪ She *rounded on* him and called him a liar.

round up [*phrasal verb*] ***round up (someone or something)*** *or* ***round (someone or something) up*** : to find and gather together (people, animals, or things) ▪ They *rounded up* the cattle. ▪ The police *rounded up* all the suspects. ▪ She *rounded up* people to play basketball. — see also ROUNDUP

[5]round *prep, chiefly Brit*

1 : AROUND

2 : all during : THROUGHOUT ▪ The bush stays green ***(all) round the year*** [=(more commonly) *year-round*]

[1]round•about /'raʊndə,baʊt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not direct ▪ He took a *roundabout* route to town.

2 : not simple, clear, or plain : long and confusing ▪ a *roundabout* explanation ▪ In a *roundabout* way, he told me that my help was not wanted.

[2]roundabout *noun, pl* **-abouts** [*count*] *Brit*

1 : TRAFFIC CIRCLE

2 : MERRY-GO-ROUND

round•ed /'raʊndəd/ *adj*

1 : having a round or curving shape ▪ a countertop with *rounded* corners ▪ Her shoulders are *rounded*. ▪ *rounded* leaves

2 : fully developed ▪ a wine with a *rounded* character ▪ The novel gives a *rounded* picture of life as an illegal immigrant in the U.S. — see also WELL-ROUNDED

roun•del /'raʊndl̩/ *noun, pl* **-dels** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a round figure or object

round•er /'raʊndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers**

1 [*count*] : a boxing match lasting a specified number of rounds ▪ a 10-*rounder* [=a boxing match that lasts 10 rounds]

2 ***rounders*** [*plural*] *Brit* : a game that is played with a ball and bat and that is like baseball

round•ly /'raʊndli/ *adv*

1 a : thoroughly or completely ▪ He was *roundly* defeated. **b** : by nearly everyone : WIDELY ▪ Her leadership is *roundly* praised. ▪ He was *roundly* disliked/ignored.

2 : using plain or strong language ▪ She *roundly* criticized the plan. ▪ He told them *roundly* [=*bluntly*] that they would get no help.

round–rob•in /'raʊnd,rɑ:bən/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*] *sports* : a competition in which every player or team plays once against every other player or team

round–shoul•dered /'raʊnd,ʃoʊldɚd/ *adj* : having shoulders that slope downward or forward

round•ta•ble /'raʊnd,teɪbəl/ *noun, pl* **-tables** [*count*] : a meeting at which people discuss something and everyone has an equal chance to express an opinion — often used before another noun ▪ a *roundtable* discussion/conference

round–the–clock *adj, always used before a noun* : AROUND-THE-CLOCK

round trip *noun, pl* ~ **trips** [*count*] : a trip to a place and back usually over the same route ▪ It's a 50-mile *round trip* to my parents' house.

– **round trip** *adv, US* ▪ The drive is 50 miles *round trip*.

– **round–trip** /'raʊnd,trɪp/ *adj, always used before a noun, US* ▪ a ***round-trip ticket*** [=(*Brit*) *return*]

round•up /'raʊnd,ʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*]

1 a : the act or process of gathering together animals (such as cattle) by circling around them in vehicles or on horses **b** : the act or process of finding and gathering together people or things of the same kind ▪ The police ordered a *roundup* of all the suspects. — see also *round up* at [4]ROUND

2 : a brief statement of the most important information : SUMMARY ▪ Here's a *roundup* of today's news.

round•worm /'raʊnd,wɚm/ *noun, pl* **-worms** [*count*] : a small worm with a long, round body that lives inside the bodies of people and animals

rouse /'raʊz/ *verb* **rous•es**; **roused**; **rous•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal*

1 : to wake (someone) from sleep ▪ He was *roused* (from sleep) by a loud crash. ▪ I've been unable to *rouse* her. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He stood staring into space until he was *roused* by a tap on his shoulder. ▪ The music *roused* their spirits.

2 : to cause (someone who is tired or not interested) to become active ▪ What will it take to *rouse* voters (from their indifference)? ▪ I was so tired I could barely ***rouse myself*** to prepare dinner.

3 a : to cause (an emotional response) in someone ▪ His comments *roused* [=*aroused*] the anger of many military leaders. **b** : to make (a person or animal) angry ▪ These animals are dangerous when *roused*. ▪ She was ***roused to anger*** by their indifference.

4 : to cause (something) to happen ▪ The report *roused* [=(more commonly) *aroused*] speculation.

rousing *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : done or said with great enthusiasm or excitement ▪ She was met with a *rousing* reception. ▪ a *rousing* speech

2 : causing great emotion, excitement, or enthusiasm ▪ They played a *rousing* [=*stirring*] rendition of the national anthem. ▪ a *rousing* finale/victory

3 : unusually good ▪ The play was a *rousing* [=*remarkable*] success.

roust /'raʊst/ *verb* **rousts**; **roust•ed**; **roust•ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to force (someone or something) to move from a place ▪ The soldiers were *rousted* from their beds before sunrise.

roust•about /'raʊstə,baʊt/ *noun, pl* **-abouts** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a worker in an oil field, at a circus, etc., whose job requires strength but little skill

[1]rout /'raʊt/ *noun, pl* **routs**

1 [*count*] : a game or contest in which the winner easily defeats the loser by a large amount ▪ The game turned into a *rout* in the second half. ▪ After they scored their fourth goal, ***the rout was on*** [=the game became a rout]

2 : a confused and disorderly retreat from a place [*count*] — usually singular ▪ the attack and the *rout* that followed [*noncount*] They put the enemy ***to rout*** [=they forced the enemy to run away]

[2]rout *verb* **routs**; **rout•ed**; **rout•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to defeat (someone) easily and completely in a game or contest ▪ The reigning champion *routed* the contender. ▪ The Nationalist party was *routed* in the polls.

2 : to force (someone or something) to move from a place ▪ The army *routed* the enemy from their stronghold. — often + *out* ▪ People were *routed out* of their homes by the soldiers.

[1]route /'ru:t, 'raʊt/ *noun, pl* **routes** [*count*]

1 a : a way to get from one place to another place ▪ We didn't know what *route* to take/follow. ▪ an escape *route* in case of fire ▪ a parade *route* ▪ We took ***the scenic route*** [=a way that is not the fastest way but that has beautiful scenery]

b : a way that someone or something regularly travels along ▪ a major bird migratory *route* ▪ a bus/truck *route* ▪ a mail *route* ▪ (*US*) She has a ***paper route*** [=(*Brit*) *paper round*; a job of delivering newspapers to the same places every day]

2 : a way of achieving or doing something ▪ the *route* [=*road*]

to success • You could take a different *route* and still arrive at the same conclusion. • I decided to ***go/take the traditional route*** [=do the traditional thing] and have a big wedding.

3 *US* : a usually minor highway • Take *Route* 2 into town. • We live on a rural *route*.

²route *verb* **routes**; **rout•ed**; **rout•ing** [+ *obj*] : to send (someone or something) along a particular route • Traffic was *routed* around the accident. • When the doctor is out, his calls are *routed* to his answering service.

rout•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 /ˈraʊtɚ/ : a machine used for cutting a groove into the surface of wood or metal

2 /ˈruːtɚ, ˈraʊtɚ/ *technical* : a device that sends data from one place to another within a computer network or between computer networks

¹rou•tine /ruˈtiːn/ *noun, pl* **-tines**

1 : a regular way of doing things in a particular order [*count*] Grandma gets upset if we change her *routine*. • A brisk walk is part of her morning *routine*. • The job will be easier once you settle into a *routine*. • You must go through the whole *routine* [=all the steps] of disarming the alarm. • an exercise *routine* [=a set of exercises always done in the same order] [*noncount*] We keep a copy of all correspondence as ***a matter of routine***. [=as a standard procedure]

2 [*noncount*] : a boring state or situation in which things are always done the same way • The meeting was a welcome break from *routine*. [=the meeting was different from what we normally do] • the boring *routine* of paperwork

3 [*count*] **a** : a series of things (such as movements or jokes) that are repeated as part of a performance • a comedy/dance/gymnastics *routine* **b** *informal* : something that is said or done the same way very often — usually singular • Every time I ask him to do something, I get the old "I'm too busy" *routine*. [=he says "I'm too busy"]

4 [*count*] : a set of instructions that will perform a particular job on a computer • the installation *routine*

²routine *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : done very often • The surgery has become a very *routine* operation and poses little danger. • He criticized her *routine* absence from important meetings.

2 : done or happening as a normal part of a job, situation, or process • a *routine* luggage search • a *routine* annual physical • *routine* [=*ordinary*] business practices

3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] **a** : easily done according to a set way or method • The more you do it, the more *routine* it becomes. • They hire high-school students for *routine* work such as filing. **b** *disapproving* : boring because of always being done in the same way • Data entry becomes *routine* very quickly.

– **rou•tine•ly** *adv* • They *routinely* turn down at least half the applicants.

rove /ˈroʊv/ *verb* **roves**; **roved**; **rov•ing** *literary* : to go to different places without having a particular purpose or plan [*no obj*] We *roved* [=*roamed, wandered*] around town/Europe. [+ *obj*] They *roved* [=*roamed, wandered*] the streets of the village. • His ***eyes roved*** the room [=he looked around the room] in search of her.

rov•er /ˈroʊvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 *literary* : a person who wanders to different places • an aimless *rover*

2 : a vehicle used for exploring the surface of a moon, planet, etc. • the Mars *rover*

roving *adj, always used before a noun* : going to many different places • a *roving* reporter • *roving* bands of Gypsies

roving eye ✧ If you have a *roving eye*, you tend to look at and have sexual thoughts about other people even though you already have a wife, husband, etc. • His wife wasn't willing to tolerate his *roving eye*. [=*wandering eye*]

¹row /ˈroʊ/ *noun, pl* **rows** [*count*]

1 : a straight line of people or things that are next to each other • *rows* of corn • The desks are arranged in six *rows*. • The table of figures should include totals at the end of each *row* and column. • The bookstore has ***row upon row*** [=many rows] of self-help books.

2 : a line of seats in a theater, stadium, etc. • I see three empty seats in the second/front/back *row*. • We have front-*row* seats for the concert.

3 ***Row*** : a street or road — used in names • I live on Vassar *Row*. • a house on Church *Row*

a tough/hard row to hoe : something that is difficult to do or deal with • I am considering becoming a doctor, but I know that it's *a tough row to hoe*.

in a row : following one after another • There are three blue houses *in a row*. • She had her birthday party at the bowling alley three years *in a row*. [=three consecutive years]

– compare ³ROW, ⁴ROW; see also DEATH ROW, SKID ROW

²row *verb* **rows**; **rowed**; **row•ing**

1 : to move a boat through water using oars [*no obj*] Let's *row* (over) to the island after lunch. • We'll take turns *rowing*. [+ *obj*] They *rowed* the boat all the way across the lake.

2 [+ *obj*] : to carry (someone or something) in a boat that you row • I *rowed* the kids out to the island.

– compare ⁵ROW

³row *noun* [*singular*] : an act of rowing a boat • I went for a *row* on the lake. — compare ¹ROW, ⁴ROW

⁴row /ˈraʊ/ *noun, pl* **rows** *chiefly Brit, informal*

1 [*count*] : a noisy argument • She got into a terrible *row* [=*quarrel*] with her boyfriend.

2 [*count*] : a lot of loud arguing or complaining usually involving many people • The proposal to build a new nuclear energy plant caused a huge *row*. [=*uproar*]

3 [*singular*] : a loud, unpleasant noise • The children got hold of the drums and made an awful *row*. [=*racket*]

– compare ¹ROW, ³ROW

⁵row *verb* **rows**; **rowed**; **row•ing** [*no obj*] *Brit* : to have a noisy argument with someone • They were *rowing* again. • He's always *rowing with* his wife about/over trivial things. — compare ²ROW

row•an /ˈrawən, ˈrowən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count, noncount*] *Brit* : MOUNTAIN ASH

row•boat /ˈroʊˌboʊt/ *noun, pl* **-boats** [*count*] *US* : a small boat that is moved through water using oars — called also (*Brit*) *rowing boat*; see picture at BOAT

¹row•dy /ˈraʊdi/ *adj* **row•di•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : rough or noisy • a *rowdy* crowd • *rowdy* children • a *rowdy* game of basketball

– **row•di•ness** /ˈraʊdinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

²rowdy *noun, pl* **-dies** [*count*] : a person who causes trouble in a noisy way — usually plural • a gang of young *rowdies*

– **row•dy•ism** /ˈraʊdiˌɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] • *rowdyism* among sports fans

row•er /ˈrowɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who rows a boat : OARSMAN, OARSWOMAN • Olympic *rowers*

row house /ˈroʊ-/ *noun, pl* ~ **houses** [*count*] *US* : a house in a row of houses that shares a wall with the houses next to it — called also (*Brit*) *terraced house*

row•ing /ˈrowɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the sport of racing in long, narrow boats that are moved by using oars • She was on the *rowing* team.

2 : the activity of moving a boat by using oars • *Rowing* is good exercise.

rowing boat *noun, pl* ~ **boats** [*count*] *Brit* : ROWBOAT

rowing machine *noun, pl* ~ **-chines** [*count*] : an exercise machine that you use by moving your body as if you are rowing a boat — see picture at GYM

row•lock /ˈrɑːlək/ *noun, pl* **-locks** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : OARLOCK

¹roy•al /ˈrojəl/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : of or relating to a king or queen • the *royal* family/household/palace • He comes from *royal* blood. [=he is in some way related to a king or queen]

2 ***Royal*** — used in names of organizations that are supported by or that serve a king or queen • the *Royal* Army • the *Royal* College of Art • the *Royal* National Theatre

3 : suitable for a king or queen : elaborate or impressive • They received a *royal* welcome as they stepped off the plane. • The hotel gave us ***the royal treatment***. [=they treated us like very important people]

4 *chiefly US, informal* — used to make a statement more forceful • My little brother is a *royal* pain in the neck.

the royal "we" : the word "we" used by a king or queen instead of "I" • When Queen Victoria said, "We are not amused," she was using *the royal "we."*

²royal *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] *informal* : a member of a royal family • magazine stories about the private lives of *royals*

royal blue *noun* [*noncount*] : a bright purplish blue — see color picture on page C2

– **royal blue** *adj* • a *royal blue* shirt

Royal Commission *noun, pl* ~ **-sions** [*count*] : a group of people chosen by the British government to examine a particular topic or issue and recommend changes in the law • a *Royal Commission* on the death penalty

royal flush *noun, pl* ~ **flushes** [*count*] : a set of cards that a player has in a card game (such as poker) that are all of the

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same suit (such as diamonds) and are the most valuable cards (the ace, king, queen, jack, and ten) in that suit

Royal Highness *noun, pl* ~ **-nesses** [*count*] — used as a title for a member of a royal family; used with *his, her, their*, or *your* ▪ *their Royal Highnesses*, the Prince and Princess of Wales ▪ *Her/His Royal Highness* will receive you now. ▪ Thank you, *your Royal Highness*.

roy·al·ist /ˈrojəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a person who believes that a country should have a king or queen or who supports a particular king or queen
– **royalist** *adj*

roy·al·ly /ˈrojəli/ *adv*
1 : by a king or queen ▪ a *royally* appointed prime minister
2 : in a way suitable for a king or queen ▪ We were treated *royally*. [=we were treated like very important people]
3 *US, informal* — used to add emphasis to statements that usually express anger, frustration, etc. ▪ (*impolite*) He's *royally* pissed. [=he's extremely angry] ▪ I screwed up *royally*. [=very badly]

roy·al·ty /ˈrojəlti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**
1 [*noncount*] : members of a royal family ▪ It was an honor and a privilege to dine with *royalty*. ▪ On our wedding day, we were treated ***like royalty***.
2 [*count*] **a** : an amount of money that is paid to the original creator of a product, book, or piece of music based on how many copies have been sold — usually plural ▪ After he died, his family continued to collect *royalties* on/from his books. ▪ The book has earned $40,000 ***in royalties***. ▪ ***royalty checks/payments*** for artists **b** : an amount of money that is paid by a mining or oil company to the owner of the land the company is using — usually plural ▪ The company pays *royalties* to the government for drilling rights.

RP *abbr* **1** *Brit* Received Pronunciation **2** *baseball* relief pitcher

rpm *abbr* revolutions per minute ✧ *Rpm* is used after a number to indicate how many times something turns one complete circle during one minute. ▪ The engine produces 187 horsepower at 6,000 *rpm*. ▪ a 78-*rpm* record

RR *abbr* **1** railroad ▪ Turn left at the *RR* crossing. **2** *or* **R.R.** *US* rural route ✧ The abbreviation *RR* is used in mailing addresses to places that are located in the country to show which delivery route the mailbox is located on. ▪ *RR* 5, Box 653

R–rated *adj, US, of a movie* : having a rating of R : not suitable to be seen by children because of violence, offensive language, or sexual activity ▪ an *R-rated* movie — often used figuratively ▪ an *R-rated* joke

RSI *abbr* repetitive strain injury; repetitive stress injury

[1]RSVP *abbr* please reply — used on invitations to ask the invited guests to indicate whether they will be able to attend ✧ *RSVP* comes from the French phrase "répondez s'il vous plaît."

[2]RSVP /ˌɑɚˌɛsˌviːˈpiː/ *verb* **RSVP's** *or* **RSVPs**; **RSVP'd** *or* **RSVPed**; **RSVP'·ing** *or* **RSVP·ing** [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to respond to an invitation ▪ They asked us to *RSVP* by this Friday. ▪ Have you *RSVP'd*?

Rt *or* **Rt.** *abbr, US* route ▪ Take *Rt* 70 west.

Rte. *or* **Rte** *abbr, US* route ▪ Take *Rte*. 70 west.

Rt Hon *abbr, Brit* Right Honourable

[1]rub /ˈrʌb/ *verb* **rubs**; **rubbed**; **rub·bing**
1 : to move something (such as your hand or an object) back and forth along the surface of (something) while pressing [+ *obj*] Could you *rub* my shoulders? ▪ He blinked and *rubbed* his eyes. ▪ The cat *rubbed* itself against my leg. [*no obj*] The cat *rubbed* against my leg. ▪ Don't *rub* too hard or you'll tear the paper.
2 : to move (two things) back and forth against each other [+ *obj*] He *rubbed* his hands with glee. — often + *together* ▪ I *rubbed* my hands *together* to warm them up. ▪ The sound you hear is the crickets *rubbing* their legs *together*. ▪ We learned how to *rub* two sticks *together* to start a fire. [*no obj*] There was a squeak when the boards *rubbed* together.
3 : to move back and forth many times against something in a way that causes pain or damage [*no obj*] The back of my shoe is *rubbing* against my heel and giving me a blister. ▪ There are marks where the chair has *rubbed* against the wall. [+ *obj*] There are marks where the chair has been *rubbing* the wall. ▪ I *rubbed* my knees raw scrambling over the rocks.
4 [+ *obj*] : to spread (something) over and into a surface by pressing firmly with your hands ▪ We *rubbed* the steaks with spices before we grilled them. = We *rubbed* spices onto the steaks before we grilled them. ▪ I *rubbed* the ointment onto my sore muscles.

rub along [*phrasal verb*] *Brit, informal* : to work, play, etc., together with little or no difficulty ▪ We *rub along* [=*get along*] well enough, but we're not really close friends.

rub down [*phrasal verb*] ***rub (someone or something) down*** *or* ***rub down (someone or something)*** : to rub (a person or animal's body) with your hands in order to clean, dry, or massage it ▪ The trainer *rubbed down* the players after the game to keep them from getting sore. — see also RUB-DOWN

rub elbows with (*US*) *or* ***rub shoulders with*** *informal* : to meet and talk with (someone) in a friendly way ▪ The award dinner gave me the opportunity to *rub elbows with* some of today's greatest American poets.

rub in [*phrasal verb*] ***rub (something) in*** *or* ***rub in (something)*** *informal* : to keep reminding someone of (something that person would like to forget) ▪ She keeps *rubbing in* the fact that she makes more money than I do. ▪ I know I made a mistake, but you don't have to ***rub it in***.

rub off [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to come off of a surface and often stick to another surface when the surfaces touch each other ▪ Be careful that the ink doesn't *rub off* on your fingers. ▪ The paint on the desk is beginning to *rub off*. — often used figuratively ▪ Her positive attitude *rubbed off* on other people. [=other people began to have a positive attitude from being around her] ▪ I wish some of your good luck would *rub off* on me. [=I wish that I would start having good luck too] **2** ***rub (something) off*** *or* ***rub off (something)*** : to remove (something) from a surface by rubbing ▪ I *rubbed* the dirt *off* (of) the penny.

rub out [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***rub (something) out*** *or* ***rub out (something)*** *chiefly Brit* : to remove (something) by rubbing especially with an eraser ▪ She *rubbed out* [=(*chiefly US*) *erased*] the wrong answer from her paper and filled in the correct one. **2** ***rub (someone) out*** *or* ***rub out (someone)*** *US, informal* : to murder (someone) ▪ They say that the Mafia *rubbed* him *out*.

rub salt in/into someone's wounds *or* ***rub salt in/into the wound*** *informal* : to make a difficult situation even worse for someone ▪ It's bad enough that he beat me, but the way he keeps talking about it is just *rubbing salt in the wound*.

rub someone's nose in *informal* : to repeatedly remind someone of (a mistake, failure, etc.) ▪ He beat us all in the race and then *rubbed our noses in it*.

rub (someone) the wrong way (*US*) *or Brit* ***rub (someone) up the wrong way*** *informal* : to cause (someone) to be angry or annoyed : IRRITATE ▪ She meant to be helpful but her suggestion really *rubbed* me *the wrong way*.

[2]rub *noun, pl* **rubs**
1 [*count*] : an act of rubbing a surface with your hands or an object — usually singular ▪ After the car was washed, they gave the windshield a quick *rub* with a dry cloth. ▪ Let me give you a ***back rub***. [=let me rub/massage your back]
2 ***the rub*** *formal* : something that causes a difficulty or problem ▪ Therein/There lies *the rub*. [=that's the problem] ▪ She's an amazing cook, but she rarely has time to make meals. There's *the rub*.
3 [*count*] *US* : a combination of spices that is rubbed into the surface of meat before the meat is cooked ▪ He used his favorite *rub* on the steaks. ▪ a dry *rub* for chicken

[1]rub·ber /ˈrʌbɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bers**
1 [*noncount*] : a strong substance that stretches and that is made out of chemicals or from the juice of a tropical tree ▪ tires made of *rubber* — often used before another noun ▪ He was wearing *rubber* gloves and safety goggles. ▪ shoes with *rubber* soles ▪ a red *rubber* ball ▪ a *rubber* raft — see also FOAM RUBBER
2 [*count*] *Brit* : ERASER
3 ***rubbers*** [*plural*] *US, informal* + *old-fashioned* : shoes or boots that are made of rubber and that fit over your regular shoes to keep them dry — compare GALOSHES
4 [*count*] *US, informal* : CONDOM
5 [*count*] *baseball* : a flat piece of hard, white rubber on which the pitcher stands while pitching
burn rubber *informal* : to drive very fast ▪ They were *burning rubber* up and down the road.
– compare [2]RUBBER

[2]rubber *noun, pl* **-bers** [*count*]
1 : a contest that consists of a series of games and that is won by the player or team that wins the most games (such as two games out of three) ▪ Let's play a *rubber* of bridge.
2 *US, sports* : a game that decides who will be the winner of a

series of games — usually used before another noun • The teams will play today in the *rubber game* of the series. – compare [1]RUBBER

rubber band *noun, pl* ~ **bands** [*count*] : a thin, flexible loop that is made of rubber and used to hold things together — called also (*US*) *elastic*, (*Brit*) *elastic band*; see picture at OFFICE

rubber boot *noun, pl* ~ **boots** [*count*] *US* : a tall boot that is made out of rubber and that keeps your feet and lower legs dry — called also (*Brit*) *Wellington*

rubber bullet *noun, pl* ~ **-lets** [*count*] : a bullet that is made out of rubber so that it hurts but does not kill people and that is used by the police and military to control a crowd

rubber cement *noun* [*noncount*] : a thick, stretchy glue that contains rubber

rub•ber•ized *also Brit* **rub•ber•ised** /ˈrʌbəˌraɪzd/ *adj, always used before a noun* : coated or soaked with rubber • *rubberized* clothing

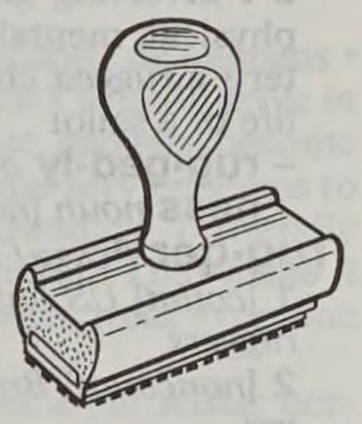
rub•ber•neck /ˈrʌbəˌnɛk/ *verb* **-necks**; **-necked**; **-neck•ing** [*no obj*] *chiefly US, informal* : to look around or stare with great curiosity; *especially* : to slow down while you are driving in order to stare at something (such as an accident) • She was *rubbernecking* and almost got in an accident herself. – **rub•ber•neck•er** /ˈrʌbəˌnɛkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] • a traffic jam caused by *rubberneckers*

rubber plant *noun, pl* ~ **plants** [*count*] : a plant with large, shiny, dark green leaves that is often grown indoors

rubber stamp *noun, pl* ~ **stamps** [*count*]

1 : a small tool that consists of a handle attached to a piece of carved rubber and that is dipped in ink and then pressed on paper to print a date, name, symbol, etc.

2 *disapproving* : a person or organization that automatically approves everything that someone does or decides • The legislature has been nothing more than a *rubber stamp* for the President.



rubber stamp

rubber–stamp *verb* **-stamps**; **-stamped**; **-stamp•ing** [+ *obj*] *usually disapproving* : to approve or allow (something) without seriously thinking about it • They expected the proposal to be *rubber-stamped* by the legislature.

rub•bery /ˈrʌbəri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : similar to rubber • The hard-boiled eggs were tough and *rubbery*. • a *rubbery* material

2 *of legs or knees* : bending like rubber : weak, shaky, and unstable • Her legs were/felt *rubbery* when she stepped off the roller coaster.

rubbing *noun, pl* **-bings** [*count*] : an image of a surface that is made by placing paper over it and rubbing the paper with a pencil, crayon, etc. • He made a *rubbing* of the old tombstone.

rubbing alcohol *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a liquid that contains alcohol and water and that is used to clean wounds or skin — called also (*Brit*) *surgical spirit*

[1]rub•bish /ˈrʌbɪʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : things that are no longer useful or wanted and that have been thrown out : TRASH • Please, pick the *rubbish* up off the ground. • (*Brit*) We saw a rat run through the ***rubbish tip/dump***. [=(*US*) garbage dump; an area of land where people can dump their rubbish] • (*chiefly Brit*) Put the potato peels in the ***rubbish bin***. [=(*US*) *garbage can*, (*chiefly US*) *trash can*]

2 *chiefly Brit, informal* : words or ideas that are foolish or untrue • I think what he says is absolute *rubbish*! • That's (a load of) *rubbish*! I didn't cheat on the test. • "I'm sorry, but I had to do it." "*Rubbish*!"

3 *informal* : something that is worthless, unimportant, or of poor quality • The food at that restaurant is complete *rubbish*. • I can't believe you waste your time reading that *rubbish*. [=*garbage*]

[2]rubbish *verb* **-bish•es**; **-bished**; **-bish•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : to severely criticize (someone or something) • The critics *rubbished* [=(*US*) *trashed*] her new book.

rub•bishy /ˈrʌbəʃi/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *Brit, informal* : of very low quality • a *rubbishy* film/book

rub•ble /ˈrʌbəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : broken pieces of stone, brick, etc., from walls or buildings that have fallen • Rescue workers managed to pull two injured people out of the *rubble*. • The earthquake reduced the whole town to *rubble*.

rub•down /ˈrʌbˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs** [*count*] *chiefly US* : an act of rubbing someone's body to relax the muscles • The trainer gave him a *rubdown* after the game. — see also *rub down* at [1]RUB

rube /ˈruːb/ *noun, pl* **rubes** [*count*] *US, informal* : an uneducated person who is usually from the country • They treated us as if we were a bunch of *rubes*.

Rube Gold•berg /ˈruːbˈgoʊldˌbɚg/ *adj, always used before a noun, US* : doing something simple in a very complicated way that is not necessary • a *Rube Goldberg* [=(*Brit*) *Heath Robinson*] contraption/device/machine ✧ Rube Goldberg was an American cartoonist who was known especially for drawing humorously complicated machines that performed very simple tasks.

ru•bel•la /ruˈbɛlə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : GERMAN MEASLES

Ru•bi•con /ˈruːbɪˌkɑːn/ *noun*

the Rubicon : a limit or point that you reach when the results of your actions cannot be changed • Once you've ***crossed the Rubicon*** there's no going back. ✧ This word comes from the name of a stream that separated Gaul from Italy. In 49 B.C., Julius Caesar started a war by illegally marching his army across the Rubicon and into Italy.

ru•bi•cund /ˈruːbəkənd/ *adj, literary* : having red or pink skin : RUDDY • the *rubicund* face/features of his father

ru•ble (*chiefly US*) *or chiefly Brit* **rou•ble** /ˈruːbəl/ *noun, pl* **ru•bles**

1 [*count*] : the basic unit of money of Russia • It costs 40 *rubles*. • a hundred-*ruble* bill

2 [*count*] : a coin representing one ruble • She gave the driver a *ruble*. • a handful of *rubles*

3 ***the ruble*** *technical* : the value of the ruble compared with the value of the money of other countries • *The ruble* fell against the U.S. dollar.

ru•bric /ˈruːbrɪk/ *noun, pl* **-brics** [*count*] *formal*

1 : a name or heading under which something is classified • They classify very different problems under a general *rubric*. [=*category*]

2 : an explanation or a set of instructions at the beginning of a book, a test, etc.

ru•by /ˈruːbi/ *noun, pl* **-bies**

1 [*count*] : a deep red stone that is used in jewelry • diamonds and *rubies* — see color picture on page C11

2 [*count, noncount*] : a dark red color — see color picture on page C3

– **ruby** *adj* • her *ruby* lips • *ruby* red

ruched /ˈruːʃt/ *adj, of fabric or clothing* : gathered into folds • a *ruched* skirt

ruck /ˈrʌk/ *noun, pl* **rucks**

1 [*count*] *rugby* : a group of players who are trying to get the ball while it is on the ground

2 ***the ruck*** *Brit* : ordinary or normal people or events • Her outstanding poetry eventually allowed her to emerge from *the ruck*. [=the crowd]

3 [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : a fight especially among a group of people • He got drunk and started a *ruck* with the police.

ruck•sack /ˈrʌkˌsæk/ *noun, pl* **-sacks** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : BACKPACK

ruck•us /ˈrʌkəs/ *noun* [*singular*] *chiefly US, informal* : a noisy argument, fight, etc. • They caused quite a *ruckus* [=(*Brit*) *rumpus*] with their yelling. • He ***raised a ruckus*** [=got upset and complained very loudly] over the cost of the repairs.

ruc•tions /ˈrʌkʃənz/ *noun* [*plural*] *chiefly Brit* : angry arguments or complaints • There were *ructions* over how the opera should be staged.

rud•der /ˈrʌdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count*] : a flat, movable piece usually of wood or metal that is attached to a ship, boat, airplane, etc., and is used in steering — see picture at BOAT

rud•der•less /ˈrʌdɚləs/ *adj* : without a leader, plan, or goal • When the Speaker of the House resigned, the party was left *rudderless*. • a *rudderless* young man

[1]rud•dy /ˈrʌdi/ *adj*

1 : having a healthy reddish color • She has a *ruddy* face/complexion. • *ruddy* cheeks

2 *literary* : RED • the *ruddy* surface of Mars

3 *always used before a noun, Brit, informal* — used to make an angry or critical statement more forceful • The *ruddy* squirrels keep eating my birdseed! • He's a *ruddy* fool!

– **rud•di•ness** /ˈrʌdinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]ruddy *adv, Brit, informal* : VERY, EXTREMELY — used to

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make an angry or critical statement more forceful ▪ It's *ruddy* awful!

ruddy well *Brit, informal* — used before a verb to stress anger, annoyance, or disapproval ▪ I can *ruddy well* do as I like.

rude /ˈruːd/ *adj* **rud•er**; **rud•est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : not having or showing concern or respect for the rights and feelings of other people : not polite ▪ He made *rude* remarks/gestures. ▪ I was shocked by her *rude* behavior. ▪ I can't believe that he was so *rude* to me. ▪ It is *rude* (of/for you) to always keep us waiting for you.

2 : relating to sex or other body functions in a way that offends others ▪ *rude* jokes ▪ I heard someone make ***a rude noise***.

3 *always used before a noun* : happening suddenly in usually an unpleasant or shocking way ▪ If you think this job is going to be easy, you're in for a ***rude shock***. [=you will be unpleasantly shocked when you find out that this job is not easy at all] ▪ He's about to have a ***rude awakening***. [=he's about to find out something that will shock him unpleasantly]

4 *literary* : made or done in a simple or rough way : CRUDE ▪ a *rude* stone farmhouse

in rude health *Brit, old-fashioned* : strong and healthy ▪ We hope to find you *in rude health* when we arrive.

– **rude•ly** *adv* ▪ He *rudely* interrupted me. ▪ I was *rudely* [=suddenly and unpleasantly] awakened from my nap. – **rude•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I was shocked by his *rudeness*.

ru•di•men•ta•ry /ˌruːdəˈmɛntəri/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal*

1 : basic or simple ▪ This class requires a *rudimentary* knowledge of human anatomy. ▪ He speaks *rudimentary* English.

2 : not very developed or advanced ▪ *rudimentary* technology ▪ When baseball was in its *rudimentary* stages, different teams played by different rules. ▪ Some insects have only *rudimentary* wings.

ru•di•ments /ˈruːdəmənts/ *noun* [*plural*] *formal* : basic facts or skills ▪ the *rudiments* of grammar/government

rue /ˈruː/ *verb* **rues**; **rued**; **ru•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to feel sorrow or regret for (something) ▪ He must be *ruing* his decision now. ▪ I ***rue the day*** (that) I signed that contract.

rue•ful /ˈruːfəl/ *adj* : showing or feeling regret for something done ▪ He gave me a *rueful* smile and apologized.

– **rue•ful•ly** *adv* ▪ "I still have a scar from the accident," he said *ruefully*.

ruff /ˈrʌf/ *noun, pl* **ruffs** [*count*]

1 : a large, round collar of folded fabric that was worn by men and women in the 16th and 17th centuries

2 : a mass of fur or feathers growing around or on the neck of an animal or bird

ruf•fi•an /ˈrʌfijən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a strong and violent person (especially a man) who threatens and hurts other people ▪ a gang of *ruffians*

[1]ruf•fle /ˈrʌfəl/ *verb* **ruf•fles**; **ruf•fled**; **ruf•fling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to move or lift (something) so that it is no longer smooth ▪ Her hair was *ruffled* by the wind. ▪ The bird *ruffled* (up) its feathers.

2 : to make (someone) irritated, annoyed, worried, etc. ▪ He *ruffled* some people with his constant complaining. — usually used as *(be) ruffled* ▪ That boy is a lot of trouble. It's a good thing his parents *aren't* easily *ruffled*. [=don't become upset easily] ▪ The actress *was* obviously *ruffled* by the reporter's question.

ruffle feathers *informal* : to upset or offend someone ▪ His critical remarks ***ruffled some feathers***. = His critical remarks ***ruffled a few feathers***. ▪ His critical remarks ***ruffled the feathers of*** the board members. ▪ Her research has been ***ruffling feathers*** [=upsetting people] for years. ▪ I agreed to do what they wanted because I didn't want to ***ruffle any feathers***.

[2]ruffle *noun, pl* **ruffles** [*count*] : a piece of cloth that is gathered together along one edge and used to decorate something ▪ The dress has a *ruffle* around the collar.

– **ruffled** /ˈrʌfəld/ *adj* ▪ a *ruffled* collar

rug /ˈrʌg/ *noun, pl* **rugs** [*count*]

1 : a piece of thick, heavy material that is used to cover usually a section of a floor ▪ I accidentally spilled wine on the *rug*. — see picture at LIVING ROOM; see also PRAYER RUG, THROW RUG

2 *chiefly US, informal* : a small wig that is usually worn by a man to cover a bald spot : TOUPEE ▪ You could tell that he was wearing a *rug*.

3 *Brit* : a blanket that you put over your lap and legs to keep them warm

cut a rug see [1]CUT

pull the rug (out) from under *informal* : to very suddenly take something needed or expected from (someone or something) ▪ We were ready to start work on the project when the mayor *pulled the rug out from under* us and cut the funding.

sweep (something) under the rug see [1]SWEEP

rug•by *also* **Rugby** /ˈrʌgbi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a game played by two teams in which each team tries to carry or kick a ball over the other team's goal line — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *rugby football*; see picture at BALL

Rugby League *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of rugby played with 13 people on each team

Rugby Union *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of rugby played with 15 people on each team

rug•ged /ˈrʌgəd/ *adj*

1 : having a rough, uneven surface ▪ the *rugged* surface of the moon ▪ She did a painting of the region's *rugged* coastline.

2 *of a man's face* : having rough but attractive features ▪ People are attracted to his ***rugged good looks***.

3 : strong and determined ▪ *rugged* pioneers ▪ I admire her *rugged* individualism.

4 : made to be strong and tough ▪ The chair is made of *rugged* plastic. ▪ The fabric is lightweight but *rugged*.

5 : involving great difficulties or challenges : testing your physical, mental, or moral strength ▪ a long and *rugged* winter ▪ a *rugged* climb to the top of the mountain ▪ the *rugged* life of a sailor

– **rug•ged•ly** *adv* ▪ a *ruggedly* handsome man – **rug•ged•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *ruggedness* of the terrain

rug•ger /ˈrʌgə/ *noun, pl* **-gers**

1 [*count*] *US, informal* : a person who plays rugby ▪ college *ruggers*

2 [*noncount*] *Brit, informal* : RUGBY UNION ▪ He plays *rugger*.

rug•rat /ˈrʌgˌræt/ *noun, pl* **-rats** [*count*] *US slang* : a young child ▪ a mother and her little *rugrats*

[1]ru•in /ˈruːwən/ *verb* **-ins**; **-ined**; **-in•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to damage (something) so badly that it is no longer useful, valuable, enjoyable, etc. : to spoil or destroy (something) ▪ Moths *ruined* the sweater. ▪ Years of computer use *ruined* his eyesight. [=made his eyesight very poor] ▪ The bad weather *ruined* the party. ▪ I *ruined* the sauce by adding too much garlic. ▪ His low test scores *ruined* his chances of getting into a good school. ▪ Poor customer service *ruined* the company's reputation. ▪ You *ruined* my life! [=you made my life very difficult or unpleasant]

2 : to cause (someone) to lose money, social status, etc. ▪ He was *ruined* by debt. ▪ The scandal *ruined* the mayor.

[2]ruin *noun, pl* **-ins**

1 [*noncount*] : a state of complete destruction : a state of being ruined ▪ The incident led to the *ruin* of their relationship. ▪ The abandoned town had gone to *ruin*. ▪ Don't let the house your grandfather built fall into *ruin*.

2 [*count*] : the remaining pieces of something that was destroyed ▪ The castle is now a *ruin*. — usually plural ▪ the *ruins* of the ancient city ▪ We saw the (ancient) Mayan/Roman *ruins*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He searched through the *ruins* of his childhood for the cause of his unhappiness.

3 [*noncount*] : the state of having lost money, social status, etc. ▪ The drought brought economic/financial *ruin* to local farmers. ▪ Her drug addiction brought her to the brink of *ruin*.

4 [*singular*] : something that badly damages someone physically, morally, economically, or socially ▪ Her drug addiction was her *ruin*. ▪ Street violence is the *ruin* of too many young people today.

in ruins : destroyed with some pieces or parts remaining ▪ The building was/lay *in ruins*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ After her death, the family was *in ruins*.

ru•in•a•tion /ˌruːwəˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the act or process of destroying something ▪ Water pollution is causing the *ruination* of the fishing industry.

ruined *adj, always used before a noun* : destroyed or badly damaged so that only parts remain ▪ *ruined* buildings ▪ a *ruined* Greek temple

ru•in•ous /ˈruːwənəs/ *adj, formal*

1 : causing or likely to cause damage or destruction ▪ Smoking is *ruinous* [=(more commonly) *dangerous, hazardous*] to

your health. ▪ *ruinous* effects/consequences
2 : costing far too much money ▪ *ruinous* price increases
3 *chiefly Brit, formal* : falling apart : badly damaged ▪ a *ruinous* building ▪ The house has fallen into a *ruinous* state.
– **ru·in·ous·ly** *adv* ▪ Funding the project would be *ruinously* expensive.

[1]rule /ˈru:l/ *noun, pl* **rules**
1 [*count*] **a** : a statement that tells you what is or is not allowed in a particular game, situation, etc. ▪ I understand the basic *rules* of chess. ▪ As long as you're living under our roof, you'll follow/obey our *rules*. ▪ The college has strict *rules* for qualifying for financial assistance. ▪ The new *rule* allows/permits employees to dress casually on Fridays. ▪ Under the new *rules*, casual dress is now allowed. ▪ the company's ***rules and regulations*** ▪ It's important to learn the ***rules of the road*** before taking your driving test. ▪ It's ***against the rules*** to eat during class. ▪ He violated the ***unwritten/unspoken rule*** that you must thank your host before you leave a party. ▪ We cannot ***bend/stretch the rules*** [=change or ignore the rules] just for you. ▪ If you ***break the rules***, you'll be asked to leave. — see also GAG RULE, GROUND RULE ***synonyms*** see LAW
b : a statement that tells you what is allowed or what will happen within a particular system (such as a language or science) ▪ the *rules* of grammar ▪ the *rules* of geometry
2 [*count*] : a piece of advice about the best way to do something ▪ Your speech will go well as long as you follow one simple *rule*: be confident. ▪ The first *rule* of driving is to pay attention. ▪ A good *rule* to follow when traveling is to do as the locals do.
3 [*singular*] : the way something usually is done or happens ▪ ***As a rule***, I don't drive in the snow. [=I don't usually drive in the snow] ▪ ***As a general rule***, electronic gadgets become smaller as they develop. ▪ Friendly customer service seems to be ***the exception rather than the rule*** nowadays. [=friendly customer service seems to be rare these days] ▪ They ***make it a rule*** to treat everyone fairly. [=they always treat everyone fairly]
4 [*noncount*] : the control and power that a particular person, group, or government has over a country or area ▪ Today we celebrate the anniversary of the country's independence from colonial *rule*. ▪ Under her *rule*, the country prospered. — see also HOME RULE, MAJORITY RULE
5 [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a stick used for measuring things : RULER — see also SLIDE RULE
by the rules : in the way that is most common, expected, and acceptable ▪ After years of boredom, he grew tired of living *by the rules*. ▪ She has always ***played by the rules*** throughout her career.
rule of law : a situation in which the laws of a country are obeyed by everyone ▪ The courts uphold the *rule of law*.
rule of thumb **1** : a method of doing something that is based on experience and common sense rather than exact calculation ▪ A good *rule of thumb* for keeping your closet organized is to get rid of any clothes you haven't worn in the past year. **2** : a principle that is believed and followed and that is based on the way something usually happens or is done ▪ As a *rule of thumb*, stocks that involve greater risk also have the potential of earning you more money.

[2]rule *verb* **rules; ruled; rul·ing**
1 : to have control and power over a country, area, group, etc. [*no obj*] The queen *ruled* for 25 years. ▪ A dynasty *ruled* over this region during the 11th century. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ After the overthrow of the government, chaos *ruled*. [=there was a lot of chaos] [+ *obj*] Who will be the next leader to *rule* the country? — sometimes used figuratively ▪ That summer, his band *ruled* the airwaves.
2 [+ *obj*] : to have great influence over (someone) ▪ Football *ruled* their lives. ▪ All of his actions were *ruled* by his religion.
3 : to make a legal decision about something [*no obj*] The court ***ruled in favor of*** the defendant. ▪ The jury ***ruled against*** the tobacco companies. ▪ How will the court ***rule on*** the motion? [+ *obj*] The Supreme Court *ruled* the law unconstitutional. ▪ The board *ruled* that her behavior was cheating.
4 *not used in progressive tenses* [*no obj*] *slang* : to be very good or popular — used to express strong admiration for someone or something ▪ That movie *rules*! [=that movie is great] ▪ Your new sneakers *rule*.
divide and rule see [1]DIVIDE
rule out [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***rule (someone or something) out or rule out (someone or something)*** : to no longer consider (someone or something) as a possibility after careful thought or study ▪ The police *ruled* them *out* as suspects when it was proved that they were out of town when the crime was committed. ▪ There are some diseases your doctor will want to *rule out* before making a diagnosis. **2** ***rule (something) out or rule out (something)*** : to make (something) impossible : to prevent (something) from happening ▪ The bad weather *ruled out* a picnic. **3** ***rule (someone) out*** : to remove (someone) from a competition, contest, etc. ▪ He applied for the job, but his lack of experience quickly *ruled* him *out*. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) She has been *ruled out* of today's game with a broken thumb.
rule the roost see [1]ROOST
rule with an iron fist/hand (*chiefly US*) *or Brit* ***rule with a rod of iron*** : to rule a country, area, group, etc., in a very strict and often cruel way ▪ The dictator *ruled* (the island) *with an iron fist*.

rule book *noun, pl* ~ **books** [*count*] : a book that contains the official set of rules that must be followed in a game, job, etc. — usually singular ▪ If you're not sure what to do, look in the *rule book*. — often used figuratively ▪ The *rule book* says [=the rules say] that once the puck fully crosses the line it is a goal.

ruled *adj* : printed with lines on which to write ▪ a *ruled* notebook ▪ wide-*ruled* notebook paper

rul·er /ˈru:lɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a person (such as a king or queen) who rules a country, area, group, etc. ▪ a summit attended by a number of *rulers* from around the world
2 : a straight piece of plastic, wood, or metal that has marks on it to show units of length and that is used to measure things ▪ This *ruler* shows inches and centimeters. — see picture at CARPENTRY

[1]ruling *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : an official decision made by a judge, referee, etc. ▪ The decision overturns the Supreme Court's earlier *ruling*. ▪ She disputed the referee's *ruling*.

[2]ruling *adj, always used before a noun* : having control and power over a country, area, group, etc. ▪ members of the *ruling* class ▪ the *ruling* family/party

[1]rum /ˈrʌm/ *noun, pl* **rums** [*count, noncount*] : an alcoholic drink that is made from sugar ▪ a bottle/glass of *rum* ▪ *rum* punch

[2]rum *adj, Brit, old-fashioned* + *informal* : strange or odd ▪ They're a pretty *rum* lot.

rum·ba *also* **rhum·ba** /ˈrʌmbə/ *noun, pl* **-bas**
1 [*count*] : a type of dance originally from Cuba in which dancers move their hips a lot ▪ They danced a/the *rumba*.
2 : the music for a rumba [*count*] The band played a *rumba*. [*noncount*] The band plays *rumba*.

[1]rum·ble /ˈrʌmbəl/ *verb* **rum·bles; rum·bled; rum·bling**
1 [*no obj*] : to make a low, heavy, continuous sound or series of sounds ▪ Thunder *rumbled* in the distance. ▪ I got hungry and my stomach started *rumbling*. [=*growling*] ▪ *rumbling* machines
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move along with a low, heavy, continuous sound ▪ The train *rumbles* through town twice a day. ▪ We watched as the trucks *rumbled* past/by.
3 [*no obj*] *US, informal* + *old-fashioned* : to fight especially in the street ▪ The gangs *rumbled* in the alley.
4 [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : to reveal or discover the true character of (someone) ▪ He knows I've *rumbled* him.
rumble on [*phrasal verb*] : to continue for a long period of time ▪ The debate *rumbled on* through newspaper articles.

[2]rumble *noun, pl* **rumbles** [*count*]
1 : a low, heavy sound or series of sounds ▪ I was awakened by the *rumble* of a train passing by.
2 *US, informal* + *old-fashioned* : a fight in the street especially between gangs

rumble seat *noun, pl* ~ **seats** [*count*] *US, old-fashioned* : a seat in the back of a car that folds down and is not covered by the top ✧ Rumble seats were most common in cars made during the 1920s and 1930s.

rumble strip *noun, pl* ~ **strips** [*count*] : a set of grooves along the edge of a highway or across a road that cause noise and shaking when they are driven over and that are used to warn drivers that they need to slow down or are too close to the edge of the road

rum·bling /ˈrʌmbəlɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-blings**
1 [*count*] : a low, heavy, continuous sound or series of sounds ▪ *rumblings* of thunder — usually singular ▪ The *rumbling* of the thunder frightened the cat. ▪ the *rumbling* of distant traffic
2 ***rumblings*** [*plural*] : written or spoken comments showing that people are unhappy about something ▪ There were *rum-*

blings about rising prices. ▪ the *rumblings* of revolution

rum•bus•tious /ˌrʌmˈbʌstʃəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *Brit* : RAMBUNCTIOUS

ru•mi•nant /ˈru:mənənt/ *noun, pl* **-nants** [*count*] *technical* : an animal (such as a cow or sheep) that has more than one stomach and that swallows food and then brings it back up again to continue chewing it
– **ruminant** *adj* ▪ *ruminant* animals

ru•mi•nate /ˈru:məˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nat•ing** [*no obj*]
1 *formal* : to think carefully and deeply about something ▪ The question got us *ruminating* on the real value of wealth. ▪ He *ruminated* over/about the implications of their decision.
2 *technical, of an animal* : to bring up and chew again what has already been chewed and swallowed ▪ a *ruminating* cow
– **ru•mi•na•tion** /ˌru:məˈneɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *ruminations* on the meaning of life [*noncount*] Cows break down their food by *rumination*.

ru•mi•na•tive /ˈru:məˌneɪtɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : showing careful thought about something : very thoughtful ▪ The poem is dark and *ruminative*. ▪ She was in a *ruminative* mood.

[1]rum•mage /ˈrʌmɪʤ/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **-mag•es**; **-maged**; **-mag•ing** [*no obj*] : to search for something especially by moving and looking through the contents of a place ▪ He *rummaged* through the attic for his baseball card collection. ▪ He *rummaged* in his pocket for the receipt. ▪ I heard you *rummaging* around/about in the refrigerator.

[2]rummage *noun* [*singular*] *chiefly Brit* : the act of looking for something among a group of things ▪ ***Have a rummage*** through the box [=look through the box] and see if you can find the toy you're looking for.

rummage sale *noun, pl ~* **sales** [*count*] *US* : a sale of used items (such as old clothes or toys) especially to raise money for a church, school, charity, etc. — called also (*Brit*) *jumble sale*

rum•my /ˈrʌmi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a card game in which each player tries to collect groups of three or more cards — see also GIN RUMMY

ru•mor (*US*) *or Brit* **ru•mour** /ˈru:mɚ/ *noun, pl* **-mors** : information or a story that is passed from person to person but has not been proven to be true [*count*] There are *rumors* that they are making a new film. ▪ She accused him of starting/spreading *rumors* about her. ▪ Ever since his sudden resignation, *rumors* have been flying. ▪ I heard a *rumor* that they broke up. ▪ "Did you hear that they broke up?" "That's just/only a *rumor*." ▪ The *rumor* turned out to be false/unfounded. [*noncount*] You can't fire him solely based on *rumor*. ▪ ***Rumor has it*** that they broke up.
the rumor mill : a group of people who start and spread rumors ▪ That news should keep *the rumor mill* churning/running/going for a while!

ru•mored (*US*) *or Brit* **ru•moured** /ˈru:mɚd/ *adj* — used to describe what is being said in rumors ▪ The estate sold for a *rumored* $12 million. [=people say that it sold for $12 million, but that may not be true] ▪ It ***was rumored that*** the factory was going to move overseas, but that turned out to be false. ▪ The new boss ***is rumored to be*** a bit of a tyrant.

ru•mor•mon•ger (*US*) *or Brit* **ru•mour•mon•ger** /ˈru:mɚˌmɑ:ŋgɚ, ˈru:mɚˌmʌŋgɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*] *disapproving* : a person who enjoys spreading rumors

rump /ˈrʌmp/ *noun, pl* **rumps**
1 a [*count*] : the back part of an animal's body where the thighs join the hips ▪ a horse's/cow's *rump* **b** [*count, noncount*] : a piece of meat that comes from the rump of a cow — called also *rump steak*
2 [*count*] *humorous* : the part of the body you sit on : BOTTOM ▪ I slipped and fell on my *rump*.
3 [*singular*] *chiefly Brit* : the part of a group that remains after most of the members of that group have left or been forced to leave

rum•ple /ˈrʌmpəl/ *verb* **rum•ples**; **rum•pled**; **rum•pling** [*+ obj*] : to make (something) messy or wrinkled ▪ He *rumpled* her hair affectionately.
– **rumpled** *adj* ▪ She put on a *rumpled* shirt she had worn the day before. ▪ a *rumpled* bed

rum•pus /ˈrʌmpəs/ *noun* [*singular*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : a noisy argument, fight, etc. : RUCKUS ▪ They caused a *rumpus* [=*commotion*] with their fighting.

rumpus room *noun, pl ~* **rooms** [*count*] *US, somewhat old-fashioned* : a room usually in the basement of a house that a family uses for games, parties, etc.

[1]run /ˈrʌn/ *verb* **runs**; **ran** /ˈræn/; **run**; **run•ning**
1 [*no obj*] **a** : to move with your legs at a speed that is faster than walking ▪ How fast can you *run*? ▪ He *runs* faster than anyone else on the team. ▪ She *ran* up the stairs to get her jacket. ▪ We *ran* for the train—but missed it. ▪ I heard her scream and *ran* to help. ▪ She *ran* to me for help. ▪ The dog *ran* away from me. ▪ The dog *ran* toward me. ▪ When I called the dog, he ***came running***. ▪ Don't expect me to *come running* every time you want something. I'm not your servant. ▪ The chickens were ***running loose*** in the yard. ▪ The horses ***ran wild***. ▪ He ***ran at*** me with a knife. [=he ran toward me with a knife in his hand] — often used figuratively ▪ He *ran* back to his ex-girlfriend after I dumped him. ▪ You can't keep *running* away from your problems. ▪ Don't *come running* to me when you get in trouble. ▪ Don't let your imagination *run wild*. I'm sure nothing bad has happened. **b** : to leave a place quickly by running ▪ When the alarm sounded, the robbers *ran*. ▪ He dropped the gun and *ran*. ▪ Quick! *Run* and get a doctor! ▪ The ambushed soldiers *ran* for cover. ▪ They had the enemy *running* scared. — often + *away* ▪ When she saw all the people in the audience, she had a sudden urge to *run away*. ▪ They *ran away* screaming. — often + *off* ▪ When they saw the police, they quickly *ran off*.
2 a : to run as part of a sport, for exercise, or in a race [*no obj*] He *ran* on the track team in college. ▪ She's *running* in the marathon this year. ▪ The horse will not be *running* in this race. [*+ obj*] I *run* six miles every day. ▪ She *ran* a great race. [=she ran very well in the race] ▪ He *ran* track in college. ▪ She's *running* the marathon this year. ▪ The marathon will be *run* tomorrow. [=people will be running the marathon tomorrow] **b** *American football* : to carry and run with (the ball) [*+ obj*] He *ran* the football for a 20-yard gain. ▪ He *ran* the kick back to the 40-yard line. [*no obj*] He *ran* for 15 yards. **c** *baseball* : to run from base to base [*no obj*] He *runs* well and might attempt a steal. [*+ obj*] He ***runs the bases*** well.
3 [*+ obj*] : to cause (an animal) to run ▪ He *ran* the horse through the fields.
4 [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to be a candidate in an election for a particular office — often + *for* ▪ She is *running* [=(*Brit*) *standing*] *for* mayor. — often + *against* ▪ He is *running against* her in the upcoming election.
5 [*+ obj*] **a** : to direct the business or activities of (something) ▪ She *runs* [=*manages*] the restaurant/hotel/store. ▪ He *runs* the after-school program. ▪ The President is doing a good job *running* the country. ▪ The company is badly/privately *run*. ▪ state/family-*run* companies ▪ I'm old enough to ***run my own life*** [=make my own decisions] **b** : to do (a test or check) on someone or something ▪ The doctors need to *run* some more tests. — often + *on* ▪ The doctors *ran* some tests *on* the blood samples. ▪ The police *ran* a security check *on* him.
6 a [*+ obj*] : to use and control (something) ▪ I'm not licensed to *run* [=*operate*] a forklift. **b** [*+ obj*] : to put (something) into operation ▪ You should *run* the engine for a few minutes before you start driving. ▪ He *ran* the program (on the computer). **c** [*no obj*] : to function or operate ▪ Never leave your car unattended while the engine is *running*. ▪ He didn't know the camera was still *running*. ▪ He had his new computer ***up and running*** in no time. — often + *on* ▪ This software *runs on* most computers. ▪ The car *runs on* [=*uses*] diesel.
7 a *usually followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to go on a particular route or at particular times ▪ The bus/ferry *runs* every hour. ▪ The train *runs* between New York and Washington. ▪ Trains no longer *run* on this track. ▪ The buses are ***running late*** [=the buses are late] **b** [*+ obj*] : to have (a bus, train, ferry, etc.) traveling on a route ▪ They *run* extra trains on Saturdays.
8 a [*no obj*] : to make a quick trip *to* a place for something ▪ She *ran* (up/down) *to* the store for bread and milk. ▪ He *ran* over *to* the neighbors for some sugar. **b** [*+ obj*] : to drive (someone) a short distance *to* a place or event ▪ I have to *run* the kids *to* soccer practice. **c** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*+ obj*] : to bring (something) quickly to someone who is at a particular place ▪ Wait here. I'm just going to *run* this in/inside to her. ▪ He *ran* an umbrella out to her before she drove off. **d** [*+ obj*] : to do (something that involves making a quick trip) : to do (an errand) ▪ I have a few errands to *run* after I leave work today.
9 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** [*+ obj*] : to cause (a driver or vehicle) to move in a particular direction ▪ That car tried to *run* me off the road! ▪ She *ran* her car off the

road. ▪ He *ran* the car into a tree. **b** [*no obj*] *of a driver or vehicle* : to move in a particular direction ▪ His car *ran* off the road. = He *ran* off the road. — see also RUN INTO (below), RUN OVER (below)

10 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to pass through, over, along, or into something else ▪ She *ran* her fingers through my hair. ▪ He *ran* a brush over the dog's fur. ▪ I quickly *ran* my eyes over/down the list of names. **b** [*no obj*] : to travel or spread in a fast or uncontrolled way ▪ Whispers *ran* through the crowd. ▪ A chill *ran* up/down my spine.

11 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] **a** : to go or extend in a particular direction ▪ The boundary line *runs* east. ▪ The road *runs* through the mountain. ▪ The highway *runs* from Boston to New York. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ My tastes in novels *run to/toward* science fiction and thrillers. [=I tend to like science fiction and thrillers] ▪ Such behavior *runs* counter to [=such behavior does not agree with] the values of our society. ▪ He does nothing that would *run* against [=go against] his moral principles. **b** — used to describe the position of a road, path, etc. ▪ The highway *runs* close to the shore. ▪ The route *runs* the length of the eastern coast. ▪ A path *runs* along the ridge. ▪ The pipes *run* beneath the floor. ▪ There was a scratch *running* down the side of the car.

12 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something, such as a wire or cable) to go or extend from one point to another ▪ He *ran* the wires up from the basement.

13 [+ *obj*] : to bring (something) from one country into another country illegally and secretly ▪ He was arrested for *running* [=*smuggling*] drugs into the country.

14 a [*no obj*] : to flow ▪ He left the water *running*. : to flow in a particular direction ▪ The river *runs* down to the valley. ▪ The river *runs* into the gulf. ▪ The tide was *running* out. ▪ Sand *ran* out of the bag. ▪ Steam *runs* through the pipes. ▪ Blood was *running* down his leg. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to flow or to produce a flow of water ▪ She *ran* the tap/faucet. ▪ *Run* the water until it gets hot. **c** [+ *obj*] : to prepare (a bath) by running a faucet ▪ She *ran* a hot bath for her husband. = She *ran* her husband a hot bath.

15 [*no obj*] **a** : to produce a flow of liquid ▪ Chopping the onions made my eyes *run*. [=*water*] ▪ I knew I was getting sick when my nose started to *run*. ▪ a *running* sore **b** : to spread or flow into another area ▪ Your eyeliner is *running*. ▪ Mascara *ran* from her eyes. ▪ The paint *ran* in some spots. ▪ The writing was blurred where the ink *ran*. **c** : to have a color that spreads onto other pieces of clothing when clothes are washed together ▪ Her red shirt *ran* and made my blue jeans look purple. ▪ colors that *run*

16 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to continue or remain effective for a particular period of time ▪ His contract *runs* until next season. ▪ She received six months on each charge, and the sentences are to *run* concurrently. ▪ The course *runs* over a six-week period of time. ▪ The televised game *ran* 30 minutes over the scheduled time. ▪ The play has *run* for six months. ▪ Things *ran* smoothly at the office while the boss was away.

17 [*no obj*] : to be or to begin to be something specified ▪ The well has ***run dry***. ▪ Her creativity has *run dry*. ▪ We are ***running low on*** fuel. [=our supply of fuel is getting low] ▪ Supplies were ***running low/short***. ▪ We ***ran short of*** money. [=we did not have enough money] ▪ I have to hurry. I'm ***running late***. [=I'm late; I'm behind schedule] ▪ The project is ***running behind schedule***.

18 [*no obj*] : to include everything between specified limits : RANGE ▪ The prices for tickets *run* from $10 to $50.

19 [+ *obj*] : to allow charges on (a bill) to add up before paying ▪ He ***ran a tab*** at the bar.

20 a [+ *obj*] : to have (an amount of money) as a price ▪ The rooms *run* [=*cost*] $100 a night. **b** [*no obj*] : to have or reach a particular length, size, or amount ▪ The book *runs* (to) nearly 500 pages. ▪ Their annual budget *runs* to about 5 million dollars. ▪ Their yearly income *runs* into/to six figures. [=their yearly income is more than $100,000] ▪ Gas is ***running at*** over $4 per gallon. [=gas prices are over $4 per gallon]

21 a [+ *obj*] : to print or broadcast (something) ▪ Every newspaper in the city *ran* the story. ▪ The ad was *run* in yesterday's newspaper. ▪ The news station *ran* a feature on how to eat healthier. **b** [*no obj*] : to appear in print or on television ▪ Many of his stories *ran* in national magazines. ▪ The show has *run* for five seasons.

22 [+ *obj*] : to produce (a copy of a document, newspaper, etc.) using a printer or copying machine ▪ 10,000 copies were *run* for the first edition. — see also RUN OFF (below)

23 a [+ *obj*] : to have (particular words) in writing or print ▪ "We Will Not Lose" *ran* the headline. [=the headline was/said "We Will Not Lose"] **b** [*no obj*] : to be expressed in words ▪ The definition *runs* as follows . . .

24 [+ *obj*] : to drive past or through (a stop sign or red traffic light) illegally without stopping ▪ He *ran* a red light. = He *ran* the light. ▪ She *ran* the stop sign.

25 [*no obj*] *US, of stockings* : to start to have a long hole that continues to get longer ▪ The nylons are guaranteed not to *run*. [=(*Brit*) *ladder*]

26 [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to own and maintain (a vehicle) ▪ I can't afford to *run* a car on my salary.

In addition to the phrases shown below, *run* occurs in many idioms that are shown at appropriate entries throughout the dictionary. For example, *cut and run* can be found at ¹CUT and *run a tight ship* can be found at ¹SHIP.

run across [*phrasal verb*] ***run across (someone or something)*** : to meet (someone) or find (something) by chance ▪ I *ran across* [=*ran into*] an old roommate of mine today. ▪ I *ran across* some old photos from when I was a kid.

run a fever/temperature ✧ If you are ***running a fever/temperature***, you have a body temperature that is higher than normal.

run after [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***run after (someone or something)*** : to run toward (someone or something) in an attempt to catch that person or thing ▪ The dog *ran after* [=*chased*] the squirrel. **2** ***run after (someone)*** *informal + disapproving* : to try to start a romantic relationship with (someone) ▪ He's always *running after* younger women.

run along [*phrasal verb*] *informal + somewhat old-fashioned* : to go away : LEAVE ▪ He told the boy to *run along* home. ▪ *Run along* now, kid. This doesn't concern you.

run around *or chiefly Brit* ***run about*** *or* ***run round*** [*phrasal verb*]

1 : to run in an area while playing ▪ The children were *running around* outside. **2** *informal* : to go from place to place in a busy or hurried way ▪ I spent the whole day *running around* doing errands. **3** ***run around/about/round with (someone)*** *informal + disapproving* : to spend a lot of time with (someone) ▪ He *runs around with* younger women.

run away [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to leave your home suddenly without permission and go somewhere else to live ▪ He *ran away* (from home) at a young age. ▪ They *ran away* [=*ran off*] together because their families objected to their marriage. — see also RUNAWAY **2** : to avoid a person or situation that makes you feel uncomfortable ▪ You shouldn't keep *running away*. You should face your mom and tell her how you feel. **3 a** ***run away with (someone)*** *disapproving* : to leave a person or place in order to live with and have a sexual relationship with (someone) ▪ He left his wife and *ran away with* [=*ran off with*] his secretary. ▪ She *ran away with* a man old enough to be her father. **b** ***run away with (something)*** : to leave a place with (something that does not belong to you) ▪ The butler *ran away with* [=*stole, ran off with*] the family silver. **4** ***run away with (something)*** *informal* **a** : to be the best or most popular performer in (a performance) ▪ She *ran away with* [=*stole*] the show. **b** : to win (something) very easily ▪ She *ran away with* the election. ▪ He *ran away with* first place. **5** ***run away with (someone)*** : to make (someone) do something that is not sensible or reasonable ▪ Don't let your imagination *run away with* you. [=don't let yourself imagine all kinds of things that aren't true] — see also ¹RUN 1b (above)

run by/past [*phrasal verb*] ***run (something) by/past (someone)*** : to tell (something) to (someone) so that it can be considered, approved, etc. ▪ You'd better *run* this *past* the boss. [=you'd better tell the boss about this and find out if he/she thinks it is a good idea] ▪ He *ran* some ideas *by* her. ▪ (*informal*) Can you *run* that *by* me again? [=can you repeat what you just said?]

run down [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***run (someone or something) down*** *or* ***run down (someone or something)*** : to hit and knock down (a person or animal) with a vehicle ▪ He says she deliberately tried to *run* him *down*. **2 a** ***run (someone or something) down*** *or* ***run down (someone or something)*** : to chase after and catch (a person or animal) ▪ The cops *ran* the robber *down* in an alley. **b** : to find (someone or something) after searching ▪ He wasn't in his office, but I finally *ran* him *down* in the faculty lounge. **3** ***run down*** *or* ***run down (something)*** *or* ***run (something) down*** **a** : to use

up or cause (something) to use up all of its power ▪ The clock *ran down*. [=the clock slowed down and stopped working because it did not have any more power] ▪ The watch's battery *ran down*. ▪ Turn off the radio so you don't *run down* the batteries. **b** *Brit* : to become or cause (something, such as a business or activity) to become gradually smaller ▪ The company has been *running down* for decades. ▪ The company has been *running down* its factories/inventory. **4** ***run (someone or something) down*** *or* ***run down (someone or something)*** *informal* : to criticize (someone or something) in usually an unfair way ▪ Don't keep *running* yourself *down* like that: you have a lot to offer! **5** ***run down (something)*** : to say or repeat (a list of people or things) from the beginning to the end ▪ Let me just *run down* all the things we need to do. ▪ He *ran down* the list of names. — see also RUNDOWN

run for it *informal* : to run to avoid being caught ▪ It's the cops! *Run for it*!

run high : to be or become very strong or intense ▪ Passions often *run high* in these debates. [=people often get very angry in these debates] ▪ Emotions are *running high* between the two teams.

run in [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***run (someone) in*** *or* ***run in (someone)*** *informal + somewhat old-fashioned* : to arrest (someone) ▪ The police *ran* him *in* for being drunk and disorderly. **2** ***run (something) in*** *or* ***run in (something)*** *Brit* : to drive (a new vehicle) carefully for a period of time until it is ready for regular use ▪ You shouldn't drive a new car too fast while you're *running* it *in*. [=breaking it in]

run into [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***run into (someone or something)*** : to move into (someone or something) in a sudden or forceful way ▪ He went off the road and *ran into* a tree. = His car went off the road and *ran into* a tree. ▪ Some guy on a bike almost *ran into* me! ▪ She wasn't paying attention and *ran* right *into* the table. **2** ***run into (someone)*** : to meet (someone) by chance ▪ I *ran into* [=*ran across*] an old classmate the other day. **3** ***run into (something)*** : to experience (something that is unpleasant or difficult) : ENCOUNTER ▪ We *ran into* some bad weather on our way home. ▪ We *ran into* some problems setting up the computer.

run its course ✧ When something *runs its course*, it begins, continues for a time, and then ends. ▪ The disease usually *runs its course* in a few days.

run off [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to leave or abandon a person or place ▪ Her husband *ran off* and left her with two small children to care for. — see also [1]RUN 1b (above) **b** ***run off with (someone or something)*** *informal* : to leave a place with (someone or something) : to run away with (someone or something) ▪ Her husband *ran off* with his secretary. ▪ She *ran off with* all the money. **2** ***run off (something)*** *or* ***run (something) off*** : to repeat or produce (something) quickly ▪ Would you please *run off* five copies of this letter? — see also [1]RUN 22 (above) **3** ***run (someone or something) off*** *or* ***run off (someone or something)*** *US* : to force (a person or animal) off your land ▪ He *ran* us *off* his property.

run on [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to talk about something for a long time ▪ He *ran on* (and on) about politics until everybody was bored. **2** : to keep going without being stopped or interrupted for a long period of time ▪ The meeting *ran on* for hours.

run out [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to come to an end ▪ Time *ran out* [=*expired*] before we could tie the game. ▪ My contract will *run out* soon. **b** : to become used up ▪ The gasoline *ran out* before we got to Denver. ▪ Our money finally *ran out*. [=our money was all used; we had no more money] **2** ***run (someone) out*** *or* ***run (someone) out of (something)*** *old-fashioned* : to force (someone) to leave a place ▪ An angry mob *ran* him *out of* town. **3** ***run out (something)*** *or* ***run (something) out*** *baseball, of a batter* : to run hard to first base after hitting (a batted ball) ▪ His manager got angry because he failed to *run out* a grounder. **4** ***run out*** *or* ***run out of (something)*** : to use up the available supply of (something) ▪ We're low on gas. We'd better stop before we *run out*. ▪ He *ran out of* space and had to put his address on the other side of the paper. ▪ You have to work faster. We're *running out* of time. **5** ***run out on (someone)*** *informal* : to leave (someone you should stay with) : to abandon or desert (someone) ▪ She *ran out on* her husband and children to be with a man old enough to be her father.

run over [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to go beyond a limit ▪ The meeting *ran over*. [=the meeting was longer than it was expected or planned to be] **2 a** : to flow over the top or edge of something : OVERFLOW ▪ The water was *running over* onto the floor. **b** *of a container* : to have a liquid flow over its edge : OVERFLOW ▪ His cup *ran over*. **3** ***run over (someone or something)*** *or* ***run (someone or something) over*** **a** : to knock down and drive over or go over (someone or something) ▪ The dog was *run over* by a car. ▪ The running back *ran over* two defenders. **b** : to read, repeat, or practice (something) quickly ▪ Let's *run* the lines *over* together one more time. ▪ Can you *run over* the instructions again?

run past see RUN BY (above)

run through [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***run through (something)*** **a** : to spend or use up (something) quickly : SQUANDER ▪ He *ran through* his winnings in a short time. **b** ***run through (something)*** : to read, repeat, or practice (something) quickly ▪ Let's *run through* our lines one more time. ▪ He quickly *ran through* the dance routine. — see also RUN-THROUGH **c** : to occur repeatedly in (something) or throughout (something) ▪ The song has been *running through* my head all morning. ▪ Thoughts and memories of home kept *running through* his mind. ▪ A note of despair *runs through* the narrative. **2** ***run (something) through (something)*** : to enter (information) into (a computer) for processing ▪ She *ran* his name *through* the police computer to see if he had any previous arrests. ▪ He *ran* the data *through*. **3** ***run (someone) through*** *literary* : to push a sword through (someone) ▪ He *ran* him *through* with his sword.

run up [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***run up (something)*** *or* ***run (something) up*** **a** : to raise (a flag) to the top of a flagpole ▪ To celebrate our victory, we *ran up* our flag. **b** : to achieve (a large score or lead) ▪ Our team *ran up* a big lead in the first quarter. ▪ (*US*) She angrily accused the other coach of deliberately ***running up the score*** [=continuing to try to score more points even though they are not needed to win a game] **c** : to increase the amount of (something) ▪ These extras will *run* the bill *up* another $100. **d** : to get (a large bill, debt, etc.) by buying many things without making payments — often + *up* ▪ She *ran up* a large phone bill. ▪ He *ran up* a lot of debt on his credit cards. **2** ***run up against (something)*** : to experience (something difficult) : ENCOUNTER ▪ She has *run up against* a lot of opposition. ▪ He has *run up against* a bug in his computer program.

run with [*phrasal verb*] ***run with (something)*** *informal* : to use (something) in a very energetic, enthusiastic, and effective way ▪ He took the idea and *ran with* it.

run your mouth *informal* : to talk too much and in a foolish way ▪ He's always *running his mouth* about what a great athlete he is.

walk before you (can) run see [1]WALK

[2]run *noun, pl* runs

1 [*count*] : an act of running ▪ He goes for a six-mile *run* every evening. ▪ She took the dogs out for a *run*. ▪ When they realized they might miss the train, they ***broke into a run*** [=started running] ▪ The robbers heard the police sirens and ***made a run for it*** [=ran away to avoid being captured] ▪ The dog was coming toward us ***at a run*** [=the dog was running toward us] — see also HIT-AND-RUN

2 [*count*] **a** : a continuous series of similar things — often + *of* ▪ We had a long *run of* cloudy days. ▪ a *run of* good/bad luck ▪ a long *run of* wins/losses **b** : a continuous series of performances or showings ▪ The play had a *run* of six months on Broadway. = The play had a six-month *run* on Broadway.

3 [*count*] : the amount of a product that is produced at one time — often + *of* ▪ The book had a print *run of* 10,000 copies. [=10,000 copies of the book were printed at the one time]

4 [*count*] *US* : an attempt to win or do something ▪ The team is ***making a run*** at the championship. [=the team is playing well and has a chance to win the championship] ▪ She ***made an unsuccessful run*** for a seat in the Senate. [=she tried to be elected to a seat in the Senate, but she lost the election] ▪ (*informal*) "I can't solve this math problem." "Let me ***take a run at it***" [=let me try it]

5 [*singular*] : the usual or normal kind of person or thing ▪ She's not like the ***average/normal/general/usual run of*** students. [=she's not like most students] ▪ The place is different from the *usual run of* restaurants.

6 [*count*] **a** : a score made in baseball when a player reaches home plate after going around the bases ▪ The home team took the lead with three *runs* in the bottom of the fifth (inning). ▪ a three-*run* lead — see also HOME RUN **b** : a score made in cricket

7 [*count*] *American football* : a play in which a player tries to

move the ball forward by running with it ▪ He scored on a 25-yard *run*.
8 a [*count*] : a regular journey that is made by a bus, train, etc. ▪ The bus makes four *runs* daily. ▪ a delivery *run* ▪ (*Brit*) the ***school run*** [=a regular trip in which parents take their children to or from school each day] ▪ The planes were sent out on a ***bomb/bombing run***. **b** [*singular*] : a short trip in a vehicle ▪ I have to make a quick *run* to the store.
9 [*count*] : a track that slopes down and that is used for skiing, sledding, etc. ▪ a ski *run* [=*slope*] ▪ a bobsled *run*
10 [*count*] : a path that is used regularly by animals ▪ a deer *run* — see also RAT RUN
11 [*count*] : an enclosed area for animals where they feed and exercise ▪ a chicken *run*
12 [*count*] *US* : a long hole in a stocking ▪ She had a *run* in her stocking/nylons. — called also (*Brit*) *ladder*
13 [*count*] *music* : a series of notes that are sung or played quickly up or down a scale
14 [*count*] : a situation in which many people want to have, get, or do something at the same time — usually singular; usually + *on* ▪ There's been a big *run on* tickets for the game. [=a lot of people have been trying to get tickets for the game] ▪ There was a ***run on the bank***. [=a lot of people were taking their money out of the bank because they were afraid that the bank would fail]
15 [*count*] : the general way in which something is moving or changing ▪ Investors are anxiously watching the *run of* the stock market. [=are watching to see if the stock market is going up or down]
16 ***the runs*** *informal* : DIARRHEA ▪ a bad case of *the runs*
17 [*count*] *technical* : an occurrence in which a large number of fish (such as salmon) swim up a river to return to the place where they were hatched and produce young ▪ a salmon *run*

a run for your money ✧ Someone who ***gives you a (good) run for your money*** in a game or contest makes it difficult for you to win by trying hard and playing or performing well. ▪ Though they lost, they *gave* last year's champions a *run for their money*.

on the run **1 a** : running away from someone in order to avoid being captured ▪ an escaped convict *on the run* ▪ He is *on the run* from the cops. **b** : running away because you are about to be defeated ▪ The army had the enemy *on the run*. **2** : while going somewhere or while doing something else ▪ We ate lunch *on the run*. **3** *informal* : continuously busy ▪ He's always *on the run*.

the run of : the freedom to go anywhere or do anything you want in (a place) ▪ With his parents gone, he had *the run of* the house.

– see also DRY RUN, DUMMY RUN, LONG RUN, SHORT RUN, TRIAL RUN

run•about /ˈrʌnəˌbaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-abouts** [*count*]
1 *chiefly US* : a small motorboat
2 *chiefly Brit* : a small car

run•around /ˈrʌnəˌraʊnd/ *noun*
the runaround *informal* ✧ If someone ***gives you the runaround*** or you ***get the runaround***, you are not given the information or help that you need because someone will not answer your questions or deal with your problem directly. ▪ I'm tired of *getting the runaround* from your customer representatives. ▪ They keep *giving me the runaround*.

[1]run•away /ˈrʌnəˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-aways** [*count*] : someone (such as a child) who leaves home without permission : someone who runs away from home ▪ teenage *runaways* — see also *run away* at [1]RUN

[2]runaway *adj, always used before a noun*
1 — used to describe a person who has left home without permission or who has escaped from someplace ▪ *runaway* teenagers ▪ a *runaway* slave
2 : operating, running, increasing, etc., in a fast and dangerous way that cannot be controlled ▪ a *runaway* horse/train ▪ a *runaway* oil well ▪ *runaway* inflation
3 : extremely successful ▪ a *runaway* best seller ▪ The play was a *runaway* success.
4 a : won very easily by a large amount ▪ a *runaway* victory **b** : having won very easily by a large amount ▪ She was the *runaway* winner of the race.

run batted in *noun, pl* **runs batted in** [*count*] *baseball* : RBI

run–down /ˈrʌnˈdaʊn/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : in very bad condition because of age or lack of care ▪ They lived in a *run-down* farmhouse in rural Maine.
2 *not used before a noun* : in poor health or physical condition : worn-out or exhausted ▪ You look *run-down*.

run•down /ˈrʌnˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs** [*count*]
1 : a quick report about the main parts of something ▪ They gave us a *rundown* on/of the main points of the news.
2 *Brit* : a gradual reduction in the size of a business, activity, etc. ▪ a *rundown* of/in our public services — see also *run down* at [1]RUN
3 *baseball* : a play in which a runner is chased by two or more opposing players who throw the ball to each other in an attempt to tag the runner out ▪ He was caught in a *rundown*.

rune /ruːn/ *noun, pl* **runes** [*count*] : any of the characters in the alphabets that were used in ancient times by people of Northern Europe
– **ru•nic** /ˈruːnɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *runic* inscription

[1]rung *past participle of* [3]RING

[2]rung /rʌŋ/ *noun, pl* **rungs** [*count*]
1 : a piece of wood or metal that is placed between the legs of a chair for support
2 : one of the pieces of wood or metal that is used as a step on a ladder
3 : a position or level within a group, organization, etc., that is higher or lower than others ▪ He was on the bottom *rung* on the corporate ladder. ▪ the top *rung* of society ▪ the lowest/highest *rung* of the pay scale

run–in /ˈrʌnˌɪn/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*] *informal* : an angry argument — usually + *with* ▪ He had a *run-in with* the cops.

run•nel /ˈrʌnl̩/ *noun, pl* **-nels** [*count*] *formal* + *literary* : a small stream

run•ner /ˈrʌnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*]
1 a : a person who runs as part of a sport, for exercise, or in a race ▪ a long-distance/cross-country/marathon *runner* ▪ She's a fast *runner*. **b** : an animal (such as a horse) that runs in a race
2 a : a person who delivers messages, reports, materials, or products either within a business or organization or to outside locations : MESSENGER **b** : a person who brings drugs, guns, etc., to a place illegally and secretly ▪ a drug *runner*
3 *baseball* : a player who is on base or is trying to reach a base : BASE RUNNER ▪ The *runner* slid into third base.
4 : a long, thin piece or part on which something (such as a sled, skate, or drawer) slides
5 : a stem of a plant that grows along the ground and that forms new plants ▪ a plant that spreads by sending out *runners*
6 a : a long, narrow carpet for a hall or staircase **b** : a narrow cloth cover for a table or other piece of furniture

do a runner *Brit, informal* : to leave a place quickly by running especially to avoid paying a bill or to escape punishment

run•ner–up /ˈrʌnɚˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **run•ners–up** /ˈrʌnɚzˌʌp/ [*count*] : a person or team that does not win first place in a competition but that does well enough to get a prize ▪ the first and second *runners-up* in the beauty pageant; *especially* : a person or team that finishes in second place ▪ The winner will receive $1,000 and the *runner-up* will receive $100.

[1]run•ning /ˈrʌnɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the activity or sport of running ▪ He took up *running* for exercise. ▪ long-distance *running* ▪ They ***go running*** every evening.
2 : the activity of managing or operating something — usually + *of* ▪ She's in charge of the day-to-day *running of* the entire operation. ▪ the smooth *running of* the events
3 : the activity of bringing drugs, guns, etc., to a place illegally and secretly ▪ drug *running*

in the running **1** : competing in a contest ▪ The enthusiasm of his supporters made him decide to stay *in the running* for mayor. **2** : having a chance to win a contest ▪ She is still *in the running* for the prize.

out of the running **1** : not competing in a contest ▪ He declared himself officially *out of the running* for mayor. **2** : having no chance to win a contest ▪ She is now *out of the running* for the prize.

[2]running *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : operating or flowing ▪ Never add fuel to a *running* engine. ▪ a *running* faucet — see also RUNNING WATER
2 : going on steadily or repeatedly for a long period of time ▪ The farmer had a *running* battle with pests and disease. ▪ a ***running joke/gag*** [=a joke/gag that is repeated many times in slightly different ways]

3 : made during the course of a process or activity ▪ The major television stations provided *running* commentaries on the election results. ▪ She kept a *running* total of their expenses on the trip.
4 : done while running or immediately after running ▪ a *running* catch/jump
5 *American football* — used to describe play in which the ball is moved forward by running rather than by passing ▪ a *running* play ▪ The team has a strong *running* game. [=the team is good at moving the ball by running with it]
6 : designed for use by runners ▪ a *running* track ▪ *running* shoes

[3]running *adv, always used after a noun* : following or happening one after the other ▪ It has rained (for) three days *running*. [=for three days in a row; for three consecutive days] ▪ He has won the competition three times *running*.

running back *noun, pl* ~ **backs** [*count*] *American football* : a player who carries the football on running plays

running board *noun, pl* ~ **boards** [*count*] : a long, narrow board that is attached to the side of a vehicle to make it easier for people to get in and out

running mate *noun, pl* ~ **mates** [*count*] *chiefly US* : the person who runs with someone in an election (such as an election to choose a new president) and who is given the less important position (such as vice president) if they are elected ▪ When John F. Kennedy ran for president, his *running mate* was Lyndon Johnson.

running start *noun* [*singular*] *chiefly US* — used to say that a person or animal is running at the start of a race, jump, etc. ▪ How fast can you cover 100 meters if you have a *running start*? [=if you are already running when you pass the starting point of that 100 meters?] ▪ The sprinters were given a *running start*. [=were allowed to be running at the start of the race] — often used figuratively ▪ The new mayor is off to a *running start*. [=*flying start*] [=the new mayor has been successful very quickly] ▪ The company was given a *running start* [=*head start, advantage*] by its experience with similar projects in the past.

running time *noun, pl* ~ **times** [*count, noncount*] : the amount of time that a movie, performance, recording, etc., lasts from beginning to end

running water *noun* [*noncount*] : water that comes into a building through pipes ▪ a cabin with hot and cold *running water*

run•ny /'rʌni/ *adj* **run•ni•er**; **-est**
1 *of a food* : soft and with a lot of liquid ▪ The scrambled eggs are *runny*. ▪ The pudding is *runnier* than I like it.
2 : having a thin flow of liquid flowing out ▪ a little boy with a *runny* nose ▪ My eyes felt itchy and *runny*.

run•off /'rʌnˌɑ:f/ *noun, pl* **-offs**
1 [*count*] : an additional race, contest, or election that is held because an earlier one has not resulted in a winner
2 [*noncount*] : water from rain or snow that flows over the surface of the ground into streams

run–of–the–mill /ˌrʌnəvðə'mɪl/ *adj, often disapproving* : average or ordinary ▪ a *run-of-the-mill* performance

runt /'rʌnt/ *noun, pl* **runts** [*count*]
1 : the smallest animal in a group that is born to one mother at the same time ▪ the *runt* of the litter
2 *informal* + *disapproving* : a very small or weak person ▪ a skinny little *runt*
– **runty** /'rʌnti/ *adj* **-i•er**; **-i•est** ▪ a *runty* kid

run–through /'rʌnˌθru:/ *noun, pl* **-throughs** [*count*] : an activity in which you quickly do or read all the different parts of something especially in order to practice or prepare for something (such as a performance) ▪ She gave her lines/notes a quick *run-through*. ▪ They did a *run-through* [=*rehearsal*] of the play. — see also *run through* at [1]RUN

run–up /'rʌnˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*]
1 : a usually sudden increase in price ▪ a *run-up* in stock prices
2 : the period immediately before an action or event ▪ during the *run-up* to the war/election

run•way /'rʌnˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways** [*count*]
1 : a long strip of ground where airplanes take off and land
2 *US* : a raised structure along which models walk in a fashion show : CATWALK

ru•pee /ru'pi:/ *noun, pl* **-pees** [*count*] : the basic unit of money in some Asian countries including India and Pakistan

ru•pi•ah /ru'pi:jə/ *noun, pl* **rupiah** *or* **ru•pi•ahs** [*count*] : the basic unit of money in Indonesia

[1]rup•ture /'rʌptʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures**
1 [*count, noncount*] : a crack or break in something (such as a pipe) ▪ A *rupture* in the pipeline resulted in major water damage.
2 *medical* **a** : a break or tear in a part of the body [*count*] a *rupture* of an artery [*noncount*] an infection that could cause *rupture* of the eardrum **b** [*count*] : HERNIA
3 [*count*] : a break in good relations between people or countries ▪ The conflict caused a *rupture* in relations between the former allies. ▪ They're trying to heal the *rupture* in their relationship.

[2]rupture *verb* **-tures**; **-tured**; **-tur•ing**
1 a : to break or burst [*no obj*] The pipe *ruptured* because of high water pressure. [+ *obj*] High water pressure *ruptured* the pipe. **b** [+ *obj*] *medical* : to cause a break or tear in (a part of the body) ▪ The impact *ruptured* his liver. ▪ a *ruptured* eardrum ▪ I almost ***ruptured myself*** [=I almost gave myself a hernia] trying to lift that heavy box.
2 [+ *obj*] : to damage or destroy (a relationship, situation, etc.) ▪ The scandal *ruptured* relations between the two countries. ▪ The crime *ruptured* the peace of a small town.

ru•ral /'rʊrəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : of or relating to the country and the people who live there instead of the city ▪ She lives in a *rural* area. ▪ a *rural* community/setting ▪ *rural* voters — opposite URBAN

ruse /'ru:s, *Brit* 'ru:z/ *noun, pl* **rus•es** [*count*] : a trick or act that is used to fool someone ▪ His act was just a clever *ruse* to get me to go out with him.

[1]rush /'rʌʃ/ *verb* **rush•es**; **rushed**; **rush•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to move or do something very quickly or in a way that shows you are in a hurry ▪ Firefighters *rushed* to the accident scene. ▪ The children *rushed* down the stairs. ▪ She *rushed* past me. ▪ I *rushed* home from work to get ready for the party. ▪ She *rushed* through dinner. ▪ I'm getting everything ready tonight so I won't have to *rush* (around) in the morning. ▪ She *rushed* to close the window when she heard the rain. ▪ We were *rushing* to catch the bus.
2 a [+ *obj*] : to cause or force (someone) to do something too quickly ▪ He got nervous because they *rushed* him. ▪ Please stop *rushing* me! — often + *into* ▪ They *rushed* her *into* making a bad decision. **b** [*no obj*] : to do something too quickly and often with little thought, attention, or care ▪ He *rushed* through his work and made a lot of careless mistakes. — often + *into* ▪ She *rushed into* (making) a bad decision. ▪ After the divorce, he *rushed into* another marriage.
3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to flow or move very quickly in a particular direction ▪ Water *rushed* through the pipes. ▪ The *rushing* water broke through the barrier. — often used figuratively ▪ When he saw her photo, memories came *rushing* back.
4 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to bring or send (someone or something) very quickly to a particular place ▪ He *rushed* his wife to the hospital. ▪ Supplies for the victims were *rushed* in. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Lawmakers *rushed* the bill through Congress.
5 [+ *obj*] : to do (something) quickly in a short period of time ▪ He asked the clerk to *rush* his order.
6 [+ *obj*] : to run toward (someone or something) very quickly ▪ Several hostages *rushed* the gunman and knocked him to the ground. ▪ The crowd *rushed* the stage at the concert.
7 [+ *obj*] *US* **a** : to go through the process of becoming a member of (a fraternity or sorority) ▪ She is *rushing* a sorority. **b** : to try to get (a student) to join a fraternity or sorority ▪ He is being *rushed* by a fraternity.
8 *American football* : to move a football down the field by running with it instead of throwing it [*no obj*] He *rushed* [=*ran*] for 100 yards in last week's game. = He had 100 yards *rushing* in last week's game. ▪ The team has a strong *rushing* defense/attack. [+ *obj*] He *rushed* [=*ran*] the ball for 100 yards in last week's game.

rush out [*phrasal verb*] ***rush (something) out*** *or* ***rush out (something)*** : to produce (something) very quickly ▪ We had to *rush* the manuscript *out* so that it could be copied. ▪ Reporters *rushed out* the story for the morning edition of the newspaper.

[2]rush *noun, pl* **rushes**
1 [*singular*] **a** : a quick, strong, or fast movement ▪ He made a sudden *rush* toward the door. **b** : a quick and forceful movement of air, water, etc. ▪ We felt a *rush* of cold/hot air from the vent. ▪ When the levees broke, the *rush* of water flooded the area.
2 [*singular*] : a situation in which someone is doing some-

thing very quickly or hurrying ▪ In his *rush* to get out the door, he forgot his hat. [=he forgot his hat because he was rushing/hurrying to get out the door] ▪ We are in no *rush* [=*hurry*] to finish.

3 [*count*] : a situation in which a large number of people move to or toward one place at the same time usually to do a specific thing or to search for something ▪ Shop early to avoid the Christmas/holiday *rush*. [=the time when everyone else is doing their shopping] — see also GOLD RUSH

4 [*count*] : a sudden demand for something by many people ▪ There is always a *rush* for fans and air conditioners during the first heat wave.

5 [*count*] *US* : the process of finding new people to join a fraternity or sorority ▪ a fraternity *rush*

6 *rushes* [*plural*] : the first prints of scenes of a film or movie that have not been edited ▪ The director and the actors watched the *rushes* from the previous day's filming.

7 [*count*] : a strong feeling or emotion caused by a drug or by something exciting ▪ The roller-coaster ride gave me a *rush*. [=*thrill*] ▪ an adrenaline *rush* [=*high*] ▪ I felt a *rush* of relief after hearing the news.

– compare [3]RUSH

[3]rush *noun, pl* **rushes** [*count*] : a tall plant similar to grass that grows in wet areas and that is used to make baskets and other things when dried — compare [2]RUSH

rush•er /ˈrʌʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone or something that rushes; *especially, American football* : a player who carries the ball during running plays ▪ He was the team's leading *rusher* last year.

rush hour *noun, pl* ~ **hours** [*count, noncount*] : a time during the day early in the morning or late in the afternoon when many people are traveling on roads to get to work or to get home from work ▪ We got caught in the morning *rush hour*. ▪ *rush hour* traffic

rusk /ˈrʌsk/ *noun, pl* **rusks** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a dry, hard cookie that is eaten especially by young children

rus•set /ˈrʌsət/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a reddish-brown color — see color picture on page C3

Rus•sian /ˈrʌʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sians**

1 [*count*] **a** : a person born, raised, or living in Russia **b** : a person whose family is from Russia

2 [*noncount*] : the language of the Russian people

– **Russian** *adj* ▪ *Russian* food/literature

Russian dressing *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a type of salad dressing that typically contains chili sauce, chopped pickles, or pimientos

Russian roulette *noun* [*noncount*] : a dangerous game in which people fire a gun with a single bullet at their heads without knowing if the bullet will be shot or not — often used figuratively ▪ He was ***playing Russian roulette*** with his life. [=he was doing something that was very foolish and dangerous and that could destroy or end his life]

[1]rust /ˈrʌst/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a reddish substance that forms on iron or some other metal usually when it comes in contact with moisture or air ▪ an old pump covered in *rust* ▪ *rust* spots/patches

2 : a disease that causes plants to develop reddish-brown spots

3 : a reddish-brown color

[2]rust *verb* **rusts; rust•ed; rust•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to form rust : to become rusty ▪ Your bicycle will *rust* if you leave it out in the rain. ▪ *rusting* nails ▪ The paint prevents *rusting*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause rust to form on (something) ▪ The moist air *rusted* the latch on the door. ▪ The old iron fence was *rusted*.

Rust•belt /ˈrʌstˌbɛlt/ *noun*

the Rustbelt : the northeastern and midwestern states of the U.S. in which many factories (such as steel mills) have closed because of changes in the economy ▪ Many people have moved from *the Rustbelt* to the Sunbelt.

[1]rus•tic /ˈrʌstɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : of, relating to, or suitable for the country or people who live in the country ▪ The inn has a *rustic* atmosphere. ▪ a *rustic* village

2 : made of rough wood ▪ simple, *rustic* furniture

– **rus•tic•i•ty** /ˌrʌˈstɪsəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *rusticity* of the inn

[2]rustic *noun, pl* **-tics** [*count*] : a person who lives in the country

[1]rus•tle /ˈrʌsəl/ *verb* **rus•tles; rus•tled; rus•tling**

1 a [*no obj*] : to make a soft, light sound because parts of something are touching or rubbing against each other ▪ The trees *rustled* in the wind. ▪ Her skirt *rustled* as she walked. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to make a soft, light sound ▪ He *rustled* the papers on his desk.

2 [+ *obj*] : to steal (animals) from a farm or ranch ▪ *rustle* sheep/cattle

rustle up [*phrasal verb*] ***rustle (something) up*** *or* ***rustle up (something)*** *informal* **1** : to prepare (food, a meal, etc.) quickly ▪ He *rustled up* a full meal in no time. **2** : to find or get (something) ▪ I'll see if I can *rustle up* some information about that for you.

– **rus•tler** /ˈrʌsələ/ *noun, pl* **rus•tlers** [*count*] ▪ a cattle *rustler* – **rustling** *noun* [*singular*] He heard a *rustling* in the bushes. [*noncount*] They were accused of cattle *rustling*.

[2]rustle *noun* [*singular*] : a quick series of soft, light sounds caused when things (such as leaves or pieces of paper) rub against each other ▪ He heard a *rustle* of leaves behind him.

rust•proof /ˈrʌstˌpru:f/ *adj* : protected against rusting ▪ a *rustproof* pipe

rusty /ˈrʌsti/ *adj* **rust•i•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : covered with rust ▪ a *rusty* old car ▪ *rusty* nails

2 : not as good as usual or as in the past because you have not done or practiced something for a long time ▪ My tennis skills are a little *rusty*. ▪ The singers were a bit *rusty* after the long break.

3 : of the color of rust : reddish brown ▪ *rusty* hair

– **rust•i•ness** /ˈrʌstinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]rut /ˈrʌt/ *noun, pl* **ruts**

1 [*count*] : a long, narrow mark made by the wheels of a vehicle passing over an area ▪ The truck left deep *ruts* in the muddy ground.

2 [*singular*] : a situation or way of behaving that does not change ▪ She was ***stuck in a rut*** at her old job, so she quit work and went back to school. ▪ It is easy to ***get into a rut*** if you're not careful.

– compare [2]RUT

– **rut•ted** /ˈrʌtəd/ *adj* ▪ a *rutted* dirt road – **rut•ty** /ˈrʌti/ *adj* ▪ a *rutty* track/road

[2]rut *noun* [*noncount*] : the time when male animals (such as deer) become sexually active ▪ Bucks will defend their territory during the *rut*. ▪ a stag *in rut* — compare [1]RUT

– **rut•ting** /ˈrʌtɪŋ/ *adj* ▪ a *rutting* elk/buck ▪ the *rutting* season

ru•ta•ba•ga /ˌru:təˈbeɪgə/ *noun, pl* **-gas** [*count, noncount*] *US* : a large, yellowish root vegetable that is a type of turnip — called also (*Brit*) *swede*

ruth•less /ˈru:θləs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having no pity : cruel or merciless ▪ a *ruthless* killer ▪ The journalist was *ruthless* in his criticism.

– **ruth•less•ly** *adv* ▪ The slaves were *ruthlessly* abused by their owners. – **ruth•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

RV /ˌɑɚˈvi:/ *noun, pl* **RVs** [*count*] : RECREATIONAL VEHICLE

Rx /ˌɑɚˈɛks/ *noun, pl* **Rx's** [*count*] *US* : a doctor's prescription ▪ an *Rx* for heartburn — often used figuratively ▪ an *Rx* for boredom [=a way to stop being bored] ✧ *Rx* comes from the Latin word "recipe," which means "take." It traditionally appears in places where medicines are sold and is often used on signs, in newspaper headlines, etc.

-ry *noun suffix* : -ERY ▪ wizard*ry* ▪ citizen*ry*

rye /ˈraɪ/ *noun*

1 [*noncount*] : a type of grass that is grown as a grain and used to make flour or whiskey

2 [*count, noncount*] *US* : bread that is made from rye flour ▪ a ham sandwich on *rye* — called also *rye bread*

3 [*count, noncount*] : whiskey that is made from rye ▪ a bottle of *rye* — called also *rye whiskey*

R

S

[1]s *or* **S** /ˈɛs/ *noun, pl* **s's** *or* **S's** : the 19th letter of the English alphabet [*count*] a word that starts with an *s* [*noncount*] a word that starts with *s*

[2]s *or* **S** *abbr* **1** small — usually used for a clothing size ▪ The shirt comes in *S*, M, L, or XL. **2** *S* south, southern

[1]-s *noun plural suffix*
1 — used to form the plural of most nouns ▪ head*s* ▪ book*s* ▪ boy*s* ▪ belief*s* ▪ mother*s*-in-law ▪ the Taylor*s*
2 — used with or without a preceding apostrophe to form the plural of abbreviations, numbers, letters, and symbols that are used as nouns ▪ MC*s* ▪ PhD's ▪ the 1940's ▪ men in their 50*s* — compare [1]-ES

[2]-s *verb suffix* — used to form the third person singular present tense of most verbs ▪ fall*s* ▪ take*s* ▪ play*s* — compare [2]-ES

's /s *after* p, t, k, f, *or* θ; əz *after* s, z, ʃ, ʒ, ʧ, *or* ʤ; z *elsewhere*/ *verb* — used as a contraction of *is, was, has*, and *does* ▪ She's here. [=she is here] ▪ When's [=when was] the last time you ate? ▪ He's [=he has] seen them already. ▪ What's he want? [=what does he want?]

-'s /s *after* p, t, k, f, *or* θ; əz *after* s, z, ʃ, ʒ, ʧ, *or* ʤ; z *elsewhere*/ *noun suffix or pronoun suffix* — used to form the possessive of singular nouns, of plural nouns not ending in *s*, of some pronouns, and of word groups that function as nouns or pronouns ▪ The boy's books were missing. ▪ I called the doctor's (office). ▪ children's clothes ▪ anyone's dog ▪ the man on the corner's hat ▪ someone else's car ✧ The possessive of a plural noun that ends in *s* is formed by adding an apostrophe alone instead of *'s*. ▪ The boys' books were missing. The possessive of singular nouns and names that end in *s* can usually be formed by adding *'s*. If adding *'s* would make the word difficult to say, an apostrophe alone may be used instead. ▪ James's mother ▪ Moses' mother

Sa. *abbr* Saturday

Sab•bath /ˈsæbəθ/ *noun*
the Sabbath : a weekly day of rest and worship that is observed on Sunday by most Christians and on Saturday (from Friday evening to Saturday evening) by Jews and some Christians ▪ Our family ***keeps/observes the Sabbath***. [=obeys the rules about what should be done on the Sabbath] ▪ We are careful not to ***break the Sabbath***.
– **Sabbath** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *Sabbath* day/dinner/observances

sab•bat•i•cal /səˈbætɪkəl/ *noun, pl* **-cals** : a period of time during which someone does not work at his or her regular job and is able to rest, travel, do research, etc. [*count*] Several professors will be taking *sabbaticals* this year. ▪ She recently returned to work after a two-year *sabbatical* from her acting career. ▪ a paid *sabbatical* [*noncount*] Several professors will be ***on sabbatical*** this year.
– **sabbatical** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ I chose to take *sabbatical* leave next year. ▪ a *sabbatical* year

sa•ber (*US*) *or Brit* **sa•bre** /ˈseɪbɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bers** [*count*]
1 : a long, heavy sword with a curved blade
2 : a lightweight sword that is used in fencing

saber–rattling (*US*) *or Brit* **sabre–rattling** *noun* [*noncount*] : actions and statements that are meant to frighten or threaten an enemy by suggesting the possible use of force

saber–toothed tiger (*US*) *or Brit* **sabre–toothed tiger** *noun, pl* ~ **-gers** [*count*] : a type of large cat that lived in very ancient times and had long, curved teeth — called also *saber-toothed cat*

sa•ble /ˈseɪbəl/ *noun, pl* **sa•bles** *or* **sable**
1 [*count*] : a small animal that lives in northern Asia and has soft, brown fur
2 [*noncount*] : the fur of the sable ▪ a brush/coat made of *sable*
– **sable** *adj* ▪ a *sable* brush/coat

[1]sab•o•tage /ˈsæbəˌtɑːʒ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of destroying or damaging something deliberately so that it does not work correctly ▪ Angry workers were responsible for the *sabotage* of the machines. ▪ terrorists engaging in (deliberate) acts of *sabotage* ▪ Officials have not yet ruled out *sabotage* as a possible cause of the crash. ▪ industrial *sabotage*

[2]sabotage *verb* **-tag•es**; **-taged**; **-tag•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to destroy or damage (something) deliberately so that it does not work correctly ▪ They *sabotaged* the enemy's oil fields. ▪ The airplane crashed because it was *sabotaged*.
2 : to cause the failure of (something) deliberately ▪ The lawyer is trying to *sabotage* the case by creating confusion. ▪ The deal was *sabotaged* by an angry employee. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Bad weather *sabotaged* [=*ruined*] our plans.

sab•o•teur /ˌsæbəˈtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-teurs** [*count*] : a person who destroys or damages something deliberately : a person who performs sabotage ▪ The car's tires were slashed by *saboteurs*.

sac /ˈsæk/ *noun, pl* **sacs** [*count*] : a part inside the body of an animal or plant that is shaped like a bag and that usually contains liquid or air ▪ a food storage *sac* ▪ an air/egg *sac*

sac•cha•rin /ˈsækərən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a very sweet, white substance that does not have any calories and that is used instead of sugar to sweeten food ▪ soft drinks flavored with *saccharin*

sac•cha•rine /ˈsækərən, *Brit* ˈsækəˌriːn/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : too sweet or sentimental : sweet or sentimental in a way that does not seem sincere or genuine ▪ a *saccharine* smile ▪ a *saccharine* love story

sa•chet /sæˈʃeɪ, *Brit* ˈsæʃeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-chets** [*count*]
1 : a small bag that has a powder or a mixture of dried flowers and spices inside it and that is used to give a pleasant smell to clothes, sheets, etc.
2 *Brit* : a small, thin package : PACKET ▪ a *sachet* of shampoo/sugar

[1]sack /ˈsæk/ *noun, pl* **sacks**
1 [*count*] : a bag that is made of strong paper, cloth, or plastic ▪ a *sack* containing flour = a *sack* of flour ▪ *sacks* of cement ▪ a grocery *sack* — see also GUNNYSACK, RUCKSACK
2 [*count*] : the amount that is contained in a sack ▪ We peeled an entire *sack* [=*sackful*] of potatoes.
3 ***the sack*** *chiefly US, informal* : a person's bed ▪ He's still in *the sack*. Do you want me to wake him? ▪ It's time to ***hit the sack***. [=go to bed] ▪ She has a reputation for being ***good/great in the sack***. [=for being a good sexual partner] ▪ He's ready to ***jump/climb in the sack*** [=have sex] with any woman who'll have him.
4 ***the sack*** *informal* : a sudden dismissal from a job ▪ She ***got the sack*** [=she was fired] for always being late. ▪ The company ***gave him the sack*** [=fired him] for improper conduct.
5 [*count*] *American football* : the act of tackling the quarterback behind the line of scrimmage ▪ He was credited with three *sacks* in yesterday's game.
– compare [4]SACK; see also SAD SACK

[2]sack *verb* **sacks**; **sacked**; **sack•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *informal* : to dismiss (someone) from a job ▪ They *sacked* [=*fired*] her for always being late.
2 *American football* : to tackle (the quarterback) behind the line of scrimmage ▪ The quarterback was *sacked* twice during the game.
3 *US, informal* : to put (something) in a sack ▪ Let me *sack* [=*bag*] those groceries for you.
sack out [*phrasal verb*] *US, informal* : to lie down for sleep ▪ I went upstairs to *sack out*. ▪ He *sacked out* on the living room couch. ✧ A person who ***is sacked out*** is sleeping. ▪ He *was sacked out* on the living room couch.
– compare [3]SACK

[3]sack *verb* **sacks**; **sacked**; **sack•ing** [+ *obj*] : to destroy and take things from (a place, such as a city or town) especially during a war ▪ The invading army *sacked* [=*plundered*, *pillaged*] the city. — compare [2]SACK

[4]sack *noun* [*singular*] : the act of destroying and taking things from a place (such as a city or town) especially during a war : the act of sacking a place — usually + *of* ▪ the *sack of* Rome — compare [1]SACK

sack•cloth /ˈsækˌklɑːθ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : rough cloth that is used for making sacks
sackcloth and ashes ✧ To ***don/wear sackcloth and ashes*** means to publicly express or show sorrow or regret for having done something wrong. ▪ He should be forced to *wear sackcloth and ashes* and apologize for his lies.

sack•ful /ˈsækˌfʊl/ *noun, pl* **-fuls** [*count*] : the amount that

is contained in a sack ▪ a *sackful* [=*sack*] of mail/potatoes

sack race *noun, pl* ~ **races** [*count*] : a race in which people stand inside large sacks and move forward by jumping ▪ a children's *sack race*

sac·ra·ment /ˈsækrəmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 [*count*] : an important Christian ceremony (such as baptism or marriage)

2 ***the Sacrament*** : the bread and wine that are eaten and drunk during the Christian ceremony of Communion ▪ They stood in line to receive *the Sacrament*.

– **sac·ra·men·tal** /ˌsækrəˈmɛntl̩/ *adj* ▪ *sacramental* wine

sa·cred /ˈseɪkrəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : worthy of religious worship : very holy ▪ a *sacred* shrine ▪ The burial site is *sacred* ground. ▪ the *sacred* image of the Virgin Mary — often + *to* ▪ The shrine is *sacred to* millions of worshippers.

2 : relating to religion ▪ *sacred* scriptures/songs/texts

3 : highly valued and important : deserving great respect ▪ the *sacred* pursuit of liberty ▪ We have a *sacred* duty to find out the truth. ▪ Freedom is a *sacred* right. ▪ They'll make jokes about anything. ***Nothing is sacred*** to those guys. ▪ I can't believe they would do that. ***Is nothing sacred***?

– **sa·cred·ly** *adv* ▪ *sacredly* held beliefs – **sa·cred·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

sacred cow *noun, pl* ~ **cows** [*count*] *disapproving* : someone or something that has been accepted or respected for a long time and that people are afraid or unwilling to criticize or question ▪ The old government program has become a *sacred cow*.

[1]sac·ri·fice /ˈsækrəˌfaɪs/ *noun, pl* **-fic·es**

1 : the act of giving up something that you want to keep especially in order to get or do something else or to help someone [*count*] The war required everyone to make *sacrifices*. ▪ No *sacrifice* is too great when it comes to her children. ▪ He made many personal *sacrifices* to provide help to the city's homeless people. ▪ He ***made the final/supreme/ultimate sacrifice*** [=he died] for his country. [*noncount*] The war required much *sacrifice* from everyone. ▪ He provided help to the city's homeless people ***at great personal sacrifice*** (to himself).

2 a : an act of killing a person or animal in a religious ceremony as an offering to please a god [*count*] a place where priests performed human/animal *sacrifices* in ancient rituals [*noncount*] a place where people were offered (up) ***in sacrifice*** to the gods **b** [*count*] : a person or animal that is killed in a sacrifice ▪ The villagers hoped the gods would accept their *sacrifice*. ▪ The goat was offered as a *sacrifice*.

3 [*count*] *baseball* : SACRIFICE BUNT ▪ The runner went to second base on a *sacrifice*.

[2]sacrifice *verb* **-fices; -ficed; -fic·ing**

1 : to give up (something that you want to keep) especially in order to get or do something else or to help someone [+ *obj*] She's had to *sacrifice* a lot for her family. ▪ He *sacrificed* his personal life in order to get ahead in his career. ▪ I want to follow a diet that is healthful without *sacrificing* taste. ▪ She was able to ask for their help without *sacrificing* her dignity. ▪ They ***sacrificed their lives*** [=they died] for their country. [*no obj*] She was willing to suffer, *sacrifice*, and work for success.

2 [+ *obj*] : to kill (a person or animal) in a religious ceremony as an offering to please a god ▪ a place where people/animals were *sacrificed* in ancient rituals

3 *baseball* **a** [*no obj*] : to make a sacrifice bunt ▪ He *sacrificed* in his first at bat. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (a base runner) to go to the next base by making a sacrifice bunt — usually used as *(be) sacrificed* ▪ The runner *was sacrificed* to second base.

sacrifice bunt *noun, pl* ~ **bunts** [*count*] *baseball* : a bunt that allows a runner to go to the next base while the batter is put out — called also *sacrifice, sacrifice hit*

sacrifice fly *noun, pl* ~ **flies** [*count*] *baseball* : a fly ball that is caught by a fielder but allows a base runner to score after it is caught

sac·ri·fi·cial /ˌsækrəˈfɪʃəl/ *adj* : of, relating to, or involving sacrifice ▪ *sacrificial* rites/rituals/offerings ▪ a *sacrificial* altar ▪ their *sacrificial* acts of self-denial

– **sac·ri·fi·cial·ly** *adv* ▪ a *sacrificially* slaughtered animal

sac·ri·lege /ˈsækrəlɪʤ/ *noun* : an act of treating a holy place or object in a way that does not show proper respect [*singular*] They accused him of committing a *sacrilege*. [*noncount*] They accused him of *sacrilege*. ▪ an act of *sacrilege* against the church — often used figuratively ▪ It would be (a) *sacrilege* to cut down such beautiful trees.

– **sac·ri·le·gious** /ˌsækrəˈlɪʤəs/ *adj* ▪ a *sacrilegious* act

sac·ro·sanct /ˈsækroʊˌsæŋkt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : too important and respected to be changed, criticized, etc. ▪ the government's most *sacrosanct* institutions ▪ The tradition is regarded as *sacrosanct*.

sad /ˈsæd/ *adj* **sad·der; -dest** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not happy : feeling or showing grief or unhappiness ▪ He's feeling *sad* because his pet died. ▪ People were *sad* that he was leaving. ▪ The experience left her *sadder* but wiser. ▪ big *sad* eyes

2 : causing a feeling of grief or unhappiness ▪ Have you heard the *sad* news about his wife's illness? ▪ It'll be a *sad* day when you leave us. ▪ a *sad* love song ▪ a *sad* poem ▪ a movie with a *sad* ending ▪ He lived a *sad* life.

3 : causing feelings of disappointment or pity ▪ The *sad* fact/truth of the matter is that they are right. ▪ I live a pretty *sad* [=*pathetic*] life. I never go out on the weekend. ▪ The government is in *sad* [=*bad*] shape. ▪ The new version is a *sad* imitation of the original movie. ▪ He's a *sad* excuse for a father. [=he's not a good father] ▪ a *sad*-looking birthday cake ▪ We needed more money but, ***sad to say***, there wasn't any. ▪ ***Sad but true***, we couldn't afford to go away for even a weekend at the beach. — see also SAD SACK

– **sad·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] His leaving caused much *sadness*. [*singular*] I felt a deep *sadness* upon hearing the news.

sad·den /ˈsædn̩/ *verb* **-dens; -dened; -den·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to be sad ▪ It *saddens* me that we could not agree. ▪ We were *saddened* to see how ill she looks. ▪ She was *saddened* over/by the death of her friend.

2 [*no obj*] : to become sad : to show sadness ▪ Her face/eyes *saddened* when she heard the news.

– **saddening** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Her death is a *saddening* loss.

[1]sad·dle /ˈsædl̩/ *noun, pl* **sad·dles** [*count*]

1 : a leather-covered seat that is put on the back of a horse — see picture at HORSE

a burr in/under the saddle see BURR

in the saddle **1** : riding on a horse ▪ a cowboy *in the saddle* **2** : in control : in a position to decide what happens ▪ After a few setbacks, he's ***back in the saddle*** again.

[2]saddle *verb* **saddles; sad·dled; sad·dling** [+ *obj*] : to put a saddle on (a horse) ▪ He *saddled* his horse and mounted it. — often + *up* ▪ He *saddled up* his horse.

saddle up [*phrasal verb*] : to get on a horse ▪ He *saddled up* and rode away.

saddle with [*phrasal verb*] ***saddle (someone or something) with (something)*** : to cause (someone or something) to have (a problem, burden, responsibility, etc.) ▪ His actions have *saddled* the company *with* too much debt. ▪ My boss *saddled* me *with* the task of organizing the conference. — often used as *(be) saddled with* ▪ The company *is saddled with* an enormous amount of debt. ▪ She *is saddled* [=*burdened*] *with* a reputation for not being dependable.

sad·dle·bag /ˈsædl̩ˌbæg/ *noun, pl* **-bags** [*count*] : one of a pair of bags that are laid across the back of a horse behind the saddle or that hang over the rear wheel of a bicycle or motorcycle

saddle horse *noun, pl* ~ **horses** [*count*] *US* : a horse that is used for riding

sad·dler /ˈsædlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-dlers** [*count*] : a person who makes, repairs, or sells saddles and other equipment for horses

sad·dlery /ˈsædləri/ *noun, pl* **-dler·ies**

1 [*noncount*] : the work of making, repairing, or selling saddles and other equipment for horses

2 [*noncount*] : saddles and other equipment for horses

3 [*count*] : a place where saddles and other equipment for horses is sold or stored

saddle shoe *noun, pl* ~ **shoes** [*count*] *US* : a shoe that has one color on the toe and heel and a different color on the middle part

saddle sore *noun, pl* ~ **sores** [*count*]

1 : a sore on the back of a horse caused by a saddle that is not fitted correctly

2 : a sore area on a horse rider's body that is caused by rubbing against the saddle

sa·dism /ˈseɪˌdɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : enjoyment that someone gets from being violent or cruel or from causing

S

pain; *especially* : sexual enjoyment from hurting or punishing someone ▪ sexual *sadism* — compare MASOCHISM
– **sa·dist** /ˈseɪdɪst/ *noun, pl* **-dists** [*count*] ▪ sexual *sadists*
– **sa·dis·tic** /səˈdɪstɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ *sadistic* behavior ▪ a *sadistic* criminal – **sa·dis·ti·cal·ly** /səˈdɪstɪkli/ *adv*

sad·ly /ˈsædli/ *adv* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : in a way that shows sadness or unhappiness ▪ She shook her head *sadly*.
2 : in a way that causes feeling of sadness, disappointment, regret, etc. ▪ A cohesive plot was *sadly* lacking from the novel. ▪ Her work had been *sadly* neglected. — sometimes used for emphasis ▪ If you think she'll forgive you, you are ***sadly mistaken***
3 : UNFORTUNATELY — used to say that something is disappointing, sad, etc. ▪ I tried to help but, *sadly*, nothing could be done. ▪ *Sadly*, her negative attitude began to spread to other people.

sa·do·mas·och·ism /ˌseɪdoʊˈmæsəˌkɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : sexual behavior that involves getting pleasure from causing or feeling pain
– **sa·do·mas·och·ist** /ˌseɪdoʊˈmæsəkɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] – **sa·do·mas·och·is·tic** /ˌseɪdoʊˌmæsəˈkɪstɪk/ *adj* ▪ *sadomasochistic* sexual practices

sad sack *noun, pl* **~ sacks** [*count*] *US, informal + old-fashioned* : a person who is not successful or able to do things well : an inept person who causes feelings of pity or disgust in other people ▪ The team is just a bunch of *sad sacks*. [=*losers*]
– **sad–sack** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *sad-sack* team ▪ a *sad-sack* performance

SAE *abbr* **1** self-addressed envelope **2** stamped addressed envelope

sa·fa·ri /səˈfɑri/ *noun, pl* **-ris** : a journey to see or hunt animals especially in Africa [*count*] He went on a *safari* in Africa last year. [*noncount*] a group of hunters ***on safari***

safari jacket *noun, pl* **~ -ets** [*count*] : a type of lightweight jacket that usually has a belt and four large pockets

safari park *noun, pl* **~ parks** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a park in which wild animals move around freely and are watched by people from their vehicles

[1]safe /ˈseɪf/ *adj* **saf·er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 *not used before a noun* **a** : not able or likely to be hurt or harmed in any way : not in danger ▪ I don't feel *safe* in this neighborhood. ▪ The kids were *safe* in the cabin. ▪ We need to make sure that the children are ***safe and sound*** **b** : not able or likely to be lost, taken away, or given away ▪ "Is the money *safe*?" "Yes, it's in the bank." ▪ Be sure to keep your wallet *safe*. [=keep it in a place where it can't be stolen] ▪ The election is next week, and the polls show that her lead is *safe*. [=her lead is large; she will not lose her lead] ▪ Don't worry. Your secret is *safe* with me. [=I will not tell anyone else your secret]
2 a : not involving or likely to involve danger, harm, or loss ▪ a world made *safe* from war ▪ Is it *safe* to walk here? ▪ He wished us a *safe* trip. ▪ We are all hoping for their ***safe return*** [=hoping that they will return without being harmed] **b** : providing protection from danger, harm, or loss ▪ I found a *safe* place to take shelter from the storm. ▪ They live in a perfectly/relatively *safe* neighborhood. ▪ a *safe* harbor ▪ We watched the fireworks from a *safe* distance. ▪ You should keep your money in a *safe* [=*secure*] place. ▪ Bigger cars tend to be *safer* than smaller ones. ▪ the *safest* way to travel ▪ The shelter provides a ***safe haven*** for the homeless.
3 : not causing harm : not dangerous ▪ *safe* medicine ▪ a *safe* vaccine ▪ *safe* drinking water ▪ The book describes which mushrooms are *safe* to eat and which are not.
4 a : not likely to cause a bad result : not risky ▪ a *safe* investment/bet **b** : not likely to take risks : cautious or careful ▪ She's a very *safe* driver. ▪ It's probably not necessary to check the figures again, but (***it's***) ***better*** (***to be***) ***safe than sorry***. [=it is better to be careful now so that problems do not occur later on] ▪ ***To be on the safe side***, I checked the figures again. = ***To be safe***, I checked the figures again. ▪ I decided to ***play it safe*** [=to be careful and avoid risk or danger] and leave early so that I would be sure to arrive on time.
5 : not likely to cause disagreement or argument ▪ That's a *safe* assumption. ▪ It's *safe* to assume that she isn't married. ▪ Politics is not a *safe* subject around him. He's always angry about something. ▪ I think ***it's safe to say*** that he won't be causing any further problems. ▪ She is a ***safe bet*** to win the tournament. [=she will probably win the tournament]
6 *baseball* : successful at getting to a base without being put out ▪ The runner was *safe* on a close play at first base.
in safe hands see [1]HAND
– **safe·ly** *adv* ▪ We arrived home *safely*. [=without experiencing any problems, accidents, etc.] ▪ Be sure to drive *safely*. ▪ I can *safely* say that he won't be causing any further problems.

[2]safe *adv, chiefly US, informal* : in a safe way ▪ Be sure to drive *safe*. [=*safely*]

[3]safe *noun, pl* **safes** [*count*] : a strong metal box with a lock that is used to store money or valuable things

safe–con·duct /ˈseɪfˈkɑːndəkt/ *noun, pl* **-ducts** : protection from the government, police, etc., that is given to a person who is passing through an area that might be dangerous [*noncount*] They were given *safe-conduct* through the city. [*count*] The rebels' leader was granted a *safe-conduct* to talk with the president.

safe·crack·er /ˈseɪfˌkrækɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a person who steals things by opening safes ▪ The bank was robbed by a professional *safecracker*.

safe–deposit box *noun, pl* **~ boxes** [*count*] : a strong metal box in a bank that has a lock and that is used to store money or other valuable things — called also *safety-deposit box*

[1]safe·guard /ˈseɪfˌgɑɚd/ *noun, pl* **-guards** [*count*] *formal* : something that provides protection against possible loss, damage, etc. ▪ The new law has *safeguards* to protect the rights of citizens. ▪ There are many *safeguards* built into the system to prevent fraud. ▪ Practicing good nutrition can be an important *safeguard* [=*defense*] against cancer.

[2]safeguard *verb* **-guards; -guard·ed; -guard·ing** *formal* : to make (someone or something) safe or secure : PROTECT [+ *obj*] laws that *safeguard* the rights of citizens ▪ You need to *safeguard* your computer against viruses. [*no obj*] There are steps you can take to *safeguard* against identity theft.

safe house *noun, pl* **~ houses** [*count*] : a place where a person hides from the police, stays to be protected by the police, or is involved in secret activities

safe·keep·ing /ˈseɪfˈkiːpɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the act of keeping something safe ▪ I gave her my jewelry ***for safekeeping*** while I was away. [=I gave her my jewelry so that she could keep it safe while I was away]
2 : the state of being kept safe ▪ His will is in *safekeeping* with his lawyer.

safe seat *noun, pl* **~ seats** [*count*] *Brit* : a seat in Parliament that is very unlikely to be lost to the opposition in an election

safe sex *noun* [*noncount*] : sexual activity in which people protect themselves from diseases (such as AIDS) by using condoms or by other methods ▪ a book advising young people to practice *safe sex*

safe·ty /ˈseɪfti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**
1 [*noncount*] : freedom from harm or danger : the state of being safe ▪ The changes were made in the interest of public *safety*. ▪ He made some suggestions about how to improve airline *safety*. ▪ bike/traffic *safety* ▪ I'm worried about the *safety* of the people who were left behind. ▪ He sought *safety* in a church. [=he went into a church to be safe] ▪ She fears for her own *safety*. [=she is afraid because she thinks she is in danger] ▪ We were reluctant to leave the relative *safety* of our hotel. ▪ She was only a mile from the *safety* of her home when the accident occurred. ▪ The climbers were roped together for *safety*. = The climbers were roped together ***for safety's sake*** ▪ There is ***safety in numbers*** [=you are safer in a group of people than you are when you are alone] ▪ "***Safety first***" [=the most important thing is to be safe]—that's what I always say. — often used before another noun ▪ *safety* experts/hazards/precautions ▪ a *safety* violation ▪ a *safety* harness/catch ▪ *safety* devices/features ▪ *safety* glasses/goggles
2 [*noncount*] : the state of not being dangerous or harmful ▪ The car has been redesigned for improved/added/increased *safety*. ▪ The toys are inspected for *safety*.
3 [*noncount*] : a place that is free from harm or danger : a safe place ▪ They were led/pulled/dragged ***to safety*** by the rescuers. ▪ The injured hiker was finally able to ***reach safety***.
4 [*count*] *US* : a device that prevents a gun from being fired accidentally — called also *safety catch*
5 [*count*] *American football* **a** : a defensive player whose position is far back from the line of scrimmage **b** : a score of two points for the defensive team when an offensive player who has the ball is tackled behind his own team's goal line

safety belt *noun, pl* **~ belts** [*count*]

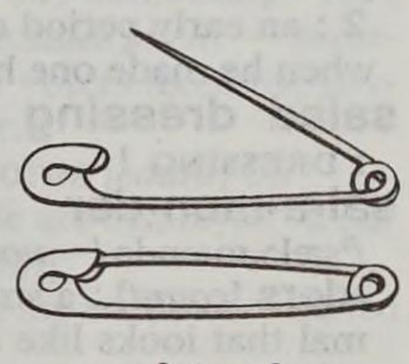
1 : a belt that is used to prevent someone from falling or getting injured by holding that person in place
2 : SEAT BELT

safety–deposit box *noun, pl* ~ **boxes** [*count*] : SAFE-DEPOSIT BOX

safety glass *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of strong glass that breaks into tiny pieces that are not sharp when it is hit hard

safety net *noun, pl* ~ **nets** [*count*]
1 : a net that is placed below acrobats to catch them if they fall
2 : something that helps someone who is in a difficult situation ▪ a financial *safety net* ▪ The program provides a *safety net* for people who have lost their jobs.

safety pin *noun, pl* ~ **pins** [*count*] : a metal pin that is used for attaching things and that has a point at one end and a cover at the other into which the pointed end fits


safety pin

safety razor *noun, pl* ~ **-zors** [*count*] : a razor with a cover for part of the blade to prevent deep cuts in the skin

safety valve *noun, pl* ~ **valves** [*count*]
1 : a part in a machine that opens automatically to release steam, water, gas, etc., when pressure becomes too great
2 : something that allows someone to release mental stress and tension in a harmless way ▪ His hobbies act as a *safety valve*, relieving some of the pressure he feels from his job.

saf•fron /'sæˌfrɑ:n, *Brit* 'sæfrən/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : an orange powder that is made from a type of flower (called a crocus) and that is used to color and flavor food
2 : an orange to orange-yellow color — see color picture on page C3

sag /'sæg/ *verb* **sags**; **sagged**; **sag•ging** [*no obj*]
1 : to bend or hang down in the middle especially because of weight or weakness ▪ The roof is *sagging* in the middle. ▪ Her cheeks *sagged* [=*drooped*] with age. ▪ The shelf *sagged* [=*bowed*] under the weight of so many books. ▪ a *sagging* mattress
2 : to become weaker or fewer ▪ The economy began to *sag*. ▪ As all our efforts failed, our spirits *sagged*. ▪ the company's *sagging* sales
– **sag** *noun, pl* **sags** [*count*] ▪ a *sag* in sales

sa•ga /'sɑ:gə/ *noun, pl* **-gas** [*count*]
1 : a long and complicated story with many details ▪ the *saga* of a shipwrecked crew ▪ Her first novel was a family *saga* set in Iowa.
2 : a long and complicated series of events ▪ Getting our car back turned into quite a *saga*.
3 : a long story about past heroes from Norway and Iceland

sa•ga•cious /sə'geɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : having or showing an ability to understand difficult ideas and situations and to make good decisions : WISE ▪ a *sagacious* old man ▪ *sagacious* advice/counsel
– **sa•ga•cious•ly** *adv* – **sa•gac•i•ty** /sə'gæsəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The old man was respected for his *sagacity*. [=*wisdom*]

[1]sage /'seɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **sag•es** [*count*] *formal* : a person who is very wise — compare [3]SAGE

[2]sage *adj, always used before a noun* **sag•er**; **sag•est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : very wise ▪ *sage* advice
– **sage•ly** *adv* ▪ He *sagely* suggested that she wait a few days.

[3]sage *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : an herb that has grayish-green leaves which are used in cooking
2 : a light grayish-green color — see color picture on page C6
– compare [1]SAGE

sage•brush /'seɪʤˌbrʌʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a small plant that has leaves with a strong smell and that grows in dry areas of the western U.S.

sag•gy /'sægi/ *adj* **sag•gi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : bending or hanging down too much : not firm ▪ a *saggy* mattress

Sag•it•tar•i•us /ˌsæʤə'teriəs/ *noun, pl* **-us•es**
1 [*noncount*] : the ninth sign of the zodiac : the sign that comes between Scorpio and Capricorn and that has a centaur shooting a bow and arrow as its symbol
2 [*count*] : a person born under the sign Sagittarius : a person born between November 22 and December 21 ▪ Are you a *Sagittarius* or a Capricorn?

sa•go /'seɪgoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-gos** [*count*] : a substance that is made from a type of palm tree and used especially in cooking

[1]said *past tense and past participle of* [1]SAY

[2]said /'sɛd/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal + law* : mentioned or referred to before ▪ The following is a description of how *said* property [=the property mentioned before] is divided. ▪ by order of the judge of *said* court

[1]sail /'seɪl/ *verb* **sails**; **sailed**; **sail•ing**
1 a : to travel on water in a ship or boat [*no obj*] *sail* across/on/over the sea/ocean ▪ We'll *sail* along/up/down the coast. ▪ He *sailed* around the world on a luxury liner. [+ *obj*] She *sailed* the Atlantic coastline. **b** : to control a ship or boat (especially one that has sails) while traveling on water [+ *obj*] She's *sailing* a boat in tomorrow's race. ▪ The ship was *sailed* by a crew of 8. [*no obj*] I've been *sailing* since I was a child. ▪ learning to *sail* **c** *of a ship or boat* : to travel on water [+ *obj*] a ship that has *sailed* the seven seas [*no obj*] We sat on the shore watching boats *sail* by.
2 [*no obj*] : to begin a journey on water in a ship or boat ▪ We *sail* at 9 a.m. tomorrow. ▪ They *sail* for/to San Francisco next week. ▪ The ship will be ready to *sail* in a week.
3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move or proceed in an easy, quick, and smooth way ▪ He *sailed* into the room. [=he walked quickly into the room in a very confident and easy way] ▪ The ball *sailed* [=*flew*] over the shortstop's head. ▪ The bill ***sailed through*** the legislature. [=the bill passed through the legislature very easily; the bill quickly became a law] ▪ She *sailed through* the exam/course. [=she easily passed the exam/course]
sail close to the wind *Brit* : to do something that is dangerous or that may be illegal or dishonest ▪ The company was *sailing close to the wind*, but it's not clear if they were breaking the law or not.

[2]sail *noun, pl* **sails**
1 [*count*] : a large piece of strong cloth that is connected to a ship or boat and that is used to catch the wind that moves the ship or boat through the water ▪ Wind filled the *sails* and our journey had begun. ▪ raising and lowering the ship's *sails* — see picture at BOAT
2 [*singular*] : a trip in a ship or boat ▪ a *sail* to San Francisco
in full sail *also* ***at full sail*** *of a ship or boat* : moving through the water by using all of its sails ▪ a yacht *in full sail*
set sail : to begin a journey on water in a ship or boat ▪ They *set sail* for/from San Francisco tomorrow.
take the wind out of someone's sails see [1]WIND
under sail *of a ship or boat* : moving through the water by using sails ▪ a ship *under sail*

sail•board /'seɪlˌboəd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] : a flat board that has a sail and that you stand on to ride over the surface of water : a board that is used for windsurfing — see picture at BOAT
– **sail•board•er** /'seɪlˌboədəɹ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ We watched the *sailboarders* [=*windsurfers*] from the shore.
– **sail•board•ing** /'seɪlˌboədɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He likes *sailboarding*. [=*windsurfing*]

sail•boat /'seɪlˌboʊt/ *noun, pl* **-boats** [*count*] *US* : a boat that has a sail — called also (*Brit*) *sailing boat*; see picture at BOAT

sail•ing /'seɪlɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the sport or activity of traveling on water in a sailboat ▪ She likes *sailing*. ▪ They're ***going sailing*** next week.
clear sailing (*US*) *or chiefly US* ***smooth sailing*** *or chiefly Brit* ***plain sailing*** : easy progress : progress that is not blocked by anything ▪ Now that the permit has been approved, we expect to have *clear sailing* from here on. [=we expect that we will not have any problems from here on] ▪ Her time at college wasn't all *smooth sailing*. [=she had some problems/difficulties during her time at college]

sailing ship *noun, pl* ~ **ships** [*count*] : a ship that has sails

sail•or /'seɪləɹ/ *noun, pl* **-ors** [*count*]
1 : a person who works on a boat or ship as part of the crew ▪ He worked as a *sailor* on a cargo ship.
2 : someone who controls a boat or ship that has sails ▪ She's a skillful *sailor*.

sailor suit *noun, pl* ~ **suits** [*count*] : a suit especially for a child that looks like an old-fashioned sailor's uniform

saint /'seɪnt/ *noun, pl* **saints** [*count*]
1 : a person who is officially recognized by the Christian church as being very holy because of the way he or she lived ▪ He was declared a *saint* in the fifth century. — used as a ti-

S

tle before a saint's name ▪ *Saint* Anne — abbr. *St.*; see also PATRON SAINT

2 : a person who is very good, kind, or patient ▪ The salesperson was a *saint* for putting up with them. ▪ a teacher with ***the patience of a saint*** [=a very patient teacher]

– saint•hood /'seɪnt,hʊd/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The Pope elevated four people to *sainthood*. [=he made four people saints] ▪ She recently entered the *sainthood*. [=she recently became a saint]

Saint Ber•nard /'seɪntbɚ'nɑɚd/ *noun, pl* ~ **-nards** [*count*] : a very large, strong dog that was used in the past to find and help lost travelers

saint•ed /'seɪntəd/ *adj*

1 *old-fashioned* : unusually good, kind, or patient ▪ my *sainted* old grandmother

2 : admired by many people ▪ They believed whatever they were told by their *sainted* leader.

saint•ly /'seɪntli/ *adj* **saint•li•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : like a saint : very good and kind ▪ a *saintly* old man ▪ a *saintly* smile [=a smile that is like the smile of a saint]

– saint•li•ness *noun* [*noncount*]

Saint Pat•rick's Day /,seɪnt'pætrɪks-/ *noun* [*noncount*] : March 17 celebrated in honor of Saint Patrick

saint's day *noun* [*singular*] : a day of the year on which a particular saint is remembered

Saint Valentine's Day *noun* [*noncount*] : VALENTINE'S DAY

[1]sake /'seɪk/ *noun, pl* **sakes** [*count*]

1 : the benefit of someone or something — used in phrases with *for* to say that something is done to help a particular person or thing ▪ Please do it *for her sake*. [=do it for her; do it to help her] ▪ They sacrificed their lives *for all our sakes*. [=to help all of us] ▪ We must do it *for the sake of* our country. — used in phrases with *for* to say that something is done for a particular purpose or to achieve a particular goal or result ▪ *For simplicity's sake* [=to make this discussion simpler], we'll consider these two options as basically the same. ▪ Let's assume, *for argument's sake*, that it was a mistake. = Let's assume, *for the sake of* argument, that it was a mistake. [=let's say for now that it was a mistake so that we can see how that will affect our discussion] ▪ *For the sake of* clarity [=in order to be clear], I've listed each item separately. ▪ They'll do anything *for the sake of* (making a) profit. ▪ scholars who pursue knowledge *for its own sake* [=because they want to learn] ▪ I don't paint for money. My motto is "***Art for art's sake***" [=I believe in making art for no other reason than that art is important]

2 *informal* — used in phrases with *for* to express anger, annoyance, surprise, etc. ▪ ***For heaven's/Pete's sake***, could you hurry up? ▪ Stop asking me questions, ***for God's sake*** ▪ ***For pity's/God's/Christ's sake***, what's taking so long? ▪ "You won!" "Oh, ***for goodness'/heaven's/Pete's sake*** I can't believe it!" ✧ The use of *God* and *Christ* in these phrases is offensive to some people.

for old times' sake ✧ If you do something *for old times' sake*, you do it because you did it in the past and you want to experience it again. ▪ He and his old friends from college went back to the bar *for old times' sake*.

for the sake of it : for no particular reason ▪ We drove around town just *for the sake of it*.

– compare [2]SAKE

[2]sa•ke *or* **sa•ki** /'sɑ:ki/ *noun, pl* **-kes** *or* **-kis** [*count, noncount*] : a Japanese alcoholic drink that is made from rice — compare [1]SAKE

sal•able *or* **sale•able** /'seɪləbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : capable of being sold : good enough to be sold ▪ We'll have to repaint the house for it to be *salable*. ▪ a *salable* commodity/product

– sal•abil•i•ty /,seɪlə'bɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sa•la•cious /sə'leɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal + disapproving* : relating to sex in a way that is excessive or offensive ▪ a song with *salacious* lyrics ▪ *salacious* pictures/messages

– sa•la•cious•ly *adv* **– sa•la•cious•ness** *noun*

sal•ad /'sæləd/ *noun, pl* **-ads**

1 : a mixture of raw green vegetables (such as different types of lettuce) usually combined with other raw vegetables [*count*] For dinner we had roast chicken and a *salad*. ▪ a *salad* of fresh/local greens ▪ a spinach *salad* ▪ I tossed the *salad* with some oil and vinegar and set it on the table. [*noncount*] a bowl of *salad* ▪ Would you like soup or *salad* with your sandwich? ▪ ***salad greens*** [=vegetables that are grown for their leaves and commonly used in salads]

2 [*count, noncount*] : a mixture of small pieces of raw or cooked food (such as pasta, meat, fruit, eggs, or vegetables) combined usually with a dressing and served cold ▪ a delicious pasta/potato/fruit *salad* ▪ chicken/tuna *salad*

salad bar *noun, pl* ~ **bars** [*count*] : a place in a restaurant where there is a selection of ingredients that customers can use to make their own salads

salad cream *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : a thick liquid that is eaten on salads, sandwiches, etc.

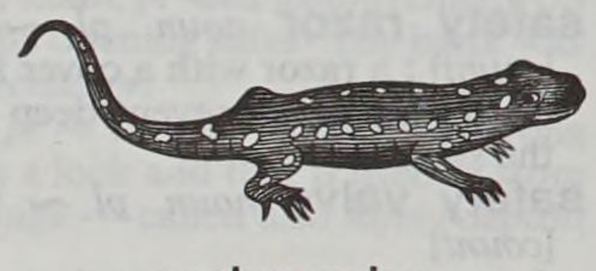
salad days *noun* [*plural*] *somewhat old-fashioned*

1 : the period of life when someone is young and does not have much experience ▪ during her *salad days* as a young reporter in New York city

2 : an early period of success ▪ in his *salad days* as an actor, when he made one hit movie after another

salad dressing *noun, pl* ~ **-ings** [*count, noncount*] : DRESSING 1

sal•a•man•der /'sælə,mændɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count*] : a small animal that looks like a lizard with smooth skin and that lives both on land and in water



salamander

sa•la•mi /sə'lɑ:mi/ *noun, pl* **-mis** [*count, noncount*] : a large, spicy, and dry sausage that is usually eaten cold

sal•a•ried /'sælərid/ *adj*

1 *of a person* : receiving a salary ▪ *salaried* employees

2 *of a job* : giving payment in the form of a salary ▪ a *salaried* position

sal•a•ry /'sæləri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** : an amount of money that an employee is paid each year ✧ A salary is divided into equal amounts that are paid to a person usually once every two weeks or once every month. [*count*] She was offered a *salary* of $50,000 a year. [*noncount*] Employees receive an annual increase in *salary*. — compare [1]WAGE

sale /'seɪl/ *noun, pl* **sales**

1 a [*count*] : the act of selling something : the exchange of goods, services, or property for money ▪ They profited from the *sale* of the house. ▪ the company's online/Internet *sales* ▪ Salespeople are paid a commission whenever they ***make a sale*** [=sell something] **b *sales*** [*plural*] : the total amount of money that a business receives from selling goods or services ▪ *Sales* are up by $6,000 this month. ▪ the company's annual *sales* ▪ The company made over one million dollars ***in sales*** this quarter. ▪ an increase/decrease *in sales* ▪ disappointing ***sales figures*** [=numbers that show how much money was made from sales]

2 [*count*] : an event or occasion during which a business sells goods or services at prices that are lower than usual ▪ The store is having/holding a spring *sale*. ▪ Everything in the store will be 15 percent off during the *sale*. ▪ There is a *sale* on flights between New York and Paris. ▪ (*Brit*) I bought these shoes ***in the sales*** [=at a time when many stores have a sale] — see also CLEARANCE SALE

3 *sales* [*plural*] : the business or activity of selling goods or services ▪ He has a job in *sales*. ▪ The department is in charge of *sales* and marketing. — often used before another noun ▪ the *sales* department/manager ▪ a new *sales* campaign

4 [*count*] : a public event at which things are sold ▪ They're having/holding a *sale* of fine antiques next week. — see also GARAGE SALE, RUMMAGE SALE, TAG SALE, YARD SALE

for sale : available to be bought ▪ That painting is not *for sale*. ▪ The restaurant is (up) *for sale*. ▪ houses *for sale*

on sale **1** : available to be bought ▪ These shoes are *on sale* at most department stores. ▪ Tickets ***go on sale*** [=become available to be bought] next week. **2** *chiefly US* : selling at a price that is lower than usual ▪ I bought a shirt *on sale* for $5. ▪ All computers will ***go on sale*** [=will be sold for a reduced price] later this month.

on sale or return *Brit, business* : with the agreement that products which are not sold will be taken back without having to be paid for ▪ The bookstore operates *on sale or return*. [=books in the store can be returned to the book supplier if the store does not sell them]

saleable *variant spelling of* SALABLE

sale•room /'seɪl,ru:m/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] *Brit* : SALESROOM 2

sales•clerk /'seɪlz,klɚk, *Brit* 'seɪlz,klɑ:k/ *noun, pl* **-clerks** [*count*] *US* : a person whose job is to sell things in a store

sales•girl /'seɪlz,gɚl/ *noun, pl* **-girls** [*count*] *old-fashioned* +

sometimes offensive : a woman (especially a young woman) whose job is to sell things ▪ a *salesgirl* in a department store

sales•man /ˈseɪlzmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a person (especially a man) whose job is to sell things ▪ a car *salesman* ▪ He was the company's best *salesman* last year.

sales•man•ship /ˈseɪlzmənˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the skill of persuading people to buy things or to accept or agree to something ▪ good/poor *salesmanship* ▪ political *salesmanship*

sales•per•son /ˈseɪlzˌpɚsn̩/ *noun, pl* **sales•peo•ple** /ˈseɪlzˌpi:pəl/ *also* **sales•per•sons** [*count*] : a person whose job is to sell things ▪ The company is hiring new *salespeople*.

sales pitch *noun, pl* ~ **pitches** [*count*] : a speech that you give in order to persuade someone to buy something ▪ He's good at getting customers to listen to his *sales pitch*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ It's not clear if voters liked the governor's *sales pitch* enough to reelect her.

sales•room /ˈseɪlzˌru:m/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] *US*
1 : a place where things that are for sale are displayed ▪ a car *salesroom* [=(more commonly) *showroom*]
2 : a room in which things are sold at an auction — called also (*Brit*) *saleroom*

sales slip *noun, pl* ~ **slips** [*count*] *US* : a piece of paper on which a list of the things that you have bought is printed with the price for each item : RECEIPT

sales tax *noun, pl* ~ **taxes** [*count, noncount*] : a tax that is added to the price of goods and services

sales•wom•an /ˈseɪlzˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom•en** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman whose job is to sell things ▪ a retail *saleswoman*

sa•lient /ˈseɪljənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : very important or noticeable ▪ the *salient* facts ▪ a *salient* characteristic/feature
– **salience** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sa•line /ˈseɪˌli:n, *Brit* ˈseɪˌlaɪn/ *adj, technical* : containing salt ▪ a *saline* solution ▪ a *saline* lake
– **sa•lin•i•ty** /seɪˈlɪnəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ testing the *salinity* of the water

[2]saline *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a mixture of salt and water

sa•li•va /səˈlaɪvə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the liquid produced in your mouth that keeps your mouth moist and makes it easier to swallow food
– **sal•i•vary** /ˈsælə̩ˌveri/ *adj, technical* ▪ a *salivary* enzyme

salivary gland *noun, pl* ~ **glands** [*count*] *medical* : a small organ that produces saliva in your mouth

sal•i•vate /ˈsælə̩ˌveɪt/ *verb* **-vates**; **-vat•ed**; **-vat•ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to have a lot of saliva produced in your mouth because you see or smell food that you want to eat ▪ The smell alone was enough to make me *salivate*.
2 : to have great interest in or desire for something ▪ She was *salivating* at the prospect of traveling to Europe. ▪ He *salivated* [=(informally) *drooled*] over his neighbor's new car.
– **sal•i•va•tion** /ˌsælə̩ˈveɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sal•low /ˈsæloʊ/ *adj* : slightly yellow in a way that does not look healthy ▪ a *sallow* complexion/face ▪ The child looked *sallow*.
– **sal•low•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sal•ly /ˈsæli/ *noun, pl* **-lies** [*count*] *formal*
1 : a clever and funny remark ▪ a witty *sally* [=*quip*]
2 : a sudden attack in which a group of soldiers rush forward against an enemy

[2]sally *verb* **-lies**; **-lied**; **-ly•ing**
sally forth *also* ***sally out*** [*phrasal verb*] *literary* : to leave a place ▪ After having breakfast and packing our bags, we *sallied forth* on the next leg of our trip.

salm•on /ˈsæmən/ *noun, pl* **salmon**
1 [*count, noncount*] : a large fish that is born in streams but that lives most of its life in the ocean and that is commonly used for food — see color picture on page C8
2 [*noncount*] : SALMON PINK — see color picture on page C3

sal•mo•nel•la /ˌsælməˈnɛlə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a kind of bacteria that is sometimes in food and that makes people sick

salmon pink *noun* [*noncount*] : an orange-pink color — see color picture on page C3

sa•lon /səˈlɑ:n, *Brit* ˈsæˌlɒn/ *noun, pl* **-lons** [*count*]
1 : a business that gives customers beauty treatments (such as haircuts) ▪ a hair/tanning/nail *salon* — see also BEAUTY SALON
2 *old-fashioned* : a large room in a fashionable house that is used for entertaining guests
3 : a regular meeting of writers, artists, etc., at someone's home ✧ Salons were common in the 18th and 19th centuries. ▪ a literary *salon*

sa•loon /səˈlu:n/ *noun, pl* **-loons** [*count*]
1 : a place where alcoholic drinks are served; *especially* : such a place in the western U.S. during the 19th century
2 : a large, comfortable room on a ship where passengers can talk, relax, etc.
3 *Brit* : SEDAN — called also (*Brit*) *saloon car*
4 *Brit* : a comfortable room in a pub

sal•sa /ˈsɑ:lsə/ *noun, pl* **-sas**
1 : a spicy sauce made with tomatoes, onions, and hot peppers that is commonly served with Mexican food [*noncount*] a jar of *salsa* ▪ chips and *salsa* [*count*] a delicious *salsa*
2 [*count, noncount*] **a** : a type of popular Latin-American music ▪ The band was playing *salsa*. ▪ a *salsa* band **b** : dancing that is done to salsa music ▪ We're taking classes in *salsa*.

[1]salt /ˈsɑ:lt/ *noun, pl* **salts**
1 [*noncount*] : a natural white substance that is used especially to flavor or preserve food ▪ The soup needs a little more *salt*. ▪ Season the meat with *salt* and pepper. ▪ Add a ***pinch of salt*** [=a small amount of salt] — see also SEA SALT, TABLE SALT
2 [*count*] *technical* : a chemical compound formed when part of an acid is replaced by a metal or something like a metal ▪ mineral/potassium *salts*
rub salt in/into someone's wounds see [1]RUB
take (something) with a grain/pinch of salt *informal* : to not completely believe (something) : to be doubtful about the truth or accuracy of (something) ▪ He seems confident, but you should *take* what he says *with a grain of salt*.
the salt of the earth : a very good and honest person or group of people ▪ These folks are *the salt of the earth*.
worth your salt : worthy of ordinary respect — used to say what should be expected from someone who does a job properly, from something that is as good as it should be, etc. ▪ A detective writer *worth his salt* [=a good detective writer] keeps his readers from solving the mystery. ▪ Any doctor *worth her salt* [=any good/capable doctor] would have advised you to get a second opinion before having major surgery.
– see also EPSOM SALT, SMELLING SALTS

[2]salt *verb* **salts**; **salt•ed**; **salt•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to flavor or preserve (food) with salt ▪ He *salted* his potatoes. ▪ The meat was preserved by being *salted* and smoked.
2 : to put salt on (a surface) especially in order to melt ice ▪ The city *salted* the roads after the snowstorm.
salt away [*phrasal verb*] ***salt (something) away*** *or* ***salt away (something)*** *informal* **1** : to put (money) in a safe place especially secretly or dishonestly ▪ He *salted* millions *away* in a foreign bank account. **2** *US* : to make your victory in (a game, contest, etc.) certain ▪ They *salted away* the game by scoring 21 points in the last quarter.
salt with [*phrasal verb*] ***salt (something) with (something)*** : to put something in many places in (a story, speech, etc.) ▪ She *salted* her speech *with* many religious references. ▪ The book is *salted with* witty anecdotes. [=the book has many witty anecdotes throughout it]

[3]salt *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : containing salt ▪ *salt* water
2 : preserved or seasoned with salt ▪ *salt* [=*salted*] pork

salt–and–pepper *adj* : having many small spots of black and white ▪ He has a *salt-and-pepper* beard. ▪ His hair had turned *salt-and-pepper*.

salt•box /ˈsɑ:ltˌbɑ:ks/ *noun, pl* **-box•es** [*count*] *US* : a house that has two or more levels in the front, one level in the back, and a steep roof that slopes down from the front to the back

salt cel•lar /ˈsɑ:ltˌsɛlɚ/ *noun, pl* ~ **-lars** [*count*] *Brit* : SALT SHAKER

salted *adj*
1 : having salt added ▪ Cook the pasta in boiling *salted* water. ▪ *salted* butter/peanuts — opposite UNSALTED
2 : preserved with salt ▪ *salted* fish/meat/pork

sal•tine /sɑlˈti:n/ *noun, pl* **-tines** [*count*] *US* : a thin, salty cracker

salt•pe•ter (*US*) *or Brit* **salt•pe•tre** /ˈsɑ:ltˈpi:tə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a white powder that exists naturally in some soils and that is used especially as a fertilizer, in medicine, and to make gunpowder

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salt shak•er /ˈsɑːltˌʃeɪkɚ/ *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a small container that has holes in its top and that is used for sprinkling small amounts of salt onto food — called also (*Brit*) *salt cellar*; see picture at PLACE SETTING

salt•wa•ter /ˈsɑːltˌwɑːtɚ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : of, relating to, or living in salt water ▪ *saltwater* fish ▪ a *saltwater* pond — compare FRESHWATER

salty /ˈsɑːlti/ *adj* **salt•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : containing salt or too much salt ▪ *salty* foods ▪ a *salty* lake ▪ I think the soup tastes *salty*.
2 *US, old-fashioned* : somewhat rude or shocking ▪ *salty* language/talk
– **salt•i•ness** /ˈsɑːltinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *saltiness* of tears

sa•lu•bri•ous /səˈluːbrijəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : making good health possible or likely ▪ *salubrious* weather ▪ a *salubrious* climate/area

sal•u•tary /ˈsæljəˌteri, *Brit* ˈsæljətri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : having a good or helpful result especially after something unpleasant has happened ▪ The accident should be a *salutary* lesson to be more careful. ▪ a *salutary* effect

sal•u•ta•tion /ˌsæljəˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*count*] : a word or phrase (such as "Gentlemen," "Dear Sir," "Dear Madam," or "To whom it may concern") that is used to begin a letter
2 *formal* : the act of greeting someone [*count*] A handshake and saying "hello" are common *salutations*. [*noncount*] Shaking hands is a form of *salutation*.

sa•lu•ta•to•ri•an /səˌluːtəˈtorijən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] *US* : the student who has the second best grades in a graduating class — compare VALEDICTORIAN

[1]sa•lute /səˈluːt/ *verb* **-lutes**; **-lut•ed**; **-lut•ing**
1 : to give a sign of respect to (a military officer, flag, etc.) by moving your right hand to your forehead : to give a salute to (someone or something) [+ *obj*] He *saluted* the officer. ▪ *Salute* the flag. [*no obj*] The officer *saluted*.
2 [+ *obj*] : to show respect for (someone or something) : to publicly praise (someone or something) ▪ We *salute* our country's soldiers. ▪ The players *saluted* the fans. ▪ The president *saluted* her bravery.

[2]salute *noun, pl* **-lutes**
1 : the act of moving your right hand to your forehead as a sign of respect to a military officer, flag, etc. [*count*] The officers gave the general a *salute*. [*noncount*] They raised their hands ***in salute***.
2 : an act or ceremony that shows respect for someone [*count*] a 21-gun *salute* [=a military ceremony where 21 guns are fired in the air to honor someone] ▪ The concert was a *salute* to country music legends. [*noncount*] Twenty-one guns were fired ***in salute***. ▪ We raise our glasses *in salute* to the newlyweds.

[1]sal•vage /ˈsælvɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the act of saving something (such as a building, a ship, or cargo) that is in danger of being completely destroyed ▪ The ship was beyond *salvage*. ▪ *salvage* attempts/efforts/operations
2 : something (such as cargo) that is saved from a wreck, fire, etc. ▪ the *salvage* from the wrecked ship ▪ (*US*) I got the part from an auto *salvage* place. [=from a junkyard; from a place where broken cars are taken so that their parts can be removed and sold]

[2]salvage *verb* **-vag•es**; **-vaged**; **-vag•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to remove (something) from a place so that it will not be damaged, destroyed, or lost ▪ Divers *salvaged* some of the sunken ship's cargo. ▪ Few of their possessions were *salvaged* from the fire.
2 : to save (something valuable or important) : to prevent the loss of (something) ▪ He is trying to *salvage* his marriage/reputation.
– **sal•vage•able** /ˈsælvɪʤəbəl/ *adj* ▪ The marriage was not *salvageable*.

sal•va•tion /sælˈveɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *in Christianity* : the act of saving someone from sin or evil : the state of being saved from sin or evil ▪ Pray for *salvation*.
2 : something that saves someone or something from danger or a difficult situation ▪ The new medication has been her *salvation*. [=has saved her] ▪ Tourism has been the *salvation* of the island.

Salvation Army *noun*
the Salvation Army : an international Christian group that helps poor people

[1]salve /ˈsæv, *Brit* ˈsælv/ *noun, pl* **salves** [*count, noncount*] : a creamy substance that you put on a wound to heal it or to make it less painful ▪ a *salve* for rashes/sunburns

[2]salve *verb* **salves**; **salved**; **salv•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) less painful ▪ The lotion *salved* the pain. ▪ He bought her flowers to *salve* his guilty conscience.

sal•ver /ˈsælvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-vers** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a tray that is used for serving food or drinks on formal occasions

sal•vo /ˈsælvoʊ/ *noun, pl* **sal•vos** *or* **sal•voes** [*count*]
1 : the act of firing several guns or bombs at the same time ▪ We were driven back by a *salvo* of cannon fire.
2 : a sudden occurrence of applause, laughter, etc., from many people ▪ a *salvo* [=*burst*] of cheers
3 : a strong or sudden attack ▪ The newspaper article was intended as a *salvo* against the mayor's policies. ▪ He fired the ***opening salvo*** of the debate.

Sa•mar•i•tan /səˈmerətən/ *noun, pl* **-tans** [*count*] : GOOD SAMARITAN ▪ A *Samaritan* called a tow truck for us.

sam•ba /ˈsæmbə/ *noun* [*singular*] : a lively Brazilian dance ▪ They danced the *samba*.; *also* : the music for this dance ▪ The band played a *samba*.

[1]same /ˈseɪm/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : not different — used when referring to a particular person or thing that is connected to more than one person, time, place, etc. ▪ He has lived in the *same* city all his life. [=he has only lived in one city] ▪ She and her cousin go to the *same* school. [=she goes to a particular school, and her cousin also goes to that school] ▪ We graduated the *same* year. ▪ She saw the *same* man at several different times and places yesterday. ▪ I'd met him earlier that ***exact same*** day. = (*US*) I'd met him earlier that ***same exact*** day. ▪ "Puma" and "cougar" are different names for the ***very same*** animal. ▪ The restaurant's owner and chef are ***one and the same*** person. [=the owner is also the chef]
2 a : exactly like someone or something else ▪ The words "their" and "there" are pronounced in exactly the *same* way but spelled differently. ▪ They were wearing the ***exact same*** shirt. = (*US*) They were wearing the ***same exact*** shirt. ▪ He should help us—and ***the same thing goes for*** you! [=and you should help us too] **b** : not changed : exactly like an earlier version, event, etc. ▪ She gave the *same* answer as before. ▪ He eats the *same* breakfast every day. ▪ The *same* thing happened to me yesterday. ▪ She is not the *same* person (that) she used to be—she's changed.
3 — used to describe a quality or characteristic that is shared by more than one person or thing ▪ two people of the *same* sex [=two people who are both male or both female] ▪ The buildings are the *same* age/style. ▪ She has the *same* dark hair and eyes as her father.
at the same time see [1]TIME
same difference see DIFFERENCE
the same old *informal + usually disapproving* — used to refer to something that has not changed ▪ I was hoping for something different, but all I got was more of *the same old* thing. ▪ They brought up *the same old* argument/story yet again!
the same thing — used to say that two things are alike or have the same meaning ▪ Lying and cheating amount to much *the same thing*.
two sides of the same coin see [1]COIN

[2]same *pronoun*
1 ***the same*** **a** : someone or something that is exactly like another person or thing being discussed or referred to ▪ He ordered the salmon, and I had *the same*. [=I also had the salmon] ▪ "I'll have a coffee with cream and two sugars." "Make mine *the same*." ▪ Your idea is *the same* as his. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) "Would you like another drink?" "Yes. (*The*) ***Same again***, please." [=please bring me another drink that is like the one you have already brought me] ▪ All of your classmates have begun their projects, and I suggest you ***do the same***. ▪ The band's last album was a bunch of bubble-gum pop, and their new release is just ***more of the same***. ▪ He should help us—and ***the same goes for*** you! [=and you should help us too] **b** ✧ Two or more things that are *the same* are exactly like each other or very similar to each other. ▪ The lunch specials are always *the same*. ▪ No two fingerprints are ever *the same*. ▪ The two cars are basically *the same*.
2 ***the same*** : someone or something that has not changed : something that is exactly like it was at an earlier time ▪ After the accident, he was never quite *the same* again. ▪ Things would never be *the same* without you! ▪ Things are very much *the same* as before.

all the same** or **just the same : despite what has just been said : NEVERTHELESS ▪ Of course it won't be easy. But you should try *all the same*. ▪ I'm afraid I can't accept your offer. But thank you *just the same*.

all the same to — used to say that someone does not care about what is chosen or done in a particular situation ▪ We can do it either today or tomorrow—it's *all the same to* me. [=I am willing to do it either today or tomorrow] ▪ I'd like to go fishing tomorrow morning, if it's *all the same to* you. [=if you don't object to that]

one and the same : one person or thing and not two ▪ The restaurant's owner and chef are *one and the same*. [=the owner is also the chef]

same here *informal* — used to say that you think, feel, or want the same thing as someone else ▪ "I'm tired." "*Same here*." [=me too; I'm tired too] ▪ "I'll have a coffee." "*Same here*, please."

the same to you — used to return a greeting or insult ▪ "Merry Christmas!" "(And) *the same to you*!" [=Merry Christmas to you too] ▪ "Go to hell!" "*The same to you*!"

[3]same *adv* : in a way that is alike or very similar — usually used after *the* ▪ The two brands of soda taste *the same* [=*alike*] to me. ▪ The words "their" and "there" are pronounced *the same* but spelled differently. ▪ I feel exactly ***the same as*** I did yesterday. ▪ I don't like to dress *the same as* everyone else. ▪ The business is run much *the same as* it was 50 years ago. ▪ He ate a sandwich and apple for lunch, ***same as usual***. [=as he usually does]

same•ness /'seɪmnəs/ *noun* [*singular*] : the quality or state of being alike or of not changing ▪ the *sameness* of the two methods ▪ There is a *sameness* to his stories that makes them too predictable. ▪ the *sameness* [=*monotony*] of daily life

same–sex *adj, always used before a noun* : involving members of the same sex ▪ *same-sex* twins [=twins that are both boys or both girls] ▪ *same-sex* couples/relationships ▪ *same-sex* marriages/unions

samey /'seɪmi/ *adj, Brit, informal* : similar and boring ▪ He has written five *samey* novels.

[1]sam•ple /'sæmpəl, *Brit* 'sɑ:mpəl/ *noun, pl* **sam•ples** [*count*]

1 : a small amount of something that gives you information about the thing it was taken from ▪ a blood/water/soil *sample* ▪ We would like to see a *sample* of your work.

2 : a small amount of something that is given to people to try ▪ I tasted a *sample* of the new cereal. ▪ ***Free samples*** were handed out at the store.

3 : a group of people or things that are taken from a larger group and studied, tested, or questioned to get information ▪ The *sample* included 96 women over the age of 40. ▪ a *sample* group ▪ A ***random sample*** of people filled out the survey. ▪ We looked at a ***representative sample*** of public schools.

4 : a small part of a recording (such as a song) that is used in another performer's recording

[2]sample *verb* **samples**; **sam•pled**; **sam•pling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to taste a small amount of (something) ▪ We *sampled* the wine/food.

2 : to try or experience (something) ▪ She *sampled* everything the resort had to offer, from golfing to yoga.

3 *technical* : to test, study, or question (a group of people or things taken from a larger group) to get information ▪ A low percentage of the women *sampled* said that they smoked during pregnancy. ▪ Five of the 20 schools *sampled* did not meet the standards.

4 : to use a small part of (a recording, such as a song) in another recording ▪ The rap group *sampled* the song.

[3]sample *adj, always used before a noun* : used as an example of something ▪ The teacher handed out a *sample* essay/exam. ▪ Here are some *sample* questions for the test.

sam•pler /'sæmplɚ, *Brit* 'sɑ:mplə/ *noun, pl* **-plers** [*count*]

1 : a piece of cloth with letters and words sewn in different kinds of stitches and made as an example of a person's sewing skill

2 : a collection that includes different examples of a particular type of thing ▪ a chocolate *sampler* ▪ The collection serves as a *sampler* of American poetry.

sam•pling /'sæmplɪŋ, *Brit* 'sɑ:mplɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-plings**

1 [*count*] : a small group of people or things taken from a larger group and used to represent the larger group ▪ The reporter asked a *sampling* of people about their eating habits. ▪ a *sampling* of the menu's entrées

2 [*count*] : a small amount of something that is offered to someone to try ▪ We were given a *sampling* of the food.

3 [*noncount*] : the act of using a small part of a recording (such as a song) as part of another recording ▪ The band does a lot of *sampling*.

sam•u•rai /'sæmə,raɪ/ *noun, pl* **samurai** [*count*] : a member of a Japanese military class in the past ▪ a powerful *samurai* ▪ a *samurai* sword/warrior

san•a•to•ri•um /,sænə'torijəm/ *noun, pl* **-to•ri•ums** *or* **-to•ria** /-'torijə/ [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a place for the care and treatment of people who are recovering from illness or who have a disease that will last a long time — called also (*US*) *sanitarium*, (*US*) *sanitorium*

sanc•ti•fy /'sæŋktə,faɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to make (something) holy ▪ The priest *sanctified* their marriage.

2 : to give official acceptance or approval to (something) ▪ The constitution *sanctified* the rights of the people.

– **sanc•ti•fi•ca•tion** /,sæŋktəfə'keɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *sanctification* of their marriage

sanc•ti•mo•nious /,sæŋktə'moʊnijəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* + *disapproving* : pretending to be morally better than other people ▪ *sanctimonious* politicians ▪ a *sanctimonious* speech/lecture

– **sanc•ti•mo•nious•ly** *adv* ▪ She *sanctimoniously* criticized our plans.

[1]sanc•tion /'sæŋkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal*

1 [*count*] : an action that is taken or an order that is given to force a country to obey international laws by limiting or stopping trade with that country, by not allowing economic aid for that country, etc. — usually plural ▪ The United Nations has decided to impose trade/economic *sanctions* on the country. — often + *against* ▪ *Sanctions against* the country have been lifted.

2 [*noncount*] : official permission or approval ▪ The country acted without the *sanction* of the other nations. ▪ Their policy has/lacks legal *sanction*.

[2]sanction *verb* **-tions**; **-tioned**; **-tion•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to officially accept or allow (something) ▪ The government has *sanctioned* the use of force. ▪ His actions were not *sanctioned* by his superiors.

sanc•ti•ty /'sæŋktəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being holy, very important, or valuable — often + *of* ▪ the *sanctity* [=*sacredness*] *of* marriage/life/tradition

sanc•tu•ary /'sæŋktʃə,weri, *Brit* 'sæŋktʃuəri/ *noun, pl* **-ar•ies**

1 [*count*] : a place where someone or something is protected or given shelter ▪ wildlife/bird *sanctuaries* ▪ The house was a *sanctuary* for runaway teens. — often used figuratively ▪ Her garden was a *sanctuary* from the stress of daily life. [=she felt relaxed and free from stress when she was in her garden]

2 [*noncount*] : the protection that is provided by a safe place ▪ The refugees ***found/sought sanctuary*** when they crossed the border.

3 [*count*] **a** *US* : the room inside a church, synagogue, etc., where religious services are held **b** : the most sacred or holy part of a religious building ▪ The *sanctuary* contains the altar of sacrifice.

sanc•tum /'sæŋktəm/ *noun, pl* **-tums** [*count*] *somewhat formal*

1 : a place where you are not bothered by other people ▪ Her office was her *sanctum*. — see also INNER SANCTUM

2 : a holy or sacred place ▪ the *sanctum* of a church

[1]sand /'sænd/ *noun, pl* **sands**

1 [*noncount*] : the very tiny, loose pieces of rock that cover beaches, deserts, etc. ▪ The beaches are covered with pinkish *sand*. ▪ a grain of *sand* ▪ I have *sand* in my shoe. — see also QUICKSAND

2 a [*noncount*] : an area of sand ▪ The children are playing in the *sand*. ▪ She walked across the hot *sand*. **b** ***sands*** [*plural*] *literary* : the beach or desert ▪ Tourists walked the *sands*. ▪ They journeyed across the (desert) *sands*.

head in the sand see [1]HEAD

shifting sands — used to refer to changes that happen as time passes ▪ the *shifting sands* of war

the sands of time — used to refer to the passage of time ▪ Many civilizations have been buried by *the sands of time*. [=many civilizations have been forgotten because of the passage of time]

[2]sand *verb* **sands**; **sand•ed**; **sand•ing**

1 : to make the surface of something smooth by rubbing it with sandpaper [+ *obj*] You should *sand* the shelf before painting it. — often + *down* ▪ *Sand down* the table. [*no obj*] Be sure to *sand* before you paint the shelf.

S

2 [+ *obj*] *US* : to spread sand over (an icy street, sidewalk, etc.) : to cover (something) with sand ▪ The streets are slippery because they haven't been *sanded* yet.

san•dal /'sændl/ *noun, pl* **-dals** [*count*] : a shoe with a bottom part that is held in place with straps around the foot and sometimes the ankle ▪ a pair of *sandals* ▪ I'm missing a *sandal*. — see picture at SHOE

san•dal•wood /'sændl,wʊd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a yellowish wood with a pleasant smell that is often used to make carved objects and whose oil is used in making perfumes and soaps; *also* : the tree that this wood comes from

[1]sand•bag /'sænd,bæg/ *noun, pl* **-bags** [*count*] : a bag filled with sand and used as a weight or to build temporary walls, dams, etc.

[2]sandbag *verb* **-bags; -bagged; -bag•ging**

1 [+ *obj*] : to put sandbags around, on, or in (something) ▪ They *sandbagged* (the area around) the house to protect it from the flood.

2 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US, informal* : to hit (someone) with a sandbag — usually used figuratively to describe treating or criticizing someone unfairly ▪ He would have won the election but he got *sandbagged* by the media.

3 *US, informal* : to hide your true abilities or purpose in order to deceive people, gain an advantage, etc. [*no obj*] He claimed he was playing badly because of an injury, but I think he was *sandbagging*. [+ *obj*] I think he was *sandbagging* us.

– **sand•bag•ger** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US*

sand•bank /'sænd,bæŋk/ *noun, pl* **-banks** [*count*] : a raised area of sand in a river, ocean, etc. ▪ The ship ran aground on a *sandbank*.

sand•bar /'sænd,bɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bars** [*count*] : a raised area of sand with a top that is near or just above the surface of the water in an ocean, lake, or river ▪ We walked out onto the *sandbar* at low tide.

sand•blast /'sænd,blæst, *Brit* 'sænd,blɑ:st/ *verb* **-blasts; -blast•ed; blast•ing** [+ *obj*] : to clean, polish, or decorate the surface of (something) by spraying sand on it with a powerful machine ▪ *sandblast* a building ▪ The metal was *sandblasted* to remove old paint. = The old paint was *sandblasted* off the metal.

– **sand•blast•er** *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]

sand•box /'sænd,bɑ:ks/ *noun, pl* **-box•es** [*count*] *US* : a low box filled with sand that children can play in — called also (*Brit*) *sandpit*; see picture at PLAYGROUND

sand castle *noun, pl* ~ **castles** [*count*] : a small model of a castle or other building that is made with wet sand on a beach

sand dollar *noun, pl* ~ **-lars** [*count*] *US* : the round, flat shell of a small sea animal; *also* : the small sea animal itself

sand dune *noun, pl* ~ **dunes** [*count*] : DUNE

sand•er /'sændɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : an electric tool that is used to make a surface smooth — see picture at CARPENTRY

2 *US* : a machine that is used for spreading sand on icy roads

S&H *abbr, US* shipping and handling

S&L *noun, pl* **S&Ls** [*count*] *US* : SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION — usually used before another noun ▪ *S&L* executives

sand•lot /'sænd,lɑ:t/ *noun, pl* **-lots** [*count*] *US* : an empty area of land in a city where children play games or sports

– **sandlot** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *sandlot* games/baseball

S and M *or* **S&M** *noun* [*noncount*] : SADOMASOCHISM

sand•man /'sænd,mæn/ *noun*

the sandman — used to refer to sleep as an imaginary man who makes people sleepy by sprinkling sand in their eyes ▪ The kids are fighting off *the sandman*. [=the kids are trying not to fall asleep]

[1]sand•pa•per /'sænd,peɪpɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : stiff paper that has a rough surface on one side and that is rubbed against something (such as a piece of wood) to make it smooth

[2]sandpaper *verb* **-pers; -pered; -per•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) smooth by rubbing it with sandpaper ▪ You should *sandpaper* [=(more commonly) *sand*] the shelf before you paint it.

sand•pip•er /'sænd,paɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a type of bird that has long legs and a long bill and that lives near the sea

sand•pit /'sænd,pɪt/ *noun, pl* **-pits** [*count*] *Brit* : SANDBOX

sand•stone /'sænd,stoʊn/ *noun, pl* **-stones** [*count, noncount*] : a type of soft stone that is made from grains of sand stuck together

sand•storm /'sænd,stoɚm/ *noun, pl* **-storms** [*count*] : an occurrence in which very strong winds blow sand around very forcefully in the desert ▪ They were caught in a *sandstorm*.



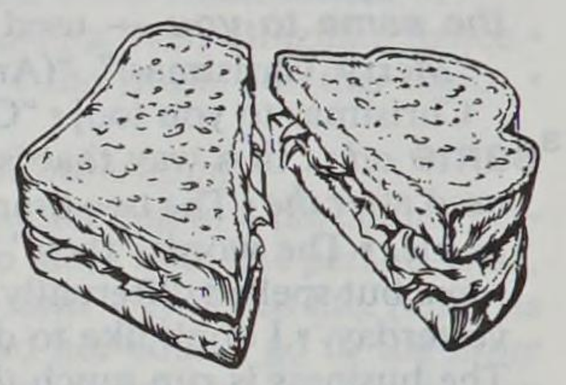
sandpiper

sand trap *noun, pl* ~ **traps** [*count*] *US, golf* : an area on a golf course that is filled with sand : BUNKER

[1]sand•wich /'sænd,wɪʧ, *Brit* 'sæn,wɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-wich•es** [*count*]

1 : two pieces of bread with something (such as meat, peanut butter, etc.) between them ▪ I had a ham *sandwich* for lunch. ▪ a peanut butter and jelly *sandwich* — see also CLUB SANDWICH, OPEN-FACED SANDWICH

2 : two or more cookies, crackers, or slices of cake with something between them ▪ (*chiefly US*) an ice-cream *sandwich* [=two cookies with ice cream between them]



sandwich

[2]sandwich *verb* **-wiches; -wiched; -wich•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat informal* : to put (someone or something) in the space between two other things or people — usually used as *(be) sandwiched between* ▪ The little boy *was sandwiched between* his brother and sister in the back seat of the van. ▪ a thin sheet of aluminum *sandwiched between* two pieces of plastic ▪ She lives in an old neighborhood *sandwiched between* the river and the railroad tracks.

sandwich board *noun, pl* ~ **boards** [*count*] : two signs that are worn on the front and back of a person's body and that are used especially for advertising something

sandwich course *noun, pl* ~ **courses** [*count*] *Brit* : a course of study in a college or university during which the students spend some time working in a business or industry

sandy /'sændi/ *adj* **sand•i•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : full of or covered with sand ▪ The soil in my garden is very *sandy*. ▪ a *sandy* beach

2 : having a yellowish-gray or yellowish-brown color ▪ *sandy* hair

– **sand•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *sandiness* of the soil

sane /'seɪn/ *adj* **san•er; san•est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having a healthy mind : able to think normally ▪ He is perfectly *sane*. [=he is not mentally ill] ▪ No *sane* person could do something so horrible. ▪ Trips to the beach keep me *sane*. [=keep me feeling happy and able to deal with life without becoming too upset, nervous, etc.] ▪ It's hard to stay/remain *sane* [=to stay relaxed, calm, etc.] when I'm so busy. — opposite INSANE

2 : based on reason or good judgment : rational or sensible ▪ Leaving was the only *sane* option she had. ▪ a *sane* policy/decision

– **sane•ly** *adv* ▪ He spoke *sanely*.

sang *past tense of* SING

sang•froid /ˌsɑ:ŋ'frwɑ:/ *noun* [*noncount*] *literary* : the ability to stay calm in difficult or dangerous situations ▪ He displayed remarkable *sangfroid* when everyone else was panicking during the crisis.

san•gria /sæŋ'gri:jə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : an alcoholic drink made of red wine, fruit juice, and often soda water

san•guine /'sæŋgwən/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : confident and hopeful ▪ She has a *sanguine* disposition/temperament. ▪ He is *sanguine* about the company's future.

san•i•tar•i•um /ˌsænə'terijəm/ *noun, pl* **-i•ums** *or* **-ia** /-ijə/ [*count*] *US, old-fashioned* : SANATORIUM

san•i•tary /'sænəˌteri, *Brit* 'sænətri/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : of or relating to good health or protection from dirt, infection, disease, etc. ▪ *sanitary* laws ▪ poor *sanitary* conditions [=conditions that are likely to give people diseases or infection] ▪ The park had clean ***sanitary facilities***. [=*bathrooms*]

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : free from dirt, infection, disease, etc. ▪ The public bathrooms were not very *sanitary*. [=*clean*] ▪ *san-*

itary packaging — opposite INSANITARY, UNSANITARY

sanitary napkin *noun, pl* ~ **-kins** [*count*] *US* : a thick piece of soft material that is used to absorb blood during menstruation — called also *sanitary pad*, (*Brit*) *sanitary towel*; compare TAMPON

san•i•ta•tion /ˌsænəˈteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the process of keeping places free from dirt, infection, disease, etc., by removing waste, trash and garbage, by cleaning streets, etc. ▪ Diseases can spread from poor *sanitation*. — often used before another noun ▪ *sanitation* workers/trucks

san•i•tize *also Brit* **san•i•tise** /ˈsænəˌtaɪz/ *verb* **-tiz•es**; **-tized**; **-tiz•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (something) free from dirt, infection, disease, etc., by cleaning it : to make (something) sanitary ▪ The housekeeping staff *sanitized* the bathroom.

2 *often disapproving* : to make (something) more pleasant and acceptable by taking things that are unpleasant or offensive out of it ▪ They're trying to *sanitize* the news.

– **sanitized** *also Brit* **sanitised** *adj* ▪ He gave them a *sanitized* account of his life that did not include his time in prison. – **sanitizing** *also Brit* **sanitising** *adj* ▪ *sanitizing* equipment

san•i•to•ri•um /ˌsænəˈtorijəm/ *noun, pl* **-to•ri•ums** *or* **-to•ria** /-ˈtorijə/ [*count*] *US, old-fashioned* : SANATORIUM

san•i•ty /ˈsænəti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the condition of having a healthy mind : the condition of being sane ▪ People have begun to doubt his *sanity*. ▪ She is the mother of six children but somehow keeps her *sanity*. ▪ I need a vacation to regain/recover my *sanity*. [=to begin to feel normal and relaxed again] — opposite INSANITY

2 : the condition of being based on reason or good judgment ▪ The *sanity* of the decision was never in question.

sank *past tense of* ¹SINK

sans /ˈsænz/ *prep* : WITHOUT ▪ She went to the party *sans* her husband.

San•skrit /ˈsænˌskrɪt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a language that was spoken many years ago in India and is still used in the practice of Hinduism ▪ chanting in *Sanskrit*

– **Sanskrit** *adj, always before a noun* ▪ a *Sanskrit* word/verse/scholar

sans ser•if /sænˈserəf/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : one of a group of typefaces that do not have short lines across the top and bottom of the long parts of the letters — see picture at FONT; compare SERIF

San•ta Claus /ˈsæntəˌklɑːz/ *noun* [*singular*] : an imaginary fat man with a white beard and a red suit who gives toys to children at Christmas — called also *Santa*, (*Brit*) *Father Christmas*

¹sap /ˈsæp/ *noun, pl* **saps**

1 [*noncount*] : a watery juice inside a plant that carries the plant's food ▪ *Sap* is taken from maple trees to make syrup.

2 [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : a person who is easily tricked or cheated ▪ The poor *sap* believed everything she told him.

²sap *verb* **saps**; **sapped**; **sap•ping** [+ *obj*]

1 : to use up the supply of (something, such as a person's courage, energy, strength, etc.) ▪ Moving the couch up the stairs *sapped* her strength. ▪ Months of rejections after job interviews *sapped* his confidence.

2 : to cause (someone) to lose courage, energy, strength, etc. — usually + *of* ▪ The illness *sapped* him *of* his strength. ▪ Her last three losses have *sapped* her *of* her confidence.

sap•ling /ˈsæplɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-lings** [*count*] : a young tree

sap•per /ˈsæpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] *Brit* : a member of a military unit that builds structures to defend and protect a position

sap•phic /ˈsæfɪk/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal* + *literary* : of or relating to sexual relations between women : LESBIAN ▪ a *sapphic* relationship ▪ *sapphic* lovers

sap•phire /ˈsæˌfajɚ/ *noun, pl* **-phires**

1 [*count, noncount*] : a clear, usually deep blue jewel — see color picture on page C11

2 [*noncount*] : a deep blue color

sap•py /ˈsæpi/ *adj* **sap•pi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *US, informal* **a** : sad or romantic in a foolish or exaggerated way ▪ The movie was pretty *sappy*. [=*sentimental*] ▪ a *sappy* [=(*Brit*) *soppy*] love story **b** : foolish or silly : not thinking clearly or showing good judgment ▪ She gets all *sappy* when she is around babies. ▪ a *sappy* idea

2 : full of sap ▪ *sappy* wood

Sa•ran Wrap /səˈræn-/ *trademark, US* — used for a thin sheet of clear plastic that is used to wrap food

sar•casm /ˈsɑɚˌkæzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the use of words that mean the opposite of what you really want to say especially in order to insult someone, to show irritation, or to be funny ▪ biting/dry *sarcasm* ▪ a voice full of *sarcasm* — compare IRONY

sar•cas•tic /sɑɚˈkæstɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : using or showing sarcasm ▪ a *sarcastic* person/remark/reply

– **sar•cas•ti•cal•ly** /sɑɚˈkæstɪkli/ *adv*

sar•coph•a•gus /sɑɚˈkɑːfəgəs/ *noun, pl* **-gi** /-ˌgaɪ/ *also* **-gus•es** [*count*] : a stone coffin from ancient times ▪ Egyptian/Roman *sarcophagi*

sar•dine /sɑɚˈdiːn/ *noun, pl* **-dines** [*count*] : a very small fish that is used for food and is usually packed in a can

like sardines : without enough room to move around ▪ A large crowd of reporters was ***crammed/packed like sardines*** into a small room.

sar•don•ic /sɑɚˈdɑːnɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : showing that you disapprove of or do not like someone or something : showing disrespect or scorn for someone or something ▪ The movie is a *sardonic* look at modern life. ▪ *sardonic* humor/comments ▪ a *sardonic* expression/smile

– **sar•don•i•cal•ly** /sɑɚˈdɑːnɪkli/ *adv* ▪ She smiled *sardonically* when she heard what had happened.

sarge /ˈsɑɚʤ/ *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : SERGEANT — usually used as a form of address ▪ What should I do, *Sarge*?

sa•ri /ˈsɑri/ *noun, pl* **-ris** [*count*] : a long piece of cloth that is wrapped around the body and head or shoulder and worn by women in southern Asia — see color picture on page C16

sarky /ˈsɑɚki/ *adj* **sark•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *Brit, informal* : SARCASTIC ▪ *sarky* comments/remarks

sar•nie /ˈsɑɚni/ *noun, pl* **-nies** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : SANDWICH ▪ a bacon/jam *sarnie*

sa•rong /səˈrɑːŋ/ *noun, pl* **-rongs** [*count*] : a long strip of cloth that is wrapped loosely around the body and worn by men and women of Malaysia and many Pacific islands — see color picture on page C16

SARS /ˈsɑɚz/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a serious disease that is caused by a virus and that affects your ability to breathe ✧ *SARS* is an abbreviation of "severe acute respiratory syndrome."

sar•sa•pa•ril•la /ˌsæspəˈrɪlə, *Brit* ˌsɑːspəˈrɪlə/ *noun, pl* **-las** [*count, noncount*] *old-fashioned* : a sweetened drink that is flavored with a substance made from the root of a plant

sar•to•ri•al /sɑɚˈtorijəl/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : of or relating to clothes ▪ They accused him of having poor *sartorial* taste. ▪ The wedding party arrived in *sartorial* splendor.

– **sar•to•ri•al•ly** *adv* ▪ my *sartorially* conservative friend [=my friend who wears conservative clothes]

SAS /ˌɛsˌeɪˈɛs/ *noun*

the SAS : a part of the British military that consists of soldiers who are specially trained for difficult and secret duties — called also *the Special Air Service*; compare SPECIAL FORCES

SASE *abbr, US* self-addressed stamped envelope

¹sash /ˈsæʃ/ *noun, pl* **sash•es** [*count*] : a long piece of cloth that you wear around your waist or over one shoulder — compare ²SASH

²sash *noun, pl* **sashes** [*count*] : the frame that holds glass in a window and that allows the window to open or close by sliding up and down — see picture at WINDOW — compare ¹SASH

sa•shay /sæˈʃeɪ/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **-shays**; **-shayed**; **-shay•ing** [*no obj*] : to walk in a slow and confident way that makes people notice you ▪ The model *sashayed* down the runway. ▪ She *sashayed* into the room.

sa•shi•mi /ˈsɑːʃəmi, sɑˈʃiːmi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a Japanese food made of thinly sliced raw fish

sash window *noun, pl* ~ **-dows** [*count*] *Brit* : DOUBLE-HUNG WINDOW — compare CASEMENT

Sas•quatch /ˈsæˌskwæʧ/ *noun* [*singular*] : a large, hairy creature that walks on two feet like a man and that some people claim to have seen in the northwestern U.S. and western Canada — called also *bigfoot*; compare ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN

sass /ˈsæs/ *verb* **sass•es**; **sassed**; **sass•ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US, informal* : to talk to (someone) in a rude way that does not show proper respect ▪ He got drunk and *sassed* a cop.

– **sass** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Don't give me any *sass*. [=*back talk*, (*Brit*) *backchat*]

S

sas•sa•fras /ˈsæsəˌfræs/ *noun, pl* **sassafras**
1 [*count, noncount*] : a tall tree of eastern North America
2 [*noncount*] : the dried bark from the root of the sassafras that is used in medicine and as a flavoring

Sas•se•nach /ˈsæsəˌnæk/ *noun, pl* **-nachs** [*count*] *Scotland, disapproving + humorous* : an English person

sassy /ˈsæsi/ *adj* **sass•i•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *chiefly US, informal*
1 : having or showing a rude lack of respect ▪ *sassy* children ▪ a *sassy* answer
2 : very stylish ▪ her *sassy* new hairdo ▪ She bought some *sassy* high heels.
3 : confident and energetic ▪ the heroine's *sassy* charm

[1]sat *past tense and past participle of* SIT

[2]sat *abbr* satellite

Sat. *abbr* Saturday

SAT *abbr* Scholastic Assessment Test

Sa•tan /ˈseɪtn̩/ *noun* [*noncount*] : DEVIL 1a ▪ He went to the Halloween party dressed up as *Satan*. [=*the Devil*]

sa•tan•ic /seɪˈtænɪk/ *adj*
1 : of, relating to, or worshipping the Devil ▪ a *satanic* cult/rite
2 : very cruel or evil ▪ a *satanic* serial killer

sa•tan•ism /ˈseɪtəˌnɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : worship of the Devil
– **sa•tan•ist** /ˈseɪtənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

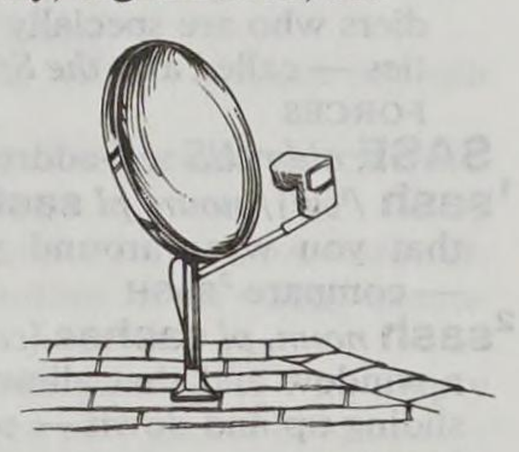
satch•el /ˈsætʃəl/ *noun, pl* **-els** [*count*] : a small bag that is carried over your shoulder and that is used for carrying clothes, books, etc.

sate /ˈseɪt/ *verb* **sates**; **sat•ed**; **sat•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*
1 : to fill (someone) with food so that no more is wanted — usually used as *(be) sated* ▪ He ate until he *was* completely *sated*. [=*full*] ▪ feel *sated*
2 : to end (something, such as hunger or curiosity) by providing everything that is required or wanted : SATISFY ▪ The meal was more than enough to *sate* his hunger/appetite. ▪ The information *sated* their curiosity.

sa•teen /sæˈtiːn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : smooth cloth that is like satin

sat•el•lite /ˈsætəˌlaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-lites**
1 a [*count*] : an object (such as a moon) that moves around a much larger planet **b** : a machine that is sent into space and that moves around the earth, moon, sun, or a planet ✧ Satellites are used for radio, television, and other types of communication and for studying the objects they move around. [*count*] *Satellites* help meteorologists predict the weather. [*noncount*] Images of the planet are sent by *satellite*. — often used before another noun ▪ *satellite* broadcasting/channels/images/radio/TV
2 [*count*] : a country, organization, etc., that is controlled by a larger and more powerful country, organization, etc.

satellite dish *noun, pl* ~ **dishes** [*count*] : a device that is shaped like a large dish and that receives television signals from a satellite high above the earth


satellite dish

sa•ti•ate /ˈseɪʃiˌeɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to satisfy (a need, desire, etc.) fully ▪ Her curiosity was never *satiated*. [=*sated*]
– **sa•ti•a•tion** /ˌseɪʃiˈeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sa•ti•ety /səˈtajəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a feeling or condition of being full after eating food ▪ eating beyond the point of *satiety*

[1]sat•in /ˈsætn̩/ *noun* [*noncount*] : cloth that has a smooth, shiny surface ▪ a dress made of *satin*

[2]satin *adj*
1 : made of or covered with satin ▪ *satin* sheets/shoes
2 : having a smooth and shiny surface : SATINY ▪ *satin* paint

sat•iny /ˈsætn̩i/ *adj* : smooth and shiny like satin ▪ There's a *satiny* feel to the material. ▪ a smooth *satiny* finish/texture

sat•ire /ˈsæˌtajɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ires**
1 [*noncount*] : a way of using humor to show that someone or something is foolish, weak, bad, etc. : humor that shows the weaknesses or bad qualities of a person, government, society, etc. ▪ His movies are known for their use of *satire*.
2 [*count*] : a book, movie, etc., that uses satire ▪ The movie is a political/social *satire*.
– **sa•tir•ic** /səˈtɪrɪk/ *or* **sa•tir•i•cal** /səˈtɪrɪkəl/ *adj* ▪ The play is a *satiric/satirical* comedy. ▪ her dry *satiric/satirical* wit ▪ a *satiric/satirical* novel – **sa•tir•i•cal•ly** /səˈtɪrɪkli/ *adv* ▪ a political subject that is usually treated *satirically*

sat•i•rist /ˈsætərɪst/ *noun, pl* **-rists** [*count*] : a person who uses satire in books, movies, etc. ▪ social *satirists* of the American Dream ▪ the great British *satirist*, Jonathan Swift

sat•i•rize *also Brit* **sat•i•rise** /ˈsætəˌraɪz/ *verb* **-riz•es**; **-rized**; **-riz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to show that (someone or something) is foolish, weak, bad, etc., by using satire ▪ The book *satirizes* contemporary life.

sat•is•fac•tion /ˌsætəsˈfækʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 : a happy or pleased feeling because of something that you did or something that happened to you [*noncount*] He gets/derives great *satisfaction* from volunteering. ▪ the *satisfaction* of a job well done ▪ There is some *satisfaction* in knowing I was right. [*singular*] She finds a certain *satisfaction* in helping others. — opposite DISSATISFACTION
2 [*noncount*] : the act of providing what is needed or desired : the act of satisfying a need or desire ▪ sexual *satisfaction* ▪ the *satisfaction* of his deep craving for love
3 [*noncount*] *formal* : a result that deals with a problem or complaint in an acceptable way ▪ I complained to the manager about the poor service but did not get any *satisfaction*.
4 [*count*] *US* : something that makes you happy, pleased, or satisfied ▪ Helping others is one of the greatest *satisfactions* of my life.
to someone's satisfaction : so that someone is happy, pleased, or satisfied ▪ The work was not done *to my satisfaction*. [=I was not satisfied with the work] ▪ The charge must be proved *to the satisfaction* of the court. [=the court must be convinced that the charge is true]

sat•is•fac•to•ry /ˌsætəsˈfæktəri/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : good enough for a particular purpose : ACCEPTABLE ▪ The job requires a *satisfactory* level of performance. ▪ Results are less *satisfactory* than had been anticipated. ▪ He gave a *satisfactory* account/explanation of how the accident had happened. ▪ The movie was brought to a *satisfactory* close/conclusion/end. ▪ His work has been *satisfactory*, but not outstanding. — opposite UNSATISFACTORY
– **sat•is•fac•to•ri•ly** /ˌsætəsˈfæktərəli/ *adv* ▪ My questions had been answered *satisfactorily*. ▪ They performed *satisfactorily* on the exam.

satisfied *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : having a happy or pleased feeling because of something that you did or something that happened to you ▪ a *satisfied* customer ▪ There was a *satisfied* look/smile on her face. ▪ She sat back from the table, *satisfied*. — often + *with* ▪ He's *satisfied with* things as they are. ▪ They were *satisfied with* the compromise. — opposite DISSATISFIED
2 *not used before a noun* : completely certain or sure about something : CONVINCED ▪ He was *satisfied* that she was not lying to him. ▪ You're quite *satisfied* that he's right?

sat•is•fy /ˈsætəsˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to cause (someone) to be happy or pleased ▪ His job *satisfies* him. ▪ Nothing *satisfies* her so much as doing a good job. ▪ The movie's ending failed to *satisfy* audiences. — opposite DISSATISFY
2 : to provide, do, or have what is required by (someone or something) ▪ He ate a little food, but not enough to *satisfy* his hunger. [=not enough to stop him from being hungry] ▪ His curiosity was *satisfied* by their explanation. ▪ He has *satisfied* all of his graduation requirements. [=he has done all the things required for graduation] ▪ She *satisfied* [=*fulfilled*] all conditions for approval of the loan.
3 *formal* : to cause (someone) to believe that something is true : CONVINCE ▪ They have *satisfied* themselves that the story is only a rumor.

satisfying *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : making you feel satisfied : giving you what you want or need ▪ You can have a very *satisfying* lunch at that restaurant. ▪ a totally *satisfying* movie/novel ▪ It is one of the most *satisfying* jobs I've ever had.
– **sat•is•fy•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ The movie has a *satisfyingly* happy ending.

sat•u•rate /ˈsætʃəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-rates**; **-rat•ed**; **-rat•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (something) very wet ▪ *Saturate* the sponge with water. ▪ That last rain really *saturated* [=*soaked*] the ground.
2 : to fill (something) completely with something ▪ Images of the war *saturated* the news. ▪ Their new products are *saturating* the market.

sat•u•rat•ed /ˈsætʃəˌreɪtəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : completely wet ▪ a *saturated* sponge/towel ▪ His shirt was *saturated* with sweat.

2 : completely filled with something ▪ the area's already *saturated* freeways — often + *with* ▪ Newspapers were *saturated with* stories about the election. ▪ The room was *saturated with* the smell of her perfume.
3 *technical* — used to describe a type of oil or fat that is found in foods such as meat and butter and that is bad for your health ▪ *Saturated* fats are not easily processed by the body. — compare UNSATURATED

sat·u·ra·tion /ˌsætʃəˈreɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the act or result of making something very wet ▪ Heavy rains resulted in the *saturation* of the soil.
2 : the act or result of supplying so much of something that no more is wanted ▪ the *saturation* of advertising on television ▪ a product that has reached market *saturation* [=a product that has saturated the market] — often used before a noun ▪ *saturation* coverage of a news story ▪ The number of game shows on TV may have reached the ***saturation point***. [=the point at which there are so many that no more can be added successfully]
3 : the act of using military force over a whole area — usually used before another noun ▪ ***saturation bombing*** [=bombing in which a very large number of bombs are dropped to cover an entire area instead of being aimed at a specific target]

Sat·ur·day /ˈsætəˌdeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-days** : the day of the week between Friday and Sunday [*count*] They left last *Saturday*. ▪ He will arrive next/this *Saturday*. ▪ His birthday falls on a *Saturday* this year. ▪ (*Brit*) He will arrive on the *Saturday* and leave on the Wednesday. ▪ The club meets on *Saturdays*. = The club meets every *Saturday*. [*noncount*] I will arrive on *Saturday*. = (*chiefly US*) I will arrive *Saturday*. — abbr. *Sat.*
– **Sat·ur·days** /ˈsætəˌdeɪz/ *adv* ▪ He visits his parents *Saturdays*. [=he visits his parents every *Saturday*]

Sat·urn /ˈsætən/ *noun* [*singular*] : the planet that is sixth in order from the sun and that is surrounded by large rings

sat·ur·nine /ˈsætəˌnaɪn/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *literary* : very serious and unhappy ▪ his *saturnine* [=*sullen*] looks ▪ He is *saturnine* in temperament.

sa·tyr *or* **Sa·tyr** /ˈseɪtɚ, *Brit* ˈsætə/ *noun, pl* **-tyrs** [*count*] : one of the forest gods in Greek mythology who have faces and bodies like men and ears, legs, and tails like goats

sauce /ˈsɑːs/ *noun, pl* **sauc·es**
1 : a thick liquid that is eaten with or on food to add flavor to it [*count*] a delicious spaghetti/meat *sauce* ▪ She tried several *sauces* before she found one she liked. ▪ chicken in/with a cream *sauce* ▪ Cover the strawberries with the chocolate *sauce*. [*noncount*] This pizza needs more *sauce*. — see also SOY SAUCE, TARTAR SAUCE, WHITE SAUCE
2 [*count*] : boiled or canned fruit ▪ cranberry *sauce* — see also APPLESAUCE
3 [*singular*] *chiefly Brit, informal* + *old-fashioned* : rude or impolite language or actions ▪ I've had enough of your *sauce*!
4 ***the sauce*** *US slang* : alcoholic drinks : LIQUOR ▪ He's been ***off the sauce*** [=he has not drunk any alcohol] for a month now. ▪ He's back ***on the sauce***. [=he's drinking alcohol again]
what's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander see [1]GOOSE

sauce·boat /ˈsɑːsˌboʊt/ *noun, pl* **-boats** [*count*] : a long and narrow container that has a handle and a special curved end for pouring and that is used for serving a sauce or gravy with a meal

sauce·pan /ˈsɑːsˌpæn, *Brit* ˈsɔːspən/ *noun, pl* **-pans** [*count*] : a deep, round cooking pan with a handle — see picture at KITCHEN

sau·cer /ˈsɑːsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-cers** [*count*] : a small, round dish that you put a cup on — see picture at PLACE SETTING; see also FLYING SAUCER

saucy /ˈsɑːsi/ *adj* **sauc·i·er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *somewhat old-fashioned* : rude usually in a lively and playful way ▪ a *saucy* actress ▪ *saucy* language
2 : served with a sauce ▪ *saucy* foods ▪ a *saucy* dish
– **sauc·i·ly** /ˈsɑːsəli/ *adv* ▪ He spoke *saucily*. – **sauc·i·ness** /ˈsɑːsinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sau·er·kraut /ˈsawɚˌkraʊt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a German food made of a vegetable (called a cabbage) that is cut into small pieces and soaked in a salty and sour liquid

sau·na /ˈsɑːnə/ *noun, pl* **-nas** [*count*]
1 : a special heated room in which people sit or lie down in order to get hot and sweat ▪ The health club has a pool and a *sauna*.
2 : a health treatment in which people sit or lie down in a sauna ▪ He talked about the benefits of taking/having a *sauna* regularly.

saun·ter /ˈsɑːntɚ/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **-ters; -tered; -ter·ing** [*no obj*] : to walk along in a slow and relaxed manner : STROLL ▪ They *sauntered* slowly down the street. ▪ Some girls *sauntered* by. ▪ He *sauntered* into the store.
– **saunter** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ We took a *saunter* around the town.

sau·sage /ˈsɑːsɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-sag·es** : spicy ground meat (such as pork) that is usually stuffed into a narrow tube of skin or made into a small flat cake [*noncount*] Would you like any/some *sausage*? [*count*] breakfast *sausages* ▪ They bought *sausages* for the picnic.
not a sausage *Brit, informal* + *old-fashioned* : NOTHING ▪ What did they find? *Not a sausage*.

sausage dog *noun, pl* ~ **dogs** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : DACHSHUND

[1]sau·té /sɑˈteɪ, *Brit* ˈsəʊˌteɪ/ *verb* **-tés** *also* **-tes; -téed** *also* **-teed; -té·ing** *also* **-te·ing** [+ *obj*] : to fry (food) in a small amount of fat ▪ *Sauté* the onion and garlic. ▪ peppers *sautéed* in olive oil ▪ meat *sautéed* with herbs

[2]sauté *noun, pl* **-tés** [*count*] : a food that is fried in a small amount of fat ▪ a shrimp *sauté* = (*US*) a *sauté* of shrimp
– **sauté** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *sauté* [=*sautéed*] potatoes

[1]sav·age /ˈsævɪʤ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *of an animal* : not under human control : WILD ▪ *savage* [=*wild*] beasts
2 : very cruel or violent ▪ a *savage* criminal ▪ He was the victim of a *savage* attack/beating. ▪ a *savage* battle ▪ The coast was lashed by *savage* storms.
3 : very critical or harsh ▪ *savage* criticism ▪ He wrote *savage* satires about people he didn't like.
4 *old-fashioned* + *offensive* : having a way of life that is simple and not highly advanced : uncivilized or primitive ▪ a *savage* country/tribe
– **sav·age·ly** *adv* ▪ She was *savagely* attacked by the dog. ▪ He was *savagely* beaten. – **sav·age·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *savageness* [=(more commonly) *savagery*] of the battle/crime

[2]savage *noun, pl* **-ag·es** [*count*]
1 *old-fashioned* + *offensive* : a person who has a way of life that is simple and not highly advanced ▪ a wild *savage*
2 : a person who is very violent or cruel ▪ What kind of *savage* could have committed such a terrible crime?

[3]savage *verb* **-ages; -aged; -ag·ing** [+ *obj*] : to attack or treat (someone or something) in a very cruel, violent, or harsh way ▪ He looked like he'd been *savaged* by a wild animal. ▪ A hurricane *savaged* the city. ▪ The newspapers *savaged* his reputation.

sav·age·ry /ˈsævɪʤəri/ *noun, pl* **-ries**
1 [*noncount*] : a cruel or violent quality : a savage quality ▪ The *savagery* of the attack was horrifying. ▪ an act of pure *savagery*
2 [*count*] : a cruel or violent act or action ▪ the *savageries* committed by the soldiers ▪ the *savageries* of war

sa·van·na *also* **sa·van·nah** /səˈvænə/ *noun, pl* **-nas** *also* **-nahs** [*count*] : a large flat area of land with grass and very few trees especially in Africa and South America

sa·vant /sæˈvɑːnt, *Brit* ˈsævənt/ *noun, pl* **-vants** [*count*] *formal*
1 : a person who knows a lot about a particular subject ▪ a computer *savant*
2 : a person who does not have normal intelligence but who has very unusual mental abilities that other people do not have

[1]save /ˈseɪv/ *verb* **saves; saved; sav·ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to keep (someone or something) safe : to stop (someone or something) from dying or being hurt, damaged, or lost ▪ He risked his life to *save* his friend (from drowning). ▪ The organization is dedicated to *saving* [=*protecting*] endangered animals. ▪ We need to *save* the rain forests (from destruction). ▪ He grabbed her arm to *save* her from falling. [=to stop/prevent her from falling so that she would not be hurt] ▪ The doctors managed to *save* the soldier's wounded leg. [=to keep the leg from having to be cut off] **b** : to stop (something) from ending or failing : to make (something that is in danger of failing) successful ▪ He is trying to *save* his marriage by going to counseling for his drug addiction. ▪ The new CEO *saved* the company (from bankruptcy). ▪ She *saved* a tense situation by staying calm.

2 : to keep (something) from being lost or wasted [+ *obj*] This new plan will help us *save* time. = The new plan will *save* us some time. ▪ Thinner computer monitors *save* space. [*no obj*] — + *on* ▪ A more efficient furnace will *save on* energy.

3 a : to keep money instead of spending it : to put money away especially in a bank so that you will have it in the future [*no obj*] She would rather *save* than spend. ▪ He has been *saving* (up) for a new car. [+ *obj*] *Save* a little money for later. ▪ She *saves* part of her pay every week. ▪ I *saved* $20,000 for a down payment on the house. **b** : to spend less money [*no obj*] Buy now and *save*! — often + *on* ▪ *Save on* everything in the store! ▪ He *saved on* [=spent less money for] his car insurance by switching to a different insurance company. [+ *obj*] She *saved* $15 at the grocery store by using coupons. — often + *on* ▪ We're trying to *save* money *on* our electric bill.

4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to keep (something) available for use in the future ▪ Be sure to *save* some cookies for your sister. ▪ You need to *save* (up) your energy for tomorrow. ▪ He *saves* his best jacket for special occasions. [=he only wears his best jacket on special occasions] ▪ The runners *saved* their energy for the last lap. = The runners ***saved themselves*** for the last lap. **b** : to keep (something) for someone to use or have ▪ She *saved* a seat for her friend. ▪ Please *save* the next dance for me. = Please *save* me the next dance. [=please don't plan to dance the next dance with anyone but me]

5 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) unnecessary ▪ Check that you have everything before you leave. It will *save* your having to go back again. ▪ The shortcut *saves* an hour's driving.

6 [+ *obj*] : to keep (someone) from doing something ▪ Thanks for sending out that package. It *saved* me a trip to the post office. ▪ I'll make the appointment for you to ***save you the trouble/bother.*** [=so that you don't have to do it yourself] — often + *from* ▪ You should cut up the vegetables to *save* you *from* doing it later when the guests are here.

7 [+ *obj*] : to collect or keep (something) ▪ She *saved* all his letters.

8 : to store (data) in a computer or on a storage device (such as a CD) so that it can be used later [+ *obj*] You should *save* your work on/to a disk. ▪ *save* a file [*no obj*] Don't forget to *save* before you close the file.

9 [+ *obj*] *sports* **a** : to stop (an opponent's shot) from scoring a goal ▪ He *saved* the penalty kick/shot. **b** : to keep (a game) from being lost to an opponent ▪ The relief pitcher *saved* the game.

10 *in Christianity* : to protect or free (someone) from sin or evil [+ *obj*] He believes that Jesus Christ will *save* him. [*no obj*] Jesus *saves*.

a penny saved (is a penny earned) see PENNY

save face see [1]FACE

save someone's bacon/hide/neck/skin *informal* : to save someone : to help someone get out of a dangerous or difficult situation ▪ You really *saved my bacon* by helping out yesterday. ▪ He doesn't care what happens to us. All he's worried about is *saving his own skin/neck.* [=saving himself]

save someone's life **1** *or* ***save a life*** : to stop (someone) from dying or being killed : to rescue (someone) who is in terrible danger ▪ She thanked the firefighters who *saved her life.* [=rescued her] ▪ a surgical procedure that has *saved the lives* of thousands of people ▪ The use of seat belts can *save lives.* ▪ If you donate blood, you might *save a life.* **2** *informal* : to help (someone) in an important way — often used to thank someone who helped you ▪ Thanks for covering for me. You really *saved my life.*

save the day : to make a bad situation end successfully ▪ Just when things looked hopeless, my brother came along and *saved the day.*

save your breath see BREATH

to save your life *informal* ✧ If you ***cannot do something to save your life***, you are completely unable to do it. ▪ She *can't sing to save her life.* [=she is a very bad singer]

[2]save *noun, pl* **saves** [*count*]

1 : a play that stops an opponent from scoring a goal ▪ The goalie made a spectacular *save.*

2 *baseball, of a relief pitcher* : the act of keeping a team's lead when replacing another pitcher at the end of a game ▪ He leads the league in *saves.*

[3]save *prep, formal* : other than : but or except ▪ We had no hope *save* one.

save for : not including (someone or something) : except for (someone or something) ▪ The park was deserted *save for* a few joggers.

[4]save *conj, formal* : EXCEPT ▪ Little is known about his early years *save* that he left home when he was very young.

sav•er /'seɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : someone who saves money for future use ▪ He is a compulsive *saver* who always watches his spending.

2 : something that prevents unnecessary waste or loss — used in combination ▪ This recipe is a real time-*saver.* [=this recipe saves a lot of time] ▪ The new product is an energy-*saver.*

– see also LIFESAVER

[1]saving *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*count*] : an amount of something that is not spent or used ▪ The new system will provide a *saving* in labor. ▪ a *saving* on fuel — often plural ▪ a *savings* of 50 percent ▪ The investment offers tax *savings.* ▪ The *savings* at the end of the first year will be considerable.

2 *savings* [*plural*] : the amount of money that you have saved especially in a bank over a period of time ▪ How much money do you have in *savings*? ▪ She has her *savings* in stocks. ▪ They were able to retire on their *savings.* ▪ His parents lost their ***life savings*** [=all the money they had] when the stock market crashed.

[2]saving *adj*

1 : preventing the unnecessary waste or loss of something — used in combination ▪ energy-*saving* technology ▪ space-*saving* furniture

2 : preventing the unnecessary spending of money — used in combination ▪ money-*saving* tips ▪ cost-*saving* strategies

saving grace *noun, pl* ~ **graces** [*count*] : a good quality that makes a bad or unpleasant person or thing better or more acceptable ▪ It's expensive, but the machine's *saving grace* is its ease of operation. ▪ One of her *saving graces* is a good sense of humor.

savings account *noun, pl* ~ **-counts** [*count*] : a bank account in which people keep money that they want to save ▪ She opened a *savings account.*

savings and loan association *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] *US* : a business that is like a bank and that holds and invests the money saved by its members and makes loans to home buyers — called also *savings and loan, S&L*

savings bank *noun, pl* ~ **banks** [*count*] : a business where people keep money that they are saving in order to earn interest on it and where they can borrow money to buy homes, cars, etc.

savings bond *noun, pl* ~ **bonds** [*count*] *finance* : a bond sold by the U.S. government that comes in values of $50 to $10,000

sav•ior (*US*) *or Brit* **sav•iour** /'seɪvjɚ/ *noun, pl* **-iors**

1 [*count*] : someone who saves something or someone from danger, harm, failure, etc. ▪ We all felt that she was our *savior.* ▪ Many people expected him to be the *savior* of his (political) party.

2 *Savior* *(US) or Brit* ***Saviour*** — used by Christians to refer to Jesus Christ ▪ saying a prayer to the/our *Savior*

sa•voir faire /ˌsævˌwɑɚ'feɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the ability to behave in a correct and confident way in different situations ▪ I admire her sophistication and *savoir faire.* ▪ He handled the problem with his usual *savoir faire.*

[1]sa•vor (*US*) *or Brit* **sa•vour** /'seɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-vors** *formal*

1 [*count*] : a good taste or smell — usually singular ▪ She enjoys the *savor* of a baking pie. ▪ There was a *savor* to the dish that I couldn't identify. ▪ a *savor* of mint ▪ an earthy *savor*

2 [*noncount*] *literary* : the quality that makes something interesting or enjoyable ▪ Without her love, life has lost its *savor* for me.

[2]savor (*US*) *or Brit* **savour** /'seɪvɚ/ *verb* **-vors**; **-vored**; **-vor•ing** *formal*

1 [+ *obj*] : to enjoy the taste or smell of (something) for as long as possible ▪ He *savored* the aroma of the baking pies. ▪ They *savored* every last morsel of food.

2 [+ *obj*] : to enjoy (something) for a long time ▪ She was just *savoring* the moment. ▪ The team is still *savoring* its victory. ▪ He *savored* the memories of his vacation.

savor of [*phrasal verb*] ***savor of (something)*** *formal* : to seem to suggest or involve (something unpleasant) ▪ That suggestion *savors of* [=*smacks of*] hypocrisy.

[1]sa•vory (*US*) *or Brit* **sa•voury** /'seɪvəri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal*

1 : having a pleasant taste or smell ▪ a *savory* aroma

2 : having a spicy or salty quality without being sweet ▪ They prepared an assortment of both sweet and *savory* foods.

3 : morally good — usually used in negative statements ▪ His

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reputation was anything but *savory*. [=his reputation was unsavory] ▪ her less *savory* friend

²savory (*US*) *or Brit* **savoury** *noun, pl* **-vor•ies** [*count*] *formal* : a small serving of food that is spicy or salty but not sweet : a savory food ▪ They prepared assorted sweets and *savories*.

¹sav•vy /ˈsævi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : practical understanding or knowledge of something ▪ He is admired for his business *savvy*. [=*shrewdness*]

²savvy *adj* **sav•vi•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *US* : having practical understanding or knowledge of something ▪ She's a very *savvy* investor. ▪ He is *savvy* about computers.

¹saw *past tense of* ¹SEE

²saw /ˈsɑ:/ *noun, pl* **saws** [*count*] : a tool that has a blade with sharp teeth and that is used to cut through wood, metal, and other hard material ▪ a power *saw* — see picture at CARPENTRY; see also CHAIN SAW, CIRCULAR SAW, HACKSAW, HANDSAW, JIGSAW — compare ⁴SAW

³saw *verb* **saws**; **sawed** /ˈsɑ:d/; **sawed** *or Brit* **sawn** /ˈsɑ:n/; **saw•ing** /ˈsɑ:ɪŋ/ : to cut or shape (wood, metal, etc.) with a saw [+ *obj*] He *sawed* the boards in half. [*no obj*] This blade is too dull for *sawing*.

saw at [*phrasal verb*] ***saw at (something)*** : to try to cut (something) by moving a saw, knife, etc., backwards and forwards ▪ She was *sawing* (away) *at* the turkey with a dull knife. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The violinist *sawed* (away) *at* the strings.

saw down [*phrasal verb*] ***saw down (something) or saw (something) down*** : to cut (something) with a saw and bring it to the ground : to cut (something) down ▪ The trees were *sawed down*.

saw off [*phrasal verb*] ***saw off (something) or saw (something) off*** : to remove (something) by cutting it with a saw ▪ She *sawed off* the branch.

saw up [*phrasal verb*] ***saw up (something) or saw (something) up*** : to cut (something) into pieces with a saw ▪ He *sawed up* the boards into foot-long pieces.

⁴saw *noun, pl* **saws** [*count*] : a common saying : PROVERB ▪ His grandfather recited the old *saw* about an apple a day keeping the doctor away. — compare ²SAW

saw•dust /ˈsɑ:ˌdʌst/ *noun* [*noncount*] : tiny particles of wood that are formed from sawing or sanding wood

sawed–off shotgun *noun, pl* ~ **-guns** [*count*] *US* : a shotgun that has a shorter barrel than a regular shotgun — called also (*Brit*) *sawn-off shotgun*

saw•horse /ˈsɑ:ˌhoəs/ *noun, pl* **-hors•es** [*count*] : a frame on which wood is placed when it is being cut with a saw

saw•mill /ˈsɑ:ˌmɪl/ *noun, pl* **-mills** [*count*] : a mill or factory where logs are sawed to make boards

sax /ˈsæks/ *noun, pl* **sax•es** [*count*] *informal* : SAXOPHONE ▪ a tenor *sax*

Sax•on /ˈsæksən/ *noun, pl* **-ons** [*count*] : a member of the Germanic people who entered and conquered England in the fifth century A.D. — see also ANGLO-SAXON
– **Saxon** *adj* ▪ *Saxon* kings

sax•o•phone /ˈsæksəˌfoʊn/ *noun, pl* **-phones** [*count*] : a musical instrument that has a curved metal tube and that is played by blowing into a mouthpiece and pressing keys with your fingers — see picture at WOODWIND

sax•o•phon•ist /ˈsæksəˌfoʊnɪst, *Brit* sækˈsɒfənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : someone who plays the saxophone

¹say /ˈseɪ/ *verb* **says** /ˈsɛz/; **said** /ˈsɛd/; **say•ing** /ˈsejɪŋ/
1 : to use your voice to express (something) with words [+ *obj*] "Is anybody there?" he *said*. ▪ "Good morning," *said* the woman behind the counter. ▪ I *said* three words before he interrupted me again. ▪ I just stopped by to *say* hello. ▪ He left without *saying* goodbye. ▪ I wanted to *say* thank you for all you've done for me. ▪ She *said* something about going to the store after work. ▪ He *said* something in French. ▪ Anything you *say* to the police can be used as evidence against you. ▪ Don't believe a word he *says*. ▪ Please be quiet. I have something to *say*. ▪ Listen closely, because I'm not going to *say* this again/twice. ▪ What did you *say*? ▪ Who shall I *say* is calling, Sir? ▪ Did she *say* how to get there? ▪ I *said* to myself, "I can do it." ▪ He *said* (that) he was a doctor. ▪ I can honestly *say* (that) I had never seen that man before today. ▪ I already *said* (that) I was sorry. ▪ You know what they *say*, "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em." ▪ As people/they *say*, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks." ▪ Her eyes are hazel, ***which is to say*** [=which means that] they are greenish brown. ▪ "A word of advice: don't mention the war." "***Say no more*** [=I understand you; you do not need to explain it further]—I'll stay off the subject!" [*no obj*] "What happened next?" "I'd rather not *say*."
2 [+ *obj*] : to express (an opinion) ▪ She thinks I should break up with him. What do you *say*? [=what's your opinion?] ▪ What would/do you *say* to seeing a movie tonight? [=would you like to see a movie tonight?] ▪ "After all, he was the last person to see her alive." "Are you *saying* that (you think) he killed her?" ▪ I *say* you're wrong. [=my opinion is that you're wrong] ▪ I wouldn't *say* (that) he's a great guitarist [=I don't think he's a great guitarist]; he's just OK. ▪ They *say* (that) you should drink eight glasses of water a day. = It's *said* that you should drink eight glasses of water a day. [=the opinion of people who know about this subject is that you should drink eight glasses of water a day] ▪ New England is *said* to be [=many people think New England is] very beautiful in the Fall. ▪ "Is the island nice?" "***So they/people say.***" ▪ ***I must say*** it was quite a surprise to hear from him. = ***I have to say*** it was quite a surprise to hear from him. ▪ I'm not *saying* we shouldn't buy the car. ***All I'm saying*** is that we should think about it some more. ▪ I didn't really enjoy the movie, but ***that's not to say*** it was bad. ▪ ***Say what you like*** (about it), I thought it was a good movie. ▪ Seeing your reaction, ***I would say*** that you're jealous that he has a new girlfriend. ▪ The dress seems too fancy for the party, ***wouldn't you say***? [=don't you agree?; do you think the same thing?] ▪ ***I'll say this for him***—he's very generous with his money. ▪ "She's a great singer!" "***If you say so.***"
3 : to express (a fact) with certainty [+ *obj*] No one can *say* for sure whether it will happen. ▪ It is ***hard to say*** what caused the injury. ▪ ***There's no saying*** [=it is impossible to know] how many people died in the earthquake. [*no obj*] "When will you be done?" "***I couldn't/can't say.***" [=I don't know] ✧ This sense is often used in indirect questions beginning with *who* to express disagreement or to say that something cannot be known for sure. ▪ Who *says* I can't do it? I can do anything if I put my mind to it. ▪ Who's to *say* they wouldn't have won if their team was healthy? ▪ Who can *say* what will happen? [=no one knows what will happen]
4 : to give (an order) : to tell someone to do (something) [+ *obj*] I *said* leave me alone! ▪ "Why do we have to go?" "Because your father and I *said* so." ▪ Mom *said* to wait here. ▪ She's the boss. ***What she says goes***! [=you have to do what she tells you to do] ▪ "Let's try installing the program one more time." "***Whatever you say***—you're the expert." ▪ "Don't you ever bring that subject up again, do you hear me?!" "Okay, okay. *Whatever you say*." [*no obj*] Don't start until I *say* (so/to).
5 [+ *obj*] : to pronounce (a word) ▪ How do you *say* your name?
6 [+ *obj*] : to repeat or recite (something) ▪ We always *say* our prayers before going to bed. ▪ Can you *say* the poem from memory? ▪ A new priest *said* Mass this morning.
7 [+ *obj*] : to use written words to give (information) ▪ What does the card *say*? ▪ Does the article *say* how the fire happened? ▪ The letter *says* that I've been accepted to the college. ▪ It *says* here that there will be a special guest at the concert. ▪ The instructions *say* to add two eggs.
8 [+ *obj*] : to show or indicate (something) by using numbers, pictures, etc. ▪ The clock *says* five minutes after ten. ▪ The calendar *says* that Christmas falls on a Monday.
9 [+ *obj*] : to express (a meaning, emotion, etc.) without using words ▪ She likes art that really *says* something. ▪ The kind of car you drive *says* a lot about the kind of person you are. ▪ The look on her face *said* "I'm sorry." ▪ His face ***said it all***. = His face ***said everything***. [=his face showed how he felt]
10 a — used to suggest an example or possibility ▪ Let's pick a math problem. *Say* problem number 3. ▪ *Say* you do get accepted to the college. Will you go? ▪ We could leave on any day—*say* on Monday. ▪ ***Let's say*** you're right, for argument's sake. ▪ Suppose you won, ***shall we say***, one million dollars. What would you do with it? **b** — used to suggest a possible or approximate amount, value, etc. ▪ The property is worth, *say*, four million dollars. = The property is worth four million dollars, *say*. [=the property is worth about four million dollars]

can't say fairer than that *Brit, informal* — used to say that you cannot make a better offer than the one you have made ▪ What do you think? I *can't say fairer than that*, now, can I?

enough said see ³ENOUGH

fair to say see ¹FAIR

go without saying : to be obvious and true ▪ It *goes without saying* that I'll do whatever I can to help you.

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hasten to say see HASTEN

have anything/something (etc.) to say about **1** : to have an opinion to express about (something) ▪ I asked what she thought about the movie, but she didn't *have anything to say about* it. **2** : to have the ability to influence (something) ▪ "I'm going to the party." "Not if I *have anything/something to say about it*." [=not if I can stop you]

have something/nothing/much (etc.) to say for yourself : to be able or unable to say something that explains what you are doing, have done, etc. ▪ I asked him about school, but he didn't *have much to say for himself*. ▪ Your teacher says you were caught cheating. What do you *have to say for yourself*?

having said that *or* ***that said*** : despite what I just said ▪ Their work has been fairly good. *Having said that*, I still think there's a lot of room for improvement. ▪ Much of the book was very dull. *That said*, I have to admit that the ending was extremely clever.

I dare say see [1]DARE

if I may say so *also* ***if I might say so*** — used to express criticism or disagreement in a polite way ▪ The whole affair—*if I may say so*—was a waste of time.

if I say so myself — used when you are saying something that praises your own work, skill, etc. ▪ I did a fine job painting the room, *if I say so myself*. ▪ I'm a pretty good golfer, *if I say so myself*.

I hear what you're saying see HEAR

I'll say *informal* — used to indicate that you completely agree with something just said ▪ "Isn't it hot today!" "*I'll say* (it is). It's unbearable!"

I say *Brit, old-fashioned* **1** — used to express surprise, shock, etc. ▪ *I say*! Isn't that your friend over there? ▪ *I say*! That's a wonderful idea. **2** — used to attract the attention of someone ▪ *I say* (there). Can you help me?

needless to say see NEEDLESS

never say die see [1]DIE

never say never see NEVER

not to say — used to introduce a more forceful or critical way of describing someone or something ▪ His manner was discourteous, *not to say* offensive. ▪ He was impolite, *not to say* downright rude!

say cheese see CHEESE

say no : to say that you will not accept or agree to something ▪ We requested more time, but she *said no*. [=she refused to allow us to have more time] — often + *to* ▪ She *said no to* our request. ▪ I never *say no to* dessert.

say something/little/a lot (etc.) for : to show that (someone or something) does or does not deserve to be praised, admired, etc. ▪ It *says a lot for* her that she stayed in the game even though she was injured. ▪ The students' low test scores don't *say much for* the education they're receiving. [=the low test scores show/suggest that the students are not getting a good education]

say the word see [1]WORD

say what *US, informal* — used to express surprise at what someone has just said ▪ "I'm moving out." "*Say what*?"

say yes : to say that you accept or agree to something — often + *to* ▪ They *said yes to* our plan.

say your piece see [1]PIECE

suffice (it) to say see SUFFICE

that is to say see [1]THAT

that said see HAVING SAID THAT (above)

that's not saying much — used to indicate that a fact, achievement, etc., is not unusual or impressive ▪ He is a better golfer than me, but *that's not saying much* (because I'm not a good golfer).

there is something/a lot/much (etc.) to be said for — used to indicate that something has advantages which deserve to be considered when you are thinking about what to do ▪ *There is something to be said for* small weddings. ▪ It is not necessary, but *there is something to be said for* traveling abroad to learn a language.

to say nothing of — used when referring to another thing that relates to what you have just said ▪ We need more time, *to say nothing of* [=*not to mention*] money. [=we also need more money] ▪ The restaurant makes its own delicious bread, *to say nothing of* a great spaghetti sauce.

to say the least see [2]LEAST

when all is said and done see [3]ALL

you can say that again *informal* — used to indicate that you completely agree with something just said ▪ "She's in a bad mood." "*You can say that again*." [=she certainly is]

you don't say — used to express surprise ▪ "She ran off with another man." "*You don't say*!" — often used ironically to show that you are not at all surprised by something ▪ "They lost again." "*You don't say*. What's that, eight in a row?"

you might say — used to suggest a possible way of describing or thinking about something ▪ The experience was, *you might say*, a glimpse into the future.

you said it *informal* — used to indicate that you completely agree with something just said ▪ "That was a pretty selfish thing for him to do." "*You said it*." ▪ "Let's grab something to eat." "*You said it*. I'm starving."

[2]say *noun*

1 [*singular*] : an opportunity to express your opinion ▪ Everybody ***had a say*** at the meeting. ▪ We won't make a decision until all members have *had their say*.

2 : the power to decide or help decide something [*singular*] The judge will have the ***final say*** on/over the divorce settlement. — usually + *in* ▪ The students want a greater *say in* decisions that affect their education. [*noncount*] He had no/some/little *say in* the matter.

[3]say *interj, chiefly US, informal*

1 — used to express surprise, shock, etc. ▪ *Say*, isn't that your friend over there? ▪ *Say*, that's a wonderful idea.

2 — used to attract the attention of someone ▪ *Say* there. Can you help me? ▪ *Say*, do you want to see a movie tonight?

say•ing /'sejɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : an old and well-known phrase that expresses an idea that most people believe is true ▪ "Two minds are better than one," as the (old) *saying* goes.

say–so /'seɪˌsoʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal*

1 : a statement that is not supported by any proof ▪ He said he did the work himself, but we have only his *say-so* that that's what actually happened.

2 : permission that is given by a person who has authority ▪ She left the hospital on the *say-so* of her doctor. ▪ Nothing was done without his *say-so*.

3 : the power to decide something ▪ She has the ultimate *say-so* on/over what will be taught.

S–bend /'ɛsˌbɛnd/ *noun, pl* **-bends** [*count*] *Brit* : a bend in a road or pipe in the shape of the letter S

SC *abbr* **1** South Carolina **2** supreme court

scab /'skæb/ *noun, pl* **scabs** [*count*]

1 : a hard covering of dried blood that forms over a wound to cover and protect it as it heals

2 *informal* + *disapproving* : a worker who does not join a strike or who takes the place of another worker who is on strike

scab•bard /'skæbəd/ *noun, pl* **-bards** [*count*] : a protective case for a sword that covers the blade

sca•bies /'skeɪbiz/ *noun* [*plural*] : a disease that is caused by small insects and that causes itching and red spots on the skin

sca•brous /'skæbrəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *technical* : having a rough surface ▪ *scabrous* skin/leaves

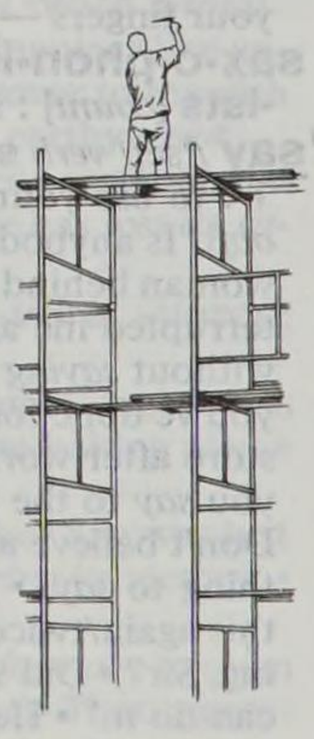
2 *formal* : referring to sex in a rude or shocking way ▪ a movie with *scabrous* humor

scads /'skædz/ *noun* [*plural*] *informal* : a large amount of something — usually + *of* ▪ We have *scads* [=*lots*] *of* time left. ▪ *scads of* money

scaf•fold /'skæfəld/ *noun, pl* **-folds** [*count*]

1 : a temporary or movable platform or structure on which a person stands or sits while working high above the floor or ground

2 : a platform or structure on which criminals are killed by being hanged or beheaded ▪ The condemned man was led to the *scaffold*.



scaffold

scaf•fold•ing /'skæfəldɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the metal poles and wooden boards that are used to build or support a scaffold (sense 1)

scal•able /'skeɪləbəl/ *adj, technical* : easy to make larger, more powerful, etc. ▪ a *scalable* computer network

– **scal•abil•i•ty** /ˌskeɪlə'bɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

scal•a•wag (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **scal•ly•wag** /'skælɪˌwæg/ *noun, pl* **-wags** [*count*] *informal* + *somewhat old-fashioned* : a usually young person who causes trouble : RASCAL ▪ an amusing little *scalawag*

[1]scald /'skɑ:ld/ *verb* **scalds**; **scald•ed**; **scald•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to burn (someone or something) with hot liquid or steam ▪ The steam *scalded* his skin. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Tears *scalded* her face.
2 a : to put (something) in hot liquid or steam for a brief time ▪ *Scald* the tomatoes in boiling water so that you can peel them more easily. **b** : to heat (a liquid) until it is very hot but not boiling ▪ *scald* milk

[2]scald *noun, pl* **scalds** [*count*] : a burn left on the skin that is caused by hot liquid or steam

scald•ing /ˈskɑːldɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : very hot ▪ The men worked in the *scalding* sun. ▪ *scalding* hot water ▪ a *scalding* bowl of soup
2 : very critical : very harsh or severe ▪ a *scalding* [=*scathing*] review of the book

[1]scale /ˈskeɪl/ *noun, pl* **scales** : a device that is used for weighing people or things [*count*] (*US*) a bathroom *scale* [*plural*] (*Brit*) He stepped onto the bathroom *scales*. — see picture at BATHROOM
tip the scales see [1]TIP
– compare [2]SCALE, [4]SCALE

[2]scale *noun, pl* **scales** [*count*] : one of many small thin plates that cover the bodies of some animals (such as fish or snakes) — compare [1]SCALE, [4]SCALE

[3]scale *verb* **scales**; **scaled**; **scal•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove the scales from (a fish) ▪ You should *scale*, bone, and clean the fish before you cook it. — compare [5]SCALE

[4]scale *noun, pl* **scales**
1 [*count*] : a series of musical notes that go up or down in pitch ▪ the C-minor *scale* ▪ a major *scale*
2 [*count*] : a line on a map or chart that shows a specific unit of measure (such as an inch) used to represent a larger unit (such as a mile) : the relationship between the distances on a map and the actual distances ▪ The map uses a *scale* of one centimeter for every 10 kilometers.
3 [*count*] : a range of numbers that is used to show the size, strength, or quality of something — usually singular ▪ ***On a scale of*** 1 to 10, I give the movie a 9. [=the movie was extremely good] ▪ *On a scale of* 1 to 5—1 being mild pain and 5 being extreme pain—tell me how much pain you are in. — see also RICHTER SCALE
4 [*count*] : a range of levels of something from lowest to highest ▪ He is at the top of the pay *scale* for his position. ▪ Primates are high up on the evolutionary *scale*. — see also SLIDING SCALE
5 [*noncount*] — used to describe a model, drawing, etc., in which all of the parts of something relate to each other in the same way that they do in the larger form ▪ The model of the new city hall is ***to scale***. [=the model shows exactly how the parts will relate to each other when it is built] ▪ The diagram was not drawn *to scale*. ▪ a ***scale model*** of a car
6 [*singular*] : the size or level of something especially in comparison to something else ▪ The company does things on a larger *scale* than most others. ▪ The mayor surveyed the full *scale* [=*extent*] of the damage. ▪ The war could impact the economy ***on a global scale***. [=could impact the economy of the entire world] ▪ They exposed fraud ***on a grand scale***. — see also FULL-SCALE, LARGE-SCALE, SMALL-SCALE
7 [*noncount*] *technical* : a hard substance that is formed in pipes or containers holding water
8 [*noncount*] *Brit* : a hard substance that forms on teeth : TARTAR ▪ buildup of plaque and *scale* on the teeth
– compare [1]SCALE, [2]SCALE

[5]scale *verb* **scales**; **scaled**; **scaling** [+ *obj*] : to climb to the top of (something) ▪ Hikers *scaled* the mountain. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She ***scaled the heights of*** the publishing industry. [=she rose to a very high position in the publishing industry]
scale back/down [*phrasal verb*] ***scale back/down (something)*** *or* ***scale (something) back/down*** : to decrease the size, amount, or extent of (something) ▪ The committee *scaled down* the budget. ▪ The company has *scaled back* production. ▪ We *scaled back* our original plans.
scale up [*phrasal verb*] ***scale up (something)*** *or* ***scale (something) up*** : to increase the size, amount, or extent of (something) ▪ The company hopes to *scale up* production soon.
– compare [3]SCALE

scal•lion /ˈskæljən/ *noun, pl* **-lions** [*count*] *US* : GREEN ONION

scal•lop /ˈskɑːləp, ˈskæləp/ *noun, pl* **-lops** [*count*]
1 : a type of shellfish that has a flat, round shell with two parts and that is often eaten as food — see color picture on page C8
2 : one of a series of similar curves that form a decorative edge on something

scal•loped /ˈskɑːləpt, ˈskæləpt/ *adj*
1 : baked in a sauce usually with bread crumbs on top ▪ *scalloped* potatoes
2 : having a series of similar, decorative curves along the edge ▪ a *scalloped* lace collar ▪ Her skirt had a *scalloped* hem.

scallywag *chiefly Brit spelling of* SCALAWAG

[1]scalp /ˈskælp/ *noun, pl* **scalps** [*count*]
1 : the skin on the top of your head where hair grows
2 : hair and skin that is cut or torn from the head of an enemy as a sign of victory — often used figuratively ▪ His boss ***wants his scalp***. [=wants to fire him] ▪ Parents of some students are ***(going) after the principal's scalp***.

[2]scalp *verb* **scalps**; **scalped**; **scalp•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to remove the hair and skin from the head of (an enemy) as a sign of victory ▪ Some members of the tribe were *scalped* by the attacking warriors.
2 *US* : to buy tickets for an event and resell them at a much higher price ▪ People were *scalping* [=(*Brit*) *touting*] tickets outside the stadium.
– **scalp•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* ▪ ticket *scalpers* [=(*Brit*) *ticket touts*]

scal•pel /ˈskælpəl/ *noun, pl* **-pels** [*count*] : a small knife with a thin, sharp blade that is used in surgery

scaly /ˈskeɪli/ *adj* **scal•i•er**; **-i•est** [*also more ~; most ~*] : covered with scales or flakes ▪ a *scaly* crocodile ▪ His skin was dry and *scaly*.

[1]scam /ˈskæm/ *noun, pl* **scams** [*count*] : a dishonest way to make money by deceiving people ▪ She was the victim of an insurance *scam*. ▪ a sophisticated credit card *scam* ▪ a *scam* artist

[2]scam /ˈskæm/ *verb* **scams**; **scammed**; **scam•ming** [+ *obj*]
1 : to deceive and take money from (someone) ▪ The company *scammed* hundreds of people out of their life savings. ▪ I could tell they were *scamming* you and charging too much.
2 : to get (something, such as money) by deceiving someone ▪ They *scammed* a lot of money from unwary customers.
– **scam•mer** *noun, pl* **-mers** [*count*]

scamp /ˈskæmp/ *noun, pl* **scamps** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a child who causes trouble usually in a playful way : RASCAL ▪ a mischievous little *scamp*

scam•per /ˈskæmpɚ/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **-pers**; **-pered**; **-per•ing** [*no obj*] : to run or move quickly and often playfully ▪ The kids were *scampering* around the yard. ▪ A mouse *scampered* across the floor.

scam•pi /ˈskæmpi/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *US* : a dish of large shrimp prepared with a garlic-flavored sauce ▪ shrimp *scampi*
2 *Brit* : large shrimp that are often breaded and fried ▪ *scampi* and chips

scam•ster /ˈskæmstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sters** [*count*] *informal* : a person who deceives people to get their money : a person who scams people ▪ con artists, swindlers, and *scamsters*

[1]scan /ˈskæn/ *verb* **scans**; **scanned**; **scan•ning**
1 [+ *obj*] : to look at (something) carefully usually in order to find someone or something ▪ He *scanned* the field with binoculars. ▪ He *scanned* the audience looking for his parents. ▪ She *scanned* his face for any clue to what he was thinking. ▪ The program is *scanning* [=*searching*] the computer's files.
2 : to look over or read (something) quickly [+ *obj*] She quickly *scanned* the pages of the newspaper. [*no obj*] She ***scanned through*** the list to find her name.
3 [+ *obj*] : to look at the inside of (something) by using a special machine ▪ Their bags were *scanned* at the airport. ▪ This machine *scans* a patient's brain.
4 : to use a special machine to read or copy (something, such as a photograph or a page of text) into a computer [+ *obj*] She *scanned* her photos into her computer. ▪ *scan* in the number ▪ The cashier *scanned* the bar code on the box. [*no obj*] The bar code won't *scan*. [=the machine is unable to read the bar code]
5 [*no obj*] *technical, of a poem* : to have a correct or regular rhythm ▪ These lines do not *scan*.

[2]scan *noun, pl* **scans** [*count*]
1 : the act or process of scanning something: such as **a** : the act of looking at something carefully or quickly — usually singular ▪ a careful *scan* of the area ▪ The investigator did a full *scan* of the computer's files. ▪ She gave the list a quick *scan*. **b** : the act or process of using a special machine to

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see the inside of something (such as a part of the body) ▪ The patient underwent a brain *scan*.
2 : a picture of the inside of something that is made by a special machine ▪ The doctor examined the bone *scans*. — see also CAT SCAN

scan•dal /'skændl/ *noun, pl* **-dals**
1 : an occurrence in which people are shocked and upset because of behavior that is morally or legally wrong [*count*] There was a major *scandal* involving the mayor's ties with the Mob. ▪ Government officials were caught in an embezzlement *scandal*. ▪ Her behavior caused a *scandal* at school. ▪ a drug/sex *scandal* [*noncount*] His actions brought *scandal* on the team. [=his actions disgraced the team] ▪ There was never a hint/trace of *scandal* during her time in office.
2 [*noncount*] **:** talk about the shocking or immoral things that people have done or are believed to have done ▪ The gossip magazine is filled with rumors and *scandal*.
3 [*singular*] **:** something that is shocking, upsetting, or unacceptable ▪ The high price of gas these days is a *scandal*. ▪ It's a *scandal* that this city doesn't have a movie theater.

scan•dal•ize *also Brit* **scan•dal•ise** /'skændə,laɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es; -ized; -iz•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to shock or offend (someone) by doing something immoral or illegal ▪ She was *scandalized* by her son's behavior.

scan•dal•ous /'skændələs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : shocking or offensive ▪ *scandalous* behavior ▪ Sex was a *scandalous* subject back then. ▪ The magazine published *scandalous* pictures of the movie star. ▪ The high price of gas these days is *scandalous*.
2 : involving immoral or shocking things that a person has done or is believed to have done ▪ *scandalous* allegations ▪ She was spreading *scandalous* rumors about him.
– **scan•dal•ous•ly** *adv* ▪ *scandalously* high prices

Scan•di•na•vian /,skændə'neɪvijən/ *noun, pl* **-vians** [*count*] **:** a person born, raised, or living in the countries of Scandinavia (Sweden, Norway, and Denmark)
– **Scandinavian** *adj* ▪ *Scandinavian* furniture

scan•ner /'skænɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*] **:** a device that scans things: such as **a :** a device that reads or copies information or images into a computer ▪ a price *scanner* at a supermarket ▪ a photo *scanner* **b :** a device that is used to see inside something ▪ a luggage *scanner* **c :** a radio receiver that searches for a signal ▪ a police *scanner* [=a device that is used for listening to the police as they talk to each other over the radio]

scant /'skænt/ *adj* **:** very small in size or amount ▪ Food was in *scant* supply. ▪ She paid *scant* attention to the facts. ▪ Police found *scant* evidence of fraud.

scanty /'skænti/ *adj* **-i•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] **:** very small in size or amount ▪ The cheerleaders wore *scanty* outfits. ▪ *scanty* data ***synonyms*** see MEAGER
– **scant•i•ly** /'skæntəli/ *adv* ▪ *scantily* dressed/clad dancers [=dancers wearing very little clothing]

scape•goat /'skeɪp,goʊt/ *noun, pl* **-goats** [*count*] **:** a person who is unfairly blamed for something that others have done ▪ The CEO was ***made the scapegoat*** for the company's failures.
– **scapegoat** *verb* **-goats; -goat•ed; -goat•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ He was *scapegoated* for the company's failures. ▪ He's a victim of *scapegoating*.

scap•u•la /'skæpjələ/ *noun, pl* **-lae** /-,li:/ *or* **-las** [*count*] *medical* **:** SHOULDER BLADE

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[1]scar /'skɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **scars** [*count*]
1 : a mark that is left on your skin after a wound heals ▪ The operation left a *scar* on his stomach. ▪ the soldier's battle *scars* ▪ *scar* tissue
2 : a mark on something showing where it has been damaged ▪ The table had several *scars* on its top.
3 : a feeling of great emotional pain or sadness that is caused by a bad experience and that lasts for a long time ▪ The divorce left her with deep emotional *scars*.

[2]scar *verb* **scars; scarred; scar•ring** [+ *obj*]
1 : to mark (something) with a scar ▪ His arm was badly *scarred* after the accident.
2 : to cause (someone) to feel great emotional pain or sadness because of a bad experience ▪ The tragedy left her emotionally *scarred*. ▪ Divorce can *scar* a child for life. = Divorce can leave a child ***scarred for life***.
3 : to make marks on (something) that show damage or wear ▪ Your shoes are *scarring* the floor. ▪ The fence was *scarred* by rust.

scar•ab /'skerəb/ *noun, pl* **-abs** [*count*] **:** a large beetle with a black shell ✧ In ancient Egypt the scarab was a symbol of good luck and eternal life.

[1]scarce /'skeɚs/ *adj* **scarc•er; scarc•est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] **:** very small in amount or number **:** not plentiful ▪ Food was getting *scarce* during the drought. ▪ *scarce* resources
make yourself scarce *informal* **:** to leave so that you will not be seen in a certain place ▪ You'd better *make yourself scarce* before my parents get home.
– **scarce•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The *scarceness* [=*scarcity*] of the metal made it valuable.

[2]scarce *adv, literary* **:** almost not at all **:** scarcely or hardly ▪ I could *scarce* believe what I was hearing.

scarce•ly /'skeɚsli/ *adv*
1 : almost not at all **:** HARDLY ▪ He could *scarcely* control his joy. ▪ *Scarcely* a day goes by when they don't see or talk to each other.
2 : by only a small amount of time, space, etc. **:** BARELY ▪ I had *scarcely* [=only just] closed the door when the doorbell rang again. ▪ The truck *scarcely* [=*just*] made it underneath the low bridge. ▪ He had *scarcely* enough money.
3 : certainly not ▪ This is *scarcely* a time to laugh. ▪ I could *scarcely* tell them they were wrong.
scarcely ever see EVER

scar•ci•ty /'skeɚsəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties : a** very small supply **:** the state of being scarce [*count*] — usually singular ▪ There was a *scarcity* of food. [=there was very little food; there was not enough food] ▪ wartime *scarcities* [*noncount*] *Scarcity* of food forced the herds to move.

[1]scare /'skeɚ/ *verb* **scares; scared; scar•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **:** to cause (someone) to become afraid **:** FRIGHTEN ▪ You *scared* me. I didn't see you there. ▪ Stop that, you're *scaring* the children. ▪ The loud noise *scared* them. = They were *scared* by the loud noise. ▪ You nearly ***scared me to death***. [=you scared me very much]
2 [*no obj*] **:** to become afraid ▪ I don't ***scare easily***.
scare away/off [*phrasal verb*] ***scare (someone or something) away/off*** *or* ***scare away/off (someone or something)*** **:** to cause (someone or something) to go away and stay away because of fear or because of possible trouble, difficulty, etc. ▪ The dog *scared* the prowler *away*. ▪ The noise *scared off* the birds. ▪ Tourists have been *scared off* by the recent violence in the city. [=tourists have not visited the city because of the recent violence there] ▪ She finally found a man who's not *scared away* by the fact that she is a single mom raising two children.
scare into [*phrasal verb*] ***scare (someone) into (something)*** **:** to cause (someone) to do (something) because of fear ▪ The police *scared* him *into* confessing his crime. ▪ They tried to *scare* us *into* buying more insurance.
scare up [*phrasal verb*] ***scare (someone or something) up*** *or* ***scare up (someone or something)*** *US, informal* **:** to find or get (someone or something) with some difficulty ▪ We managed to *scare up* [=*scrape up*] the money. ▪ Let's try to *scare up* some people to play football.

[2]scare *noun, pl* **scares** [*count*]
1 : a sudden feeling of fear ▪ You gave me (quite) a *scare*. [=you scared me] ▪ She had a pregnancy *scare*. [=she was afraid she was pregnant]
2 : a situation in which a lot of people become afraid because of some threat, danger, etc. ▪ There have been *scares* about the water supply being contaminated. ▪ a ***bomb scare*** [=a situation in which people are afraid because someone says that a bomb is going to explode]
– **scare** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a ***scare story*** about a possible epidemic ▪ They used ***scare tactics*** to teach their children not to smoke cigarettes.

scare•crow /'skeɚ,kroʊ/ *noun, pl* **-crows** [*count*] **:** an object that looks like a person and that is placed in a field to scare birds away from crops

scared *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] **:** afraid of something **:** nervous or frightened ▪ The rabbit looked *scared*. ▪ I am really *scared* about speaking in front of the class. ▪ He was *scared* that his mother wouldn't let him go to the movies with his friends. ▪ She's *scared* to walk alone at night. ▪ The children ***got scared*** [=became frightened] and ran away. — often + *of* ▪ He was *scared of* asking her out. ▪ She's *scared of* snakes. ▪ I want to look in the file, but I'm *scared of* what I'll find. ▪ She was ***scared to death of*** flying. = She was ***scared stiff of*** flying. [=she was very scared of flying]

scaredy–cat /'skeɚdi,kæt/ *noun, pl* **-cats** [*count*] *informal* **:** someone who is very afraid of something — used mainly by children or when speaking to children ▪ Don't be a

scaredy-cat. The frog won't hurt you.

scare•mon•ger•ing /ˈskeəˌmɑːŋgərɪŋ, ˈskeəˌmʌŋgərɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal + disapproving* : the act or practice of saying things to make people afraid ▪ They used *scaremongering* about the economy to influence voters.

– **scare•mon•ger** /ˈskeəˌmɑːŋgə, ˈskeəˌmʌŋgə/ *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*] ▪ *scaremongers* warning the public of global catastrophe

[1]scarf /ˈskɑəf/ *noun, pl* **scarves** /ˈskɑəvz/ *or* **scarfs** [*count*] : a long piece of cloth that is worn on your shoulders, around your neck, or over your head — see color picture on page C15

[2]scarf *verb* **scarfs; scarfed; scarf•ing** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to eat (something) quickly ▪ I *scarfed* [=(*chiefly Brit*) *scoffed*] a big breakfast. — often + *down* ▪ He *scarfed down* his lunch and went right back outside.

scarf up [*phrasal verb*] ***scarf (something) up*** *or* ***scarf up (something)*** *US, informal* : to take (something) in a quick and eager way ▪ People *scarfed up* [=*snapped up*] the free gifts.

scar•let /ˈskɑələt/ *noun, pl* **-lets** [*count, noncount*] : a bright red color — see color picture on page C3

– **scarlet** *adj* ▪ a bird with *scarlet* feathers

scarlet fever *noun* [*noncount*] : a very serious disease that causes a fever, sore throat, and a red rash

scary /ˈskeri/ *adj* **scar•i•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] : causing fear ▪ a *scary* [=*frightening*] movie ▪ The stranger is *scary* looking. = He looks *scary*. = He's *scary* looking.

– **scar•i•ly** /ˈskerəli/ *adv* ▪ a *scarily* accurate prediction ▪ *Scarily*, the story is true. – **scar•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]scat /ˈskæt/ *interj* — used to scare away an animal

[2]scat *noun* [*noncount*] : jazz singing with sounds or words that mean nothing

scath•ing /ˈskeɪðɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *somewhat formal* : very harsh or severe ▪ a *scathing* review of the book ▪ a *scathing* look/comment

– **scath•ing•ly** *adv*

scat•o•log•i•cal /ˌskætəˈlɑːʤɪkəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : relating to things that are disgusting or offensive ▪ *scatological* humor

[1]scat•ter /ˈskætɚ/ *verb* **-ters; -tered; -ter•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (things or people) to separate and go in different directions ▪ The wind *scattered* the pile of leaves. **b** [*no obj*] : to separate and go in different directions ▪ The crowd *scattered* [=*dispersed*] when the police arrived. ▪ The marbles *scattered* across the floor.

2 [+ *obj*] : to place or leave (things) in different places ▪ He *scattered* [=*spread*] the grass seed over the soil. ▪ She *scattered* the books on the table. ▪ He *scatters* his toys all around the house.

[2]scatter *noun* [*singular*] : a small number or group of things placed or found apart from each other — usually + *of* ▪ There was a *scatter of* empty cans and bottles on the lawn. ▪ a *scatter of* houses along the river

scat•ter•brain /ˈskætɚˌbreɪn/ *noun, pl* **-brains** [*count*] *informal* : a person who is unable to concentrate or think clearly ▪ Where did I put my keys? I'm such a *scatterbrain* today.

– **scat•ter•brained** /ˈskætɚˌbreɪnd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ *scatterbrained* people ▪ *scatterbrained* ideas

scatter cushion *noun, pl ~* **-ions** [*count*] *Brit* : THROW PILLOW

scattered *adj* : placed or found far apart ▪ The toys were *scattered* all over the house. ▪ Clothes were *scattered* about the room. ▪ The weather forecast calls for *scattered* [=*occasional*] showers all day. ▪ Houses are *scattered* along the river. ▪ My family is *scattered* throughout the country.

scat•ter•ing /ˈskætərɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : a small number or group of things or people that are seen or found at different places or times — usually + *of* ▪ The museum had a *scattering of* visitors last week. ▪ There were *scatterings of* geese in the park.

scatter rug *noun, pl ~* **rugs** [*count*] : THROW RUG

scat•ty /ˈskæti/ *adj* **scat•ti•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *Brit, informal* : not having or showing the ability to think clearly ▪ My *scatty* [=*scatterbrained*] mother is always losing her keys.

scav•enge /ˈskævənʤ/ *verb* **-eng•es; -enged; -eng•ing**

1 *of an animal* : to search for food to eat [*no obj*] Rats *scavenged* in the trash. — often + *for* ▪ The bears *scavenged for* food in the woods. [+ *obj*] The bears *scavenged* the woods *for* food.

2 : to search through waste, junk, etc., for something that can be saved or used [*no obj*] — often + *for* ▪ They *scavenged for* antiques at the flea market. [+ *obj*] He *scavenged* the town dump *for* automobile parts.

– **scav•en•ger** /ˈskævənʤɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*]

scavenger hunt *noun, pl ~* **hunts** [*count*] : a game in which players try to find specified items within a particular period of time

sce•nar•io /səˈnerijoʊ, *Brit* səˈnɑːriəʊ/ *noun, pl* **-ios** [*count*]

1 : a description of what could possibly happen ▪ A possible *scenario* would be that we move to the city. ▪ The most likely *scenario* is that he goes back to school in the fall. ▪ The ***best-case scenario*** would be for us to finish the work by tomorrow. ▪ In the ***worst-case scenario***, we would have to start the project all over again.

2 *formal* : a written description of a play, movie, opera, etc.

scene /ˈsiːn/ *noun, pl* **scenes**

1 [*count*] **a** : a division of an act in a play during which the action takes place in a single place without a break in time ▪ The play's opening *scene* takes place in the courtyard. ▪ Act I, *Scene* 3 **b** : a part of a play, movie, story, etc., in which a particular action or activity occurs ▪ a famous love/fight/chase *scene* ▪ The actor was nervous about his big *scene*.

2 [*count*] : a view or sight that looks like a picture ▪ a winter *scene* ▪ *scenes* [=*images*] of poverty

3 [*count*] : the place of an event or action ▪ This is the *scene* [=*location*] where the movie was filmed. ▪ a crime *scene* ▪ Police are now ***at/on the scene***. — often + *of* ▪ the *scene of* the crime/attack/accident ▪ The *scene* [=*setting*] *of* the story is New York City in the 1920s.

4 [*count*] : an occurrence in which someone becomes angry and loud in a noticeable way in a public place — usually singular ▪ There was quite an ugly/angry *scene* at the restaurant. ▪ The little boy ***made a scene*** because his mother wouldn't buy him candy.

5 [*noncount*] **a** : a particular area of activity that involves many people ▪ The music *scene* is changing in the city. ▪ The nightclub *scene* isn't for me. = (*informal*) Nightclubs are ***not my scene***. [=I do not like to go to nightclubs] ▪ He is new to the political *scene*. [=*arena*] ▪ After years of making movies, she suddenly vanished from the *scene*. **b** : someone's usual area of activity or surroundings : the place where someone lives, works, etc. — used in the phrase ***change of scene*** ▪ I'm sick of the cold weather. I need a *change of scene*. [=I need to go somewhere else]

6 [*count*] : something that happens : an event or occurrence ▪ The book describes *scenes* [=*episodes*] from his childhood. — often + *of* ▪ *scenes of* violence ▪ a *scene of* celebration

behind the scenes : in or into a private or secret place where things are done without being seen or known by the public ▪ The workers *behind the scenes* have made the event a success. ▪ They made the deal *behind the scenes*. ▪ We were taken *behind the scenes* to see the making of the movie. — see also BEHIND-THE-SCENES

enter the scene see ENTER

on the scene — used to say that someone or something is or has become an important part of a situation, activity, etc. ▪ She was lonely for a while, but now there's a new boyfriend *on the scene*. [=she has a new boyfriend] ▪ a popular singer who first ***burst on the scene*** last year ▪ Our lives have changed a lot since computers have ***come/appeared on the scene***. — see also SCENE 3 (above)

set the scene **1** : to give someone information that is needed to understand something ▪ Before I tell the story, let me *set the scene* (for you). **2** : to create the conditions in which something can happen ▪ His comments *set the scene* for an argument.

scen•ery /ˈsiːnəri/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the walls, furniture, trees, etc., that are used on a stage during a play or other performance to show where the action is taking place ▪ She designed the *scenery* for the play. ▪ The *scenery* showed a forest/bedroom.

2 : a view of natural features (such as mountains, hills, valleys, etc.) that is pleasing to look at ▪ beautiful mountain *scenery* ▪ We went for a drive to enjoy the *scenery*.

3 : the things that can be seen where a person lives, works, etc. — used in the phrase ***change of scenery*** ▪ He was looking for a new job because he felt he needed a *change of scenery*. [=he needed to be in a different place] ▪ We decided to go to a new restaurant for a *change of scenery*.

S

sce•nic /'si:nɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having, providing, or relating to a pleasing or beautiful view of natural scenery (such as mountains, hills, valleys, etc.) ▪ the *scenic* beauty of the countryside ▪ Our hotel had a *scenic* view of the lake. ▪ a *scenic* route/drive ▪ The country around here is very *scenic*.

[1]scent /'sɛnt/ *noun, pl* **scents**

1 [*count*] **a** : a pleasant smell that is produced by something ▪ The flower has a wonderful *scent*. ▪ the *scent* of flowers/perfume **b** : a smell that is left by an animal or person and that can be sensed and followed by some animals (such as dogs) ▪ The dogs followed the fox's *scent*. ▪ The prisoner escaped because the dogs lost his *scent*. — often used figuratively ▪ The reporter was ***on the scent of*** a big story. [=was following/investigating a big story] ▪ Scientists are *on the scent of* a cure. [=are looking for and are close to finding a cure] ▪ He was being investigated by federal officials but he somehow managed to ***put them off the/his scent***

2 [*singular*] **a** : a slight indication of something that is going to happen or that might happen ▪ There was a *scent* [=*hint*] of trouble in the air. [=trouble was developing] **b** : a quality that suggests or shows the existence of something ▪ Her story has a/the *scent* of truth. [=her story seems to be true]

3 [*count, noncount*] : a liquid that is put on your body to give it a pleasant odor : PERFUME ▪ a bottle of *scent*

[2]scent *verb* **scents; scent•ed; scent•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to become aware of (something) by smell ▪ The dog *scented* a rabbit. — often used figuratively ▪ We *scented* [=*sensed, detected*] trouble and left. ▪ The reporter *scented* a big story.

2 : to give (something) a pleasing smell ▪ Roses *scented* [=*perfumed*] the air. ▪ She *scented* her handkerchief. ▪ She *scented* the air with perfume. — often used as *(be) scented* ▪ The room *was scented* by the flowers. ▪ The air *was scented* with/by her perfume.

scent•ed /'sɛntəd/ *adj* : having a pleasing smell ▪ sweetly *scented* flowers/oils ▪ The soap is *scented*. ▪ a pine-*scented* candle

scep•ter (*US*) *or Brit* **scep•tre** /'sɛptɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : a long decorated stick that is carried by a king or queen

sceptic, sceptical, scepticism *chiefly Brit spellings of* SKEPTIC, SKEPTICAL, SKEPTICISM

scha•den•freu•de /'ʃɑ:dn̩ˌfroɪdə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : a feeling of enjoyment that comes from seeing or hearing about the troubles of other people

[1]sched•ule /'skɛˌʤu:l, *Brit* 'ʃɛˌdju:l/ *noun, pl* **-ules**

1 : a plan of things that will be done and the times when they will be done [*count*] I have a hectic/busy/full *schedule* this week. ▪ Students are planning their class/course *schedules* for next year. ▪ I have a flexible *schedule* [=I can change the times when I need to do things], so I can meet you at any time. ▪ Sorting the mail is part of her daily *schedule*. ▪ We have a ***tight schedule*** to get this project done. [=we have a small amount of time to finish the project] [*noncount*] The bus arrived ***on schedule*** [=*on time*; arrived at the time it was expected] ▪ So far, everything is *on schedule*. [=everything is happening at the time that was planned] ▪ The builders were ***ahead of schedule*** [=the builders were completing work earlier than planned] ▪ If we get too far ***behind/off schedule*** [=if we do things later than planned] we will not be able to catch up later. ▪ The project is ***going according to schedule*** [=things are happening as planned]

2 [*count*] **a** : a written or printed list of things and the times when they will be done ▪ I lost my class/course *schedule*. **b** *US* : a list of the times when buses, trains, airplanes, etc., leave or arrive ▪ a bus/train/airplane/flight *schedule* [=(*Brit*) *timetable*] **c** : a list of the television or radio programs that are on a particular channel and the times that they begin ▪ a programming *schedule* **d** : a list of prices or rates ▪ the doctor's fee *schedule* ▪ a tax *schedule*

[2]schedule *verb* **-ules; -uled; -ul•ing** [+ *obj*] : to plan (something) at a certain time ▪ We *scheduled* a meeting for next week. ▪ I need to *schedule* a doctor's appointment. — often used as *(be) scheduled* ▪ The release of the movie/album *is scheduled* for next month. ▪ The bus arrived earlier than (it *was*) *scheduled*. ▪ I *am scheduled* to arrive at noon. ▪ The test *is scheduled* to begin in one hour. ▪ The train will be leaving ***as scheduled*** [=*on time*; will be leaving at the planned time]

– scheduled *adj* ▪ a list of the *scheduled* events ▪ The plane's *scheduled* arrival/departure is midnight.

sche•mat•ic /skɪ'mætɪk/ *adj, technical* : showing the main parts of something usually in the form of a simple drawing or diagram ▪ a *schematic* diagram/representation of their business model

[1]scheme /'ski:m/ *noun, pl* **schemes** [*count*]

1 : a clever and often dishonest plan to do or get something ▪ a *scheme* [=*plot*] to seize control of the government ▪ a *scheme* to cheat people out of their money — see also PYRAMID SCHEME

2 *chiefly Brit* : an official plan or program of action ▪ The company has a new *scheme* for insurance coverage. ▪ a *scheme* to improve the economy ▪ a training/pension/marketing *scheme*

3 : the way that something is arranged or organized ▪ the color/decorative *scheme* of a room ▪ a poem's rhyme *scheme*

the scheme of things : the general way that things are organized and relate to each other ▪ Everyone has their role to play in *the (overall) scheme of things*. ▪ Our problems aren't really that important in *the grand scheme of things*. [=aren't really that important when you think about the larger situation]

[2]scheme *verb* **schemes; schemed; schem•ing** [*no obj*] : to make plans to do or get something in a secret and often dishonest way ▪ He felt that the other men were *scheming* against him. ▪ He was betrayed by a *scheming* friend. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ She *schemed* [=*plotted*] *to take* control of the company from her brother.

– schem•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

scher•zo /'skeɚtsoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-zos** [*count*] *formal* : a lively, humorous piece of music that is played quickly

schism /'sɪzəm, 'skɪzəm/ *noun, pl* **schisms** *formal* : a division among the members of a group that occurs because they disagree on something [*count*] a *schism* between leading members of the party ▪ The controversy created a *schism* [=*rift*] in the group. [*noncount*] The church was divided by *schism*.

– schis•mat•ic /ˌsɪz'mætɪk, ˌskɪz'mætɪk/ *adj* ▪ *schismatic* groups

schist /'ʃɪst/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a type of rock that can be broken into thin, flat pieces

schiz•oid /'skɪtˌsoɪd/ *adj*

1 *technical* : relating to or having schizophrenia ▪ *schizoid* symptoms/patients

2 : changing frequently between opposite states ▪ With his *schizoid* nature, you never know whether he will disagree or agree with you. ▪ The biography shows how *schizoid* [=*changeable, varied*] his career has been.

schizo•phre•nia /ˌskɪtsə'fri:nijə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a very serious mental illness in which someone cannot think or behave normally and often experiences delusions

[1]schizo•phren•ic /ˌskɪtsə'frɛnɪk/ *adj*

1 *technical* : relating to or having schizophrenia ▪ *schizophrenic* symptoms/patients ▪ She has been diagnosed as *schizophrenic*.

2 : changing frequently between opposite states ▪ He criticized the government's *schizophrenic* foreign policy.

[2]schizophrenic *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] : a person who has schizophrenia

schlep *or* **schlepp** /'ʃlɛp/ *verb* **schleps** *or* **schlepps; schlepped; schlep•ping** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to carry or pull (something) with difficulty : to drag or haul (something) ▪ We *schlepped* our luggage through the airport.

schlock /'ʃlɑ:k/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal + usually disapproving* : things that are of low quality or value ▪ a film director who's known as a master of *schlock*

– schlock *adj* ▪ *schlock* horror movies **– schlocky** /'ʃlɑ:ki/ *adj* **schlock•i•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] ▪ a movie with *schlocky* special effects

schmaltz *also* **schmalz** /'ʃmɑ:lts/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal + disapproving* : music, art, etc., that is very sad or romantic in usually a foolish or exaggerated way ▪ The movie has too much *schmaltz* for me. ▪ orchestral *schmaltz*

– schmaltzy /'ʃmɑ:ltsi/ *adj* **schmaltz•i•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *schmaltzy* love story ▪ The music is very *schmaltzy*.

schmo *or* **schmoe** /'ʃmoʊ/ *noun, pl* **schmoes** [*count*] *US slang* : an ordinary person who is not interesting or unusual in any way ▪ They treated us like a bunch of *schmoes*. ▪ I'm just an ordinary *schmo* trying to make a living.

schmooze *or* **shmooze** /'ʃmu:z/ *verb* **schmooz•es** *or* **shmooz•es; schmoozed** *or* **shmoozed; schmooz•ing** *or* **shmooz•ing** *informal* : to talk with someone in a friendly way often in order to get some advantage for yourself [*no obj*] People will have time to *schmooze* during the cocktail

hour. — often + *with* ▪ She *schmoozed with* the reporters/boss. [+ *obj*] He *schmoozed* his teachers.
– **schmooz•er** /ˈʃmuːzə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

schmuck /ʃmʌk/ *noun, pl* **schmucks** [*count*] *US slang* : a stupid or foolish person : JERK ▪ I can't believe what a *schmuck* that guy is.

schnapps /ʃnæps/ *noun, pl* **schnapps** [*count, noncount*] : a type of strong liquor

schol•ar /ˈskɑːlə/ *noun, pl* **-ars** [*count*]
1 : a person who has studied a subject for a long time and knows a lot about it : an intelligent and well-educated person who knows a particular subject very well ▪ a biblical/classical/literary/Shakespearean *scholar* ▪ She's a renowned *scholar* of African-American history.
2 : someone who has been given a scholarship ▪ a Rhodes *scholar*

schol•ar•ly /ˈskɑːlə·li/ *adj*
1 : concerned with or relating to formal study or research ▪ His writings have been recently given *scholarly* attention. ▪ She has a *scholarly* interest in music. ▪ a *scholarly* study of words and their origins ▪ *scholarly* journals/work/writings
2 [*more ~; most ~*] : having the characteristics of a scholar ▪ a very serious and *scholarly* young man [=a young man who studies serious subjects and who is learning or has learned a lot about those subjects]

schol•ar•ship /ˈskɑːlə·ˌʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships**
1 [*count*] : an amount of money that is given by a school, an organization, etc., to a student to help pay for the student's education ▪ She got/received/won a *scholarship* to Yale University. ▪ The organization is offering five $5,000 *scholarships*. ▪ He is going to college on a football *scholarship*. [=a scholarship offered for his ability to play football] ▪ She is attending college on a ***full scholarship***. [=a scholarship that pays fully for a student's tuition]
2 [*noncount*] : serious formal study or research of a subject ▪ The essay is a work of serious *scholarship*. ▪ standards of academic *scholarship* ▪ The book is about his life and *scholarship*. ▪ biblical/literary *scholarship*

Scholarship level *noun, pl* ~ **levels** [*count*] *Brit* : S LEVEL

scho•las•tic /skəˈlæstɪk/ *adj, always used before a noun* : of or relating to education ▪ *scholastic* achievement/aptitude

[1]school /ˈskuːl/ *noun, pl* **schools**
1 a : a place where children go to learn [*count*] He is going to a different *school* this year. ▪ The town is building a new *school*. [*noncount*] Where do you go to *school*? ▪ He learned to play the flute at/in *school*. ▪ Their daughter will start attending *school* next year. ▪ He left/quit *school* [=he stopped going to school] when he was 16. — often used before another noun ▪ the *school* building/newspaper ▪ *school* lunches/functions/plays/friends ▪ The town has an excellent *school* system. [=the schools in the town are excellent] **b** *US* : a college or university [*count*] He is transferring to a different *school* next semester. [*noncount*] He goes to *school* in New York. ▪ He is attending law/business/medical *school*. ▪ She is away at *school*. **c** [*count*] : a division within a university or college for study and research in a particular area of knowledge — usually singular ▪ She is a student at the law/business/medical *school*. — often + *of* ▪ the *school of* art/engineering **d** [*count*] : a place where people go to learn a particular skill ▪ acting/driving/language *schools*
2 [*noncount*] **a** : the activity or process of learning or teaching in a school ▪ *School* is hard for her. ▪ Their daughter will start *school* next year. ▪ (*US*) Where do you teach *school*? ▪ (*US*) My parents won't let me get a job while I'm ***in school***. = (*Brit*) My parents won't let me get a job while I'm ***at school***. [=while I am a student in a school] ▪ Stay *in school* and get your diploma. ▪ He never did well *in school*. **b** : the period of time during which students are in school ▪ I missed *school* yesterday. ▪ He was late for *school*. [=he was not at the school on time] ▪ Let's meet after *school*. ▪ *School* starts at 8:00 a.m. — often used before another noun ▪ the *school* day/year
3 [*count*] : the students or students and teachers of a school ▪ The whole *school* was at the assembly. ▪ Five *schools* donated money to the homeless shelter.
4 [*count*] : a group of people who share the same opinions, beliefs, or methods ▪ artists from the Impressionist/Romantic *school* — often + *of* ▪ the German *school of* philosophers/philosophy ▪ a new *school of* painters/painting ▪ The two authors come from different *schools of* writing. ▪ There are two main ***schools of thought*** [=ways of thinking] on that topic.
– compare [3]SCHOOL

[2]school *verb* **schools; schooled; school•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : to teach or train (someone or something) to do something ▪ They *schooled* their children at home. — often + *in* ▪ She *schooled* herself *in* patience. — often used as *(be) schooled* ▪ He *is schooled in* five different languages. ▪ The horse *is* well *schooled*. [=*trained*]

[3]school *noun, pl* **schools** [*count*] : a large group of fish or other ocean animals that are swimming together ▪ Fish swim in *schools*. — often + *of* ▪ a *school of* fish/dolphins — compare [1]SCHOOL

school age *noun* [*noncount*] : the age when a child is allowed to go to a school ▪ children of *school age*
– **school–age** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *school-age* children

school•bag /ˈskuːlˌbæg/ *noun, pl* **-bags** [*count*] : a bag for carrying schoolbooks and school supplies

school board *noun, pl* ~ **boards** [*count*] *US* : a group of people who are in charge of local schools — called also (*US*) *school committee*

school•book /ˈskuːlˌbʊk/ *noun, pl* **-books** [*count*] : a book that is used in schools : TEXTBOOK

school•boy /ˈskuːlˌbɔɪ/ *noun, pl* **-boys** [*count*] : a boy who goes to a school
– **schoolboy** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *schoolboy* [=*childish, childlike*] pranks/humor

school bus *noun, pl* ~ **buses** [*count*] : a bus for carrying children to and from a school

school•child /ˈskuːlˌʧajəld/ *noun, pl* **-children** [*count*] : a child who goes to a school

school district *noun, pl* ~ **-tricts** [*count*] *US* : an area or region containing the schools that a school board is in charge of

school•girl /ˈskuːlˌgɚl/ *noun, pl* **-girls** [*count*] : a girl who goes to a school

school•house /ˈskuːlˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-houses** [*count*] : a building that is used as a school

schooling *noun* [*noncount*] : teaching that is done in a school : EDUCATION ▪ public *schooling* ▪ He has had little *schooling*.

school•kid /ˈskuːlˌkɪd/ *noun, pl* **-kids** [*count*] *informal* : a child or teenager who goes to a school

school–leav•er /ˈskuːlˌliːvə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : someone who has left school usually after completing a course of study instead of continuing on to a college or university ▪ *School-leavers* are having trouble finding jobs.

school•marm /ˈskuːlˌmɑɚm/ *also* **school•ma'am** /ˈskuːlˌmæm/ *noun, pl* **-marms** *or* **-ma'ams** [*count*] *US, old-fashioned* : a woman who teaches in a school in a small town or in the country ▪ a New England *schoolmarm*

school•mas•ter /ˈskuːlˌmæstɚ, *Brit* ˈskuːlˌmɑːstə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a man who teaches in a school

school•mate /ˈskuːlˌmeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-mates** [*count*] : someone who goes to or went to the same school as you ▪ my old *schoolmates*

school•mis•tress /ˈskuːlˌmɪstrəs/ *noun, pl* **-tress** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a woman who teaches in a school

school•room /ˈskuːlˌruːm/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] : a room where classes meet in a school : CLASSROOM

school•teach•er /ˈskuːlˌtiːʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who teaches in a school

school•work /ˈskuːlˌwɚk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : work that is done in classes in a school or given to students to be done at home — compare HOMEWORK

school•yard /ˈskuːlˌjɑɚd/ *noun, pl* **-yards** [*count*] : the area next to or surrounding a school where children play

schoo•ner /ˈskuːnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*]
1 : a ship that has usually two masts with the larger mast located toward the center and the shorter mast toward the front
2 : a large, tall glass ▪ (*US*) a *schooner* of beer/ale ▪ (*Brit*) a *schooner* of sherry

schtick *variant spelling of* SHTICK

schwa /ʃwɑː/ *noun, pl* **schwas** [*count*] *technical*
1 : a vowel that has the sound of the first and last vowels of the English word *America*
2 : the symbol ə that is used for the schwa sound

sci•at•ic /saɪˈætɪk/ *adj, medical* : relating to or near the hip ▪ *sciatic* pains

sci•at•i•ca /saɪˈætɪkə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : pain in the lower back, hip, and especially the back of the thigh that is caused by pressure on the sciatic nerve

S

sciatic nerve *noun, pl* ~ **nerves** [*count*] *medical* : a nerve that goes from the lower back down the back of the leg

sci•ence /'sajəns/ *noun, pl* **-enc•es**

1 [*noncount*] : knowledge about or study of the natural world based on facts learned through experiments and observation ▪ modern *science* ▪ the laws of *science* ▪ The program encourages students to pursue a career in *science*. ▪ a list of terms commonly used in *science* ▪ a new branch/field of *science* ▪ advances in ***science and technology*** — often used before another noun ▪ *science* teachers/students/classes ▪ Each student is required to complete two *science* projects.

2 [*count*] : a particular area of scientific study (such as biology, physics, or chemistry) : a particular branch of science ▪ Students are required to take two *sciences*. ▪ students majoring in a *science* — see also COMPUTER SCIENCE, LIFE SCIENCE, NATURAL SCIENCE, PHYSICAL SCIENCE, ROCKET SCIENCE

3 [*count*] : a subject that is formally studied in a college, university, etc. ▪ the *science* of linguistics — see also POLITICAL SCIENCE, SOCIAL SCIENCE

4 [*singular*] : an activity that is done by using methods that are known to produce particular results ▪ Proper pitching is a *science*. ▪ Cooking is both a *science* and an art. ▪ He travels so much that he has packing his clothes ***down to a science***. [=he can pack his clothes very quickly and efficiently because he does it so often]

science fair *noun, pl* ~ **fairs** [*count*] : an event at which science projects created by students are shown and often judged for prizes ▪ She won first place at the *science fair*.

science fiction *noun* [*noncount*] : stories about how people and societies are affected by imaginary scientific developments in the future ▪ Time travel exists only in the realm of *science fiction*. ▪ a *science-fiction* movie/writer

science park *noun, pl* ~ **parks** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : RESEARCH PARK

sci•en•tif•ic /ˌsajən'tɪfɪk/ *adj*

1 : of or relating to science ▪ *scientific* techniques/knowledge/research ▪ the *scientific* community

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : done in an organized way that agrees with the methods and principles of science ▪ *scientific* thinking/reasoning ▪ a *scientific* approach — opposite UNSCIENTIFIC

– **sci•en•tif•i•cal•ly** /ˌsajən'tɪfɪkli/ *adv*

scientific method *noun*

the scientific method *technical* : the process that is used by scientists for testing ideas and theories by using experiments and careful observation

sci•en•tist /'sajəntɪst/ *noun, pl* **-tists** [*count*] : a person who is trained in a science and whose job involves doing scientific research or solving scientific problems ▪ a soil/marine/computer *scientist*

sci–fi /'saɪˌfaɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : SCIENCE FICTION ▪ She enjoys watching *sci-fi*.

– **sci–fi** *adj* ▪ a *sci-fi* novel/story/movie

scim•i•tar /'sɪmɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tars** [*count*] : a sword with a curved blade that was used in the past especially in the Middle East and western Asia

scin•til•la /sɪn'tɪlə/ *noun* [*singular*] : a very small amount *of* something — usually used in negative statements ▪ There's not even a *scintilla of* evidence to support his story.

scin•til•lating /'sɪntəˌleɪtɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very clever, amusing, and interesting ▪ a *scintillating* lecture/discussion

sci•on /'sajən/ *noun, pl* **-ons** [*count*]

1 *formal* : a person who was born into a rich, famous, or important family ▪ He's a *scion* of a powerful family.

2 *botany* : a piece of a plant that is attached to part of another plant

scis•sors /'sɪzɚz/ *noun* [*plural*] : a tool used for cutting paper, cloth, etc., that has two blades joined together in the middle so that the sharp edges slide against each other ▪ He handed her the *scissors*. = He handed her a pair of *scissors*.



scissors

scle•ro•sis /sklə'roʊsəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a disease in which soft parts inside the body (such as arteries or muscles) become hard — see also MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

– **scle•rot•ic** /sklə'rɑ:tɪk/ *adj* ▪ *sclerotic* patients/tissue

[1]scoff /'skɑ:f/ *verb* **scoffs**; **scoffed**; **scoff•ing** : to laugh at and talk about someone or something in a way that shows disapproval and a lack of respect [*no obj*] He *scoffed* when she told him that she planned to become an actress. ▪ He *scoffed* at the idea/notion/suggestion of her becoming an actress. [+ *obj*] "You! An actress?!" he *scoffed*. "You have no more talent than I do!" — compare [2]SCOFF

[2]scoff *verb* **scoffs**; **scoffed**; **scoffing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : to eat (something) quickly ▪ She *scoffed* [=(*US*) *scarfed*] her breakfast. — compare [1]SCOFF

[1]scold /'skoʊld/ *verb* **scolds**; **scold•ed**; **scold•ing** [+ *obj*] : to speak in an angry or critical way to (someone who has done something wrong) ▪ He *scolded* [=*reprimanded*] the children for making a mess. ▪ The article *scolds* [=(more formally) *berates, upbraids*] the United Nations for not doing enough about the situation. ▪ "You should never have done that," she *scolded*.

– **scolding** *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] — usually singular ▪ The children ***got a scolding*** for making a mess. [*noncount*] *Scolding* was not necessary.

[2]scold *noun, pl* **scolds** [*count*] : a person who often criticizes other people in an angry way : someone who scolds other people too often ▪ He can be a bit of a *scold* sometimes.

sconce /'skɑ:ns/ *noun, pl* **sconc•es** [*count*] : an object that is attached to a wall and that holds a candle or an electric light — see picture at LIGHTING

scone /'skoʊn, 'skɑ:n/ *noun, pl* **scones** [*count*] : a small, often sweet bread that sometimes has pieces of dried fruit in it — see picture at BAKING

[1]scoop /'sku:p/ *noun, pl* **scoops**

1 a [*count*] : a kitchen tool like a spoon that has a usually thick handle and a deep bowl for taking something from a container ▪ an ice-cream *scoop* ▪ a flour *scoop* **b** : something that is shaped like a bowl or bucket and used to pick up and move things ▪ a backhoe with a large *scoop* ▪ the *scoop* of a shovel [=the part of a shovel that is like a bowl] **c** : the amount of something that is held in a scoop ▪ a *scoop* [=*scoopful*] of ice cream

2 [*count*] : a news story that is reported before other news reporters know about it ▪ The story turned out to be the political *scoop* of the year.

3 ***the scoop*** *US, informal* : information about something that is currently important or happening or that is interesting to many people ▪ Did you talk to him? What's *the scoop*? [=what did he say?; what is happening?] ▪ She always knows *the scoop*. ▪ Here's *the scoop* on how to clean leather. ▪ I was with them when it happened, so I've got ***the inside scoop***. [=information known only by a particular group of people]

4 [*count*] : the act of picking up something with a quick, continuous motion : the act of scooping something ▪ With one *scoop*, he gathered up all the clothes on the floor.

– **scoop•ful** /'sku:pˌfʊl/ *noun, pl* **-fuls** [*count*] ▪ a *scoopful* [=*scoop*] of ice cream ▪ *scoopfuls* of dirt

[2]scoop *verb* **scoops**; **scooped**; **scoop•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to pick up and move (something) with a scoop, a spoon, etc. ▪ She has a job *scooping* ice cream. ▪ He *scooped* flour into the bowl. ▪ A backhoe was *scooping* dirt from the hole. ▪ The children *scooped* handfuls of marbles from the pile. — often + *out* ▪ Cut the melon in half and *scoop* the seeds *out*. ▪ He *scooped out* the leaves from the pool with the net. **b** : to pick up (something or someone) in one quick, continuous motion ▪ He *scooped* the dice off the table and rolled again. — often + *up* ▪ She quickly *scooped up* her child. ▪ The shortstop *scooped* the ball *up* and threw it to first base.

2 : to make (a hole, hollow, etc.) by using a scoop, spoon, etc. ▪ *Scoop* a hole in the dough for the filling. — often + *out* ▪ The mother turtle *scoops* [=*digs*] *out* a hollow in the sand and lays her eggs in it. ▪ a lake that was *scooped out* by glaciers long ago

3 : to report a news story before (any other newspaper, news program, etc.) ▪ The city's biggest newspaper got *scooped* by a weekly paper that released the story a full day before.

4 *Brit, informal* : to win (something, such as a large prize or reward) ▪ He managed to *scoop* first place.

scoop up [*phrasal verb*] ***scoop up (something)*** *or* ***scoop (something) up*** *informal* : to take or buy (something) in a quick and eager way ▪ Customers *scooped up* [=*scarfed up*] the free samples. — see also [2]SCOOP 1b (above)

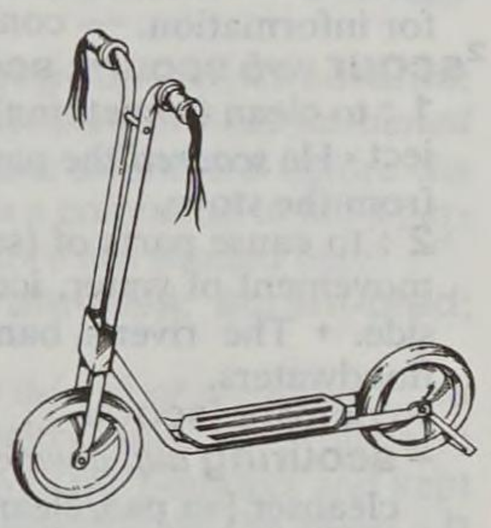
– **scoop•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ an ice-cream *scooper*

scoop neck *noun, pl* ~ **necks** [*count*] : a round, low neck-

line on a woman's shirt or dress — called also *scoop neckline*

scoot /ˈskuːt/ *verb* **scoots**; **scoot•ed**; **scoot•ing** *informal*
1 [*no obj*] : to go or leave suddenly and quickly ▪ I'm late, so I have to *scoot*. [=*run*] ▪ She talked to us for a few minutes before *scooting* off to some appointment.
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition, chiefly US* : to move (yourself, your chair, etc.) a short distance in a particular direction [+ *obj*] She *scooted* her chair back a few inches. [*no obj*] He *scooted* closer to the table. — often + *over* ▪ She *scooted over* so he could sit down. ▪ Can you *scoot over* a little?

scoot•er /ˈskuːtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a child's vehicle that is made of a narrow board with two small wheels attached underneath and an upright handle attached on top and that is moved by pushing with one foot while holding onto the handle
2 : MOTOR SCOOTER


scooter

[1]scope /ˈskoʊp/ *noun*
1 : the area that is included in or dealt with by something [*noncount*] The essay is sweeping/comprehensive in *scope*. [=the essay includes information, ideas, etc., about many topics] ▪ The law is of limited *scope*. [=the law applies only to a few situations, people, etc.] ▪ I was impressed by the size and *scope* of the book. ▪ That problem is somewhat beyond the *scope* of this discussion. ▪ We want to widen the *scope* of the study. [*singular*] This study has a wider/broader *scope* than previous studies on the subject have had.
2 [*noncount*] : space or opportunity for action, thought, etc. ▪ A bigger budget will allow more *scope* [=*room*] for innovation. ▪ The work has been good, but there's still some *scope* for improvement.
– compare [2]SCOPE

[2]scope *noun, pl* **scopes** [*count*] *chiefly US* : an instrument (such as a telescope or microscope) that is used to look at things ▪ We looked through the *scope* at the moon. ▪ the *scope* of a rifle — compare [1]SCOPE

[3]scope *verb* **scopes**; **scoped**; **scop•ing**
scope out [*phrasal verb*] ***scope (someone or something) out*** *or* ***scope out (someone or something)*** *US, informal* : to look at (someone or something) especially in order to get information ▪ They *scoped out* [=*checked out*] the area before setting up the tent. ▪ Players were *scoping out* the competition. ▪ He wants to *scope out* [=*consider, examine*] all of the possibilities before deciding what to do.

[1]scorch /ˈskoɚʧ/ *verb* **scorch•es**; **scorched**; **scorch•ing**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to burn the surface of (something) ▪ Roast the peanuts while being careful not to *scorch* them. ▪ The hot pan *scorched* the table. **b** [*no obj*] : to be burned on the surface ▪ The fabric/material *scorches* at high temperatures.
2 [+ *obj*] : to damage (something) by making it extremely dry ▪ The hot sun *scorched* the grass. ▪ The land was *scorched* by drought.
3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] *Brit, informal* : to travel very fast ▪ The car went *scorching* down the street.
– **scorched** *adj* ▪ Dinner is a bit *scorched*. [=*burned*] ▪ *scorched* grass

[2]scorch *noun, pl* **scorches** [*count*] : a damaged area or mark that is caused by burning ▪ There was a *scorch* (mark) on the tabletop.

scorched–earth /ˈskoɚʧtˈɚθ/ *adj* — used to describe a military policy in which all the houses, crops, factories, etc., in an area are destroyed so that an enemy cannot use them ▪ The retreating army adopted a ***scorched-earth policy***.

scorch•er /ˈskoɚʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal* : a very hot day ▪ Tomorrow is going to be a real *scorcher*.

scorching *adj* : very hot ▪ several days of *scorching* heat ▪ a *scorching* summer afternoon
– **scorching** *adv* ▪ The day was ***scorching hot***. [=extremely hot]

[1]score /ˈskoɚ/ *noun, pl* **scores**
1 [*count*] **a** : the number of points, goals, runs, etc., that each player or team has in a game or contest ▪ The *score* was tied at 1–1 [=each team had scored one run] after the second inning. ▪ The *score* (of the game) at halftime was 21–14. ▪ What's the *score*? ▪ The ***final score*** was 4–3. [=the score was 4–3 at the end of the game] **b** *chiefly US* : the number of points that someone gets for correct answers on a test, exam, etc. ▪ students with low/high test *scores* ▪ Only one person had/got a ***perfect score*** on the test. [=only one person answered all the questions correctly]
2 [*count*] **a** : a document showing all the notes of a piece of music ▪ a musical/orchestral *score* **b** : the music that is written for a movie or play ▪ The film's *score* is by a famous composer.
3 [*count*] : a mark or cut that is made in a surface with a sharp object
4 *pl* ***score*** [*count*] *formal + literary* **a** : the number 20 ▪ She has written more than a *score* of books. [=more than 20 books] **b** : a group of 20 people or things ▪ three *score* years [=60 years] ▪ A *score* of people were in attendance. — see also FOURSCORE, THREESCORE
5 ***scores*** [*plural*] *formal* : a large number or amount of people or things — usually + *of* ▪ We have received *scores of* suggestions.
by the score : in large numbers or amounts ▪ Factories are closing *by the score*. [=a lot of factories are closing] ▪ He's had girlfriends *by the score*. [=he has had lots of girlfriends]
even the score **1** : to get enough points, goals, runs, etc., to have the same score as your opponent : to tie the score in a game ▪ They *evened the score* at 5–5. ▪ We *evened the score* in the second quarter. **2** : to harm or punish someone who has harmed you ▪ She felt they had mistreated her, and she was determined to *even the score*.
keep score : to officially record the number of points, goals, runs, etc., that each player or team gets in a game or contest ▪ We'll just play for fun. We won't even *keep score*. ▪ Who's *keeping score*? — sometimes used figuratively ▪ If you're *keeping score* at home, this is the third time that he has run for mayor and lost.
know the score *informal* : to have a good understanding of a situation ▪ Now that she *knows the score*, she won't make the same mistake again.
on that/this score : with regard to the thing that is being discussed ▪ The work will be done on time. You have nothing to worry about *on that score*.
settle a/the score : to harm or punish someone who has harmed you ▪ The movie is about a woman who seeks out an old enemy to *settle a score*. ▪ He says he has a few (old) *scores to settle*. ▪ She wants to *settle the score* with her ex-husband.

[2]score *verb* **scores**; **scored**; **scor•ing**
1 a : to get points, goals, runs, etc., in a game or contest [*no obj*] She *scored* twice in the game. [+ *obj*] He *scored* a run/goal/touchdown. **b** [+ *obj*] : to be worth (a particular number of points) in a game or contest ▪ Each correct answer *scores* two points. ▪ In American football, a touchdown *scores* six points.
2 : to officially record the number of points, goals, runs, etc., that each player or team gets in a game or contest [*no obj*] Who's going to *score*? [=*keep score*] [+ *obj*] Who's going to *score* the game?
3 : to give (someone or something) a grade or a particular number of points based on the number of correct answers on a test, the quality of a performance, etc. [+ *obj*] Judges will *score* the performances based on their artistic and technical features. [*no obj*] Which judges are *scoring* tonight?
4 [+ *obj*] : to write the music for (a movie, play, etc.) ▪ The movie was *scored* by a famous composer.
5 [+ *obj*] : to mark or cut the surface of (something) with a sharp object ▪ He used a sharp blade to *score* the glass.
6 [+ *obj*] : to achieve or earn (something) ▪ He *scored* a big success/hit in his first movie.
7 [*no obj*] : to have success ▪ He has *scored* again with his latest thriller.
8 a *slang* : to buy or get (illegal drugs) [+ *obj*] He couldn't *score* any drugs. [*no obj*] Druggies come downtown looking to *score*. **b** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to get (something) ▪ I managed to *score* a couple of tickets to the game.
9 [*no obj*] *slang* : to have sex with someone and especially with someone you do not know well ▪ Did you *score* (with her) last night?
score off [*phrasal verb*] ***score off (someone)*** *Brit, informal* : to say or do something in order to get an advantage over (someone) ▪ They're always trying to *score off* each other.

score•board /ˈskoɚˌboɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] : a large board on which the score of a game or contest is shown

score•card /ˈskoɚˌkɑɚd/ *noun, pl* **-cards** [*count*]
1 : a card on which the score of a game or contest is record-

S

ed ▪ a golfer's *scorecard* ▪ I always like to keep a *scorecard* when I watch a baseball game.

2 *US* : a report that gives information about the status, condition, or success of someone or something ▪ The candidate rates highly on the magazine's legislative *scorecard*.

score•keep•er /'skoə˞ˌki:pə˞/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a person who records the official score in a game or contest

score•less /'skoə˞ləs/ *adj*

1 — used to describe a game in which no points, goals, runs, etc., have been scored ▪ The game was *scoreless* after three innings. ▪ a *scoreless* game

2 — used to describe a player or team that has not scored ▪ He has been held *scoreless* in the past three games.

score•line /'skoə˞ˌlaɪn/ *noun, pl* **-lines** [*count*] *Brit* : the score and especially the final score of a game or contest

scor•er /'skorə˞/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who scores points, goals, runs, etc., in a game or contest ▪ He's the team's leading/high/top *scorer*.

2 : SCOREKEEPER

score•sheet /'skoə˞ˌʃi:t/ *noun, pl* **-sheets** [*count*] : a piece of paper on which the score of a game or contest is recorded ▪ an official *scoresheet*

[1]scorn /'skoə˞n/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a feeling that someone or something is not worthy of any respect or approval ▪ I have nothing but *scorn* [=*contempt*] for people who are cruel to animals. ▪ They treated his suggestion with *scorn*. ▪ an expression full of *scorn*

2 : harsh criticism that shows a lack of respect or approval for someone or something ▪ Her political rivals have ***poured/heaped scorn on*** her ideas for improving the tax system.

[2]scorn *verb* **scorns**; **scorned**; **scorn•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to show that you think (someone or something) is not worthy of respect or approval : to feel or express scorn for (someone or something) ▪ He *scorns* anyone who earns less money than he does. ▪ Her actions were *scorned* by many people. ▪ They were *scorned* as fanatics.

2 *formal* : to refuse or reject (someone or something that you do not think is worthy of respect or approval) ▪ She *scorned* his invitation. — sometimes followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ He *scorned to reply* to their accusations.

scorn•ful /'skoə˞nfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : feeling or showing scorn ▪ a *scornful* look/expression/laugh ▪ He's *scornful* of anyone who disagrees with his political beliefs.

– **scorn•ful•ly** *adv* ▪ She stared at him *scornfully*.

Scor•pio /'skoə˞piˌoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-pios**

1 [*noncount*] : the eighth sign of the zodiac that comes between Libra and Sagittarius and that has a scorpion as its symbol — see picture at ZODIAC

2 [*count*] : a person born under the sign of Scorpio : a person born between October 24 and November 21 ▪ I'm a Virgo, and my sister is a *Scorpio*.

scor•pi•on /'skoə˞pijən/ *noun, pl* **-ons** [*count*] : a small animal related to spiders that has two front claws and a curved tail with a poisonous stinger at the end — see color picture on page C10

Scot /'skɑ:t/ *noun, pl* **Scots** [*count*] : a person born, raised, or living in Scotland

scotch /'skɑ:ʧ/ *verb* **scotch•es**; **scotched**; **scotch•ing** [+ *obj*] : to stop (something) from continuing by doing or saying something ▪ The administration did everything possible to *scotch* [=*squelch*] the rumors.

[1]Scotch *or* **scotch** /'skɑ:ʧ/ *noun, pl* **Scotch•es** *or* **scotch•es** : a kind of whiskey that is made in Scotland [*noncount*] a bottle of *Scotch* [*count*] I'll have another *Scotch* [=a glass of Scotch], please.

[2]Scotch *adj, old-fashioned* : of or relating to Scotland or its people : SCOTTISH

[3]Scotch *trademark* — used for a type of adhesive tape

scot–free /'skɑ:t'fri:/ *adj, informal* : without the punishment that is deserved ▪ It's not fair. I was punished and they ***got off scot-free***. [=they were not punished at all]

Scot•land Yard /ˌskɑ:tlənd'jɑə˞d/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the detective department of the London police ▪ The case is being investigated by *Scotland Yard*.

[1]Scots /'skɑ:ts/ *adj* : of or relating to Scotland or its people : SCOTTISH ▪ a *Scots* accent ▪ *Scots* law

[2]Scots *noun* [*noncount*] : the English language of Scotland

Scots•man /'skɑ:tsmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a man born, raised, or living in Scotland

Scots•wom•an /'skɑ:tsˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom•en** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman born, raised, or living in Scotland

Scot•tish /'skɑ:tɪʃ/ *adj* : of or relating to Scotland or its people ▪ He spoke with a *Scottish* accent. ▪ the *Scottish* countryside ▪ Robert Burns was a great *Scottish* poet.

scoun•drel /'skaʊndrəl/ *noun, pl* **-drels** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a person (especially a man) who is cruel or dishonest ▪ He's a rotten *scoundrel*.

[1]scour /'skawə˞/ *verb* **scours**; **scoured**; **scour•ing** [+ *obj*] : to search (something) carefully and thoroughly ▪ We *scoured* the woods for the missing child. ▪ I *scoured* the book for information. — compare [2]SCOUR

[2]scour *verb* **scours**; **scoured**; **scouring** [+ *obj*]

1 : to clean (something) by rubbing it hard with a rough object ▪ He *scoured* the pan with steel wool. ▪ She *scoured* spots from the stove.

2 : to cause parts of (something) to be carried away by the movement of water, ice, etc. ▪ Spring rains *scoured* the hillside. ▪ The river's banks had been *scoured* [=*eroded*] by floodwaters.

– compare [1]SCOUR

– **scouring** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *scouring* pad/cleanser [=a pad/cleanser that is used to scour something]

scour•er /'skawə˞rə˞/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : a small, rough object that is used to clean dishes, pans, etc.

[1]scourge /'skə˞ʤ/ *noun, pl* **scourg•es** [*count*]

1 *formal + literary* : someone or something that causes a great amount of trouble or suffering ▪ a city ravaged by the *scourge* of unemployment/poverty ▪ The disease continues to be a *scourge* in the developing world. ▪ Spelling is the *scourge* of learners of English. [=spelling is very difficult for people who are learning English]

2 : a whip that was used to punish people in the past

[2]scourge *verb* **scourges**; **scourged**; **scourg•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal + literary*

1 : to cause a lot of trouble or suffering for (someone or something) ▪ a neighborhood *scourged* by crime

2 : to hit (someone) with a whip as punishment ▪ The prisoner was *scourged* with a whip.

[1]scout /'skaʊt/ *noun, pl* **scouts** [*count*]

1 *or* ***Scout*** **a** : BOY SCOUT **b** : GIRL SCOUT

2 : a soldier, airplane, etc., that is sent to get information about the size, location, equipment, etc., of an enemy

3 : a person whose job is to search for talented performers, athletes, etc. ▪ a baseball *scout* — see also TALENT SCOUT

good scout *US, informal + somewhat old-fashioned* : a person who is friendly, kind, helpful, etc. ▪ He's a *good scout*. [=*good egg*]

[2]scout *verb* **scouts**; **scout•ed**; **scout•ing**

1 a *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to search an area or place for something or someone ▪ Two small ships were sent to *scout* for information about the enemy. ▪ My brother set up the tent while I *scouted* (around) for firewood. ▪ We *scouted* around the store to see if anyone was available to help us. **b** [+ *obj*] : to explore (an area) in order to find information about it ▪ Several soldiers were sent ahead to *scout* the area. ▪ She *scouted* out the town to see if she'd like to live there.

2 : to watch or look at (someone or something) in order to decide if that person or thing is suited for a particular job or purpose [+ *obj*] He's a talented pitcher who is being *scouted* by several major-league teams. ▪ She *scouts* young musicians for one of the country's top orchestras. ▪ The site is being *scouted* as a possible location for the factory. [*no obj*] She *scouts* for one of the country's top orchestras.

scout•ing *or* **Scouting** /'skaʊtɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the activities of Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups

scout•mas•ter /'skaʊtˌmæstə˞, *Brit* 'skaʊtˌmɑ:stə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : the leader of a group of Boy Scouts

[1]scowl /'skawəl/ *verb* **scowls**; **scowled**; **scowl•ing** [*no obj*] : to look at someone or something in a way that shows anger or disapproval ▪ The teacher *scowled* [=*glowered*] at me when I walked in late. ▪ She *scowled* [=*frowned*] in response to his question.

[2]scowl *noun, pl* **scowls** [*count*] : an expression on someone's face that shows anger or disapproval ▪ The teacher gave me a *scowl* when I walked in late. ▪ She responded to his question with a *scowl*.

scrab•ble /'skræbəl/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **scrab•bles**; **scrab•bled**; **scrab•bling** [*no obj*] : to move the hands or feet in an awkward and hurried way in order to find or do something ▪ She *scrabbled* around in

her handbag for a pen. ▪ He *scrabbled* at the slippery rock. — see also HARDSCRABBLE

scrag•gly /ˈskrægəli/ *adj* **scrag•gli•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *chiefly US, informal* : growing in a way that is not neat and even : having a ragged appearance ▪ a *scraggly* beard ▪ *scraggly* hair/bushes

scrag•gy /ˈskrægi/ *adj* **scrag•gi•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *informal*
1 *Brit* : very thin in a way that does not look healthy : SCRAWNY ▪ a *scraggy* mongrel ▪ her *scraggy* neck
2 : having a ragged appearance : SCRAGGLY ▪ a *scraggy* beard

scram /ˈskræm/ *verb, not used in progressive tenses* **scrams; scrammed; scram•ming** [*no obj*] *informal + old-fashioned* : to leave immediately ▪ The vandals *scrammed* before the police could arrive. — often used as a command to tell a person or animal to leave ▪ *Scram*! You're not wanted here!

[1]scram•ble /ˈskræmbəl/ *verb* **scram•bles; scram•bled; scram•bling**
1 [*no obj*] **a** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move or climb over something quickly especially while also using your hands ▪ We *scrambled* over the boulders and kept climbing up the mountain. ▪ He *scrambled* up the ramp. **b** : to move or act quickly to do, find, or get something often before someone else does ▪ reporters *scrambling* to finish stories by deadline ▪ Both players *scrambled* for the ball. ▪ News of the factory closing found workers *scrambling* to find jobs. ▪ It started to rain, and we all *scrambled* for cover.
2 [+ *obj*] : to prepare (eggs) by mixing the white and yellow parts together and then stirring the mixture in a hot pan ▪ I'll *scramble* some eggs for breakfast.
3 [+ *obj*] : to put (parts of something) in the wrong order — often used as *(be) scrambled* ▪ The letters of the words *are scrambled*. [=*mixed up*]
4 [+ *obj*] : to change (a radio or electronic signal) so that whoever receives it will not be able to understand it ▪ We will have to *scramble* our radio communications. ▪ The cable company *scrambles* the channels that you do not pay for.
5 [*no obj*] *American football, of a quarterback* : to run with the ball while being chased by defensive players ▪ The quarterback *scrambled* for a 5-yard gain.
– **scrambled** *adj* ▪ *scrambled* eggs and toast ▪ a *scrambled* signal

[2]scramble *noun, pl* **scrambles** : an act of scrambling: such as **a** [*singular*] : the act of moving or climbing over something quickly especially while also using your hands ▪ a quick *scramble* over boulders **b** [*singular*] : the act of moving or acting quickly to do, find, or get something ▪ the *scramble* for power in the country ▪ a *scramble* for the ball ▪ There was a ***mad scramble*** to fill vacant positions at the school. **c** [*count*] *American football* : a play in which the quarterback runs with the ball while being chased by defensive players — usually singular ▪ He gained 10 yards on a *scramble*.

scram•bler /ˈskræmblɚ/ *noun, pl* **-blers** [*count*] : a person or thing that scrambles: such as **a** : a device that is used to change a radio or electronic signal so that whoever receives it will not be able to understand it ▪ Spies used a *scrambler* to encode their messages. **b** *American football* : a quarterback who scrambles well ▪ Our quarterback is a great *scrambler*.

[1]scrap /ˈskræp/ *noun, pl* **scraps**
1 [*singular*] : a very small amount — usually used in negative statements ▪ After the scandal, he had no *scrap* of dignity left. [=he had no dignity left at all] ▪ There is not a *scrap* [=*shred*] of evidence that she committed the crime.
2 *scraps* [*plural*] : pieces of food that are not eaten and could be thrown away ▪ The dogs begged for *scraps* from the table. ▪ *scraps* of dough
3 [*count*] : a small piece of something that is left after you have used the main part ▪ a *scrap* (piece) of paper ▪ She made a quilt from fabric *scraps*. ▪ All that is left of the blanket is a *scrap* or two. ▪ *scrap* fabric — see also SCRAP PAPER
4 [*noncount*] : things from an unwanted or broken object (such as a car) that are useful only in making or fixing something else ▪ *scrap* metal ▪ He sold the car for *scrap*. [=he sold it to someone who wanted the parts of the car]
– compare [3]SCRAP

[2]scrap *verb* **scraps; scrapped; scrap•ping** [+ *obj*] : to get rid of (something) because it is damaged, no longer useful, etc. ▪ He *scrapped* his car after the accident. ▪ The company had to *scrap* plans for the new building. ▪ Should we *scrap* the idea?

[3]scrap *noun, pl* **scraps** [*count*] *informal* : a physical fight ▪ I got into quite a few *scraps* when I was a kid. — compare [1]SCRAP

scrap•book /ˈskræpˌbʊk/ *noun, pl* **-books** [*count*] : a book with blank pages to which you attach photographs, letters, newspaper stories, etc., that help you remember a person or time ▪ My mother keeps a *scrapbook* of all the articles I've ever written.

[1]scrape /ˈskreɪp/ *verb* **scrapes; scraped; scrap•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to damage (the surface of something) or hurt (a part of your body) by rubbing something rough or sharp against it or by making it rub against something rough or sharp ▪ Someone had *scraped* the car with a key. ▪ I *scraped* one of the chairs while bringing it up the stairs. ▪ I *scraped* my knee when I fell.
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to rub or cause (something) to rub against a hard surface and make a harsh and usually unpleasant sound [*no obj*] fingernails *scraping* against a blackboard ▪ the sound of chairs *scraping* on the floor as people stood to leave ▪ The boat *scraped* against the edge of the dock. [+ *obj*] She *scraped* her fingernails across the blackboard. ▪ The deer *scraped* its antlers against the tree.
3 a [+ *obj*] : to remove (something) from a surface by rubbing an object or tool against it ▪ *Scrape* the seeds into a bowl. ▪ *Scrape* the paint from the wood. — often + *off* ▪ The tool was used to *scrape* hair *off* buffalo skins. ▪ *Scrape* the scales *off* the fish. ▪ He *scraped off* the dirt from his shoes. **b** : to clean (something) by rubbing an object or tool against it ▪ Please *scrape* your plate into the trash.
4 [+ *obj*] : to barely succeed in collecting or gathering (something needed or wanted) by making an effort — + *together* or *up* ▪ He managed to *scrape up* enough money for lunch. ▪ We *scraped* enough players *together* to play basketball.
bow and scrape see [1]BOW
scrape by *also* ***scrape along*** [*phrasal verb*]
1 : to live with barely enough money : to be able to buy only the things you need most ▪ Money was tight, but we somehow managed to *scrape by*. [=*survive*] ▪ She's *scraping along* on just a few hundred dollars a month. **2** *or* ***scrape through*** : to succeed at doing something but just barely ▪ He didn't study for the exam and just barely *scraped by*. [=he passed the exam but came very close to failing]

[2]scrape *noun, pl* **scrapes** [*count*]
1 : a mark or injury that is caused by something rubbing against something else ▪ There's a *scrape* on the fender that wasn't there yesterday. ▪ I got a *scrape* on my knee when I fell. ▪ We survived the accident with a few minor bumps and *scrapes*.
2 *informal* : a bad, dangerous, or unpleasant situation ▪ legal/financial *scrapes* ▪ She got into a few *scrapes* with the police/law when she was younger.
3 : a harsh and usually unpleasant sound that is made when something rubs against a hard surface ▪ the *scrape* of fingernails on a blackboard

scrap•er /ˈskreɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a tool that is used to scrape something off a surface ▪ a paint *scraper*

scrap heap *noun, pl* ~ **heaps** [*count*] : a place where broken or useless things are taken and left ▪ Her car was sent off to the *scrap heap* [=*dump*] after the accident. — often used figuratively ▪ He may be past his prime, but he's not ready for the *scrap heap* yet. ▪ a minor event consigned to the *scrap heap* of history

scra•pie /ˈskreɪpi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a usually fatal brain disease that affects sheep

scrap•ing /ˈskreɪpɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : an object or substance that has been removed from a surface by rubbing an object or tool against it : something that is scraped off of a surface — usually plural ▪ The carpenter brushed the *scrapings* aside as she worked. ▪ DNA tests on fingernail *scrapings* from the victim's hands [=on material scraped from the underside of the victim's fingernails] were inconclusive.

scrap paper *noun* [*noncount*] : paper that is partly used or is of poor quality but that you can use for unimportant things ▪ Please take out a piece of *scrap paper* and practice the math problems on the board. — called also *(Brit) rough paper, (US) scratch paper*

scrap•per /ˈskræpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : a person who fights or struggles against something or to do something ▪ He's quite a *scrapper*.

scrap•ple /ˈskræpəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a dish of meat

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mixed with spices, broth, and boiled cornmeal that is placed in a mold and served sliced and fried

scrap•py /ˈskræpi/ *adj* **scrap•pi•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *informal*
1 *US* : ready or eager to fight ▪ He's a *scrappy* guy you don't want to mess with.
2 *US* : willing to work hard in order to succeed : determined and tough ▪ a *scrappy* football player ▪ a *scrappy* journalist
3 *chiefly Brit* : not organized or done well ▪ a *scrappy* essay that should be rewritten

scrap•yard /ˈskræpˌjɑəd/ *noun, pl* **-yards** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : JUNKYARD

[1]scratch /ˈskrætʃ/ *verb* **scratch•es**; **scratched**; **scratch•ing**
1 a : to rub your skin with something sharp (such as your fingernails) especially in order to stop an itch [+ *obj*] Will you *scratch* my back for me? ▪ *Scratching* the itch only makes it worse. ▪ The dog *scratched* its ear. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Maybe it's time to ***scratch the/that itch*** to travel I've had since I was a kid. [=maybe it's time to satisfy the urge I've had to travel] [*no obj*] You shouldn't *scratch*. It'll just make your itch worse. — see also SCRATCH SOMEONE'S BACK (below) **b** : to make a shallow and narrow cut in (your skin) with something sharp (such as fingernails, claws, etc.) [+ *obj*] The cat *scratched* me. ▪ Thorns *scratched* our legs as we climbed through the briars. [*no obj*] Careful, the cat will *scratch*. **c** [*no obj*] : to rub a surface or object with something sharp or rough in a way that produces a harsh sound ▪ The dog was *scratching* at the door.
2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to make a line or mark in the surface of (something) by rubbing or cutting it with something rough or sharp ▪ Be careful not to *scratch* the table. ▪ Someone *scratched* the paint on my car. **b** : to make (something, such as a line or letters) in the surface of something by using a stick, a sharp tool, etc. ▪ The little boy *scratched* lines in the dirt with a stick. ▪ They *scratched* their initials in the old bridge. **c** : to write (something) in a quick and untidy way ▪ She *scratched* a note to herself on a napkin.
3 [+ *obj*] *informal* **a** : to decide not to do or continue with (something) ▪ We had to *scratch* our picnic plans because of the weather. ▪ We should go to the movies tonight. No, *scratch* [=*forget*] that. Let's rent a DVD instead. **b** : to remove (someone) from the list of players who will be playing in a game ▪ She was *scratched* from the starting lineup.
scratch a living *or US* ***scratch out a living*** : to earn barely enough money to live ▪ He *scratched out a living* as a farmer.
scratch off [*phrasal verb*] ***scratch (something) off*** *or* ***scratch off (something)*** **1** : to remove (something) from an object or surface by rubbing with a sharp edge or tool ▪ *Scratch off* the gray box on the ticket to see if you've won! ▪ She *scratched* the gum *off* her shoe with a stick. **2** : to draw a line through (something that is written down) ▪ He *scratched* his name *off* the list.
scratch out [*phrasal verb*] ***scratch (something) out*** *or* ***scratch out (something)*** : to draw a line through (something that is written down) ▪ I *scratched out* the mistake.
scratch someone's back *informal* : to do something that helps someone else but that is often wrong or difficult to do ▪ ***You scratch my back, and I'll scratch yours.*** [=if you do something to help me, I'll do something to help you]
scratch the surface : to deal with or learn about only a small part of something ▪ If you think she only did it for the money, you haven't even *scratched the surface*. [=there are many other factors, reasons, etc., involved] ▪ There's so much to learn about this subject. I feel like I've only *scratched the surface*.
scratch your head *informal* : to be confused about something : to think about something you do not understand ▪ His odd behavior left us all *scratching our heads*. [=we could not understand his odd behavior]
– **scratch•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a long-handled back *scratcher* [=a device you can use to scratch your back]

[2]scratch *noun, pl* **scratches**
1 [*count*] **a** : a line or mark in the surface of something that is caused by something rough or sharp rubbing against it ▪ There's a *scratch* in the paint on the new car! ▪ The table is an antique but it doesn't have any dents or *scratches*. **b** : a shallow and narrow cut in the skin that is caused by something sharp ▪ I got a *scratch* on my leg when I climbed the fence. ▪ He escaped the fire ***without a scratch***. [=without getting hurt; without any injuries]
2 [*count*] : the sound made when something sharp rubs against a surface or object ▪ The only sound in the room during the test was the *scratch* of pencils on paper.
3 [*noncount*] *US slang* : MONEY ▪ We don't have the *scratch* to buy a new car.
from scratch **1** : with ingredients you have prepared yourself rather than with a prepared mixture of ingredients bought from a store ▪ bread/cookies made *from scratch* ▪ I used a frozen pie crust rather than making one *from scratch*. **2** : from a point at which nothing has been done yet ▪ We will have to start the project *from scratch*. ▪ He built the company *from scratch*.
up to scratch *chiefly Brit, informal* : good enough : as good as expected or wanted — usually used in negative statements ▪ Her performance wasn't *up to scratch*. [=(*US*) *up to snuff*]

[3]scratch *adj, always used before a noun*
1 *of a golfer* : having no handicap ▪ a *scratch* golfer [=an excellent golfer whose score is usually close to par]
2 *chiefly Brit* : put together quickly and without enough planning or thought ▪ a *scratch* team

scratching post *noun, pl* ~ **posts** [*count*] : an upright piece of wood that is covered with carpet and kept in a house for a pet cat to scratch

scratch pad *noun, pl* ~ **pads** [*count*] *US* : a small book of blank paper that is used for writing notes, brief messages, etc.

scratch paper *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : SCRAP PAPER

scratch ticket *noun, pl* ~ **tickets** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a small card that has covered areas that you remove by rubbing with the edge of a coin, fingernail, etc., to see if you have won a prize (such as money) — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *scratch card*

scratchy /ˈskrætʃi/ *adj* **scratch•i•er**; **-est**
1 : having a rough sound : having a sound like the sound made when something sharp or rough rubs against a surface or object ▪ listening to *scratchy* old records ▪ He has a *scratchy* [=*gravelly*] voice.
2 *informal* : rough and irritating to the skin : likely to make you itch ▪ The costume is made from *scratchy* material.
3 : swollen and sore ▪ He is sick with a *scratchy* throat.
4 : written in a careless way that is difficult to read ▪ I could barely read her *scratchy* notes.

[1]scrawl /ˈskrɑ:l/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **scrawls**; **scrawled**; **scrawl•ing** [+ *obj*] : to write or draw (something) very quickly or carelessly ▪ She *scrawled* her signature on the receipt.

[2]scrawl *noun, pl* **scrawls** [*count*] : something that has been written or drawn very quickly or carelessly ▪ Her signature was just a *scrawl*.

scraw•ny /ˈskrɑ:ni/ *adj* **scraw•ni•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] : very thin in a way that is not attractive or healthy ▪ a *scrawny* [=*skinny*] kid ▪ The only plants in their yard were a couple of *scrawny* bushes.

[1]scream /ˈskri:m/ *verb* **screams**; **screamed**; **scream•ing**
1 a [*no obj*] : to suddenly cry out in a loud and high voice because of pain, surprise, etc. ▪ She *screamed* when the door suddenly slammed shut. ▪ This is so irritating I could *scream*. ▪ The crowd *screamed* with excitement. ▪ He was dragged, ***kicking and screaming***, from the room. **b** : to say (something) in a loud and high voice because you are angry, afraid, etc. [*no obj*] He *screamed* at/for her to stop. [+ *obj*] "Help!" he *screamed*. — often + *out* ▪ The general *screamed out* orders. **c** [*no obj*] : to make a very loud, high sound ▪ Sirens were *screaming* in the distance.
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move very quickly through a place while making a lot of noise ▪ Police cars *screamed* down the street.
3 [*no obj*] : to speak, write, or express something in a way that shows intense or uncontrolled emotion ▪ Newspaper headlines *screamed* about the spike in crime.
4 [+ *obj*] : to bring (an idea, word, etc.) into your mind very clearly ▪ The amount she paid in taxes was so low that it practically *screamed* "fraud." [=it very strongly suggested that she had committed fraud] ▪ That big white dress *screams* "Marry me."
scream bloody murder (*US*) *or Brit* ***scream blue murder*** *informal* : to scream, yell, or complain in a very loud or angry way ▪ His political opponents *screamed bloody murder* when he was appointed to office.
scream for [*phrasal verb*] ***scream for (something)*** *informal* **1** : to demand or need (something) ▪ People are *screaming*

for news about the virus. ▪ These policies just ***scream (out) for*** reform. [=these policies very badly need to be reformed] **2** : to be very suitable or appropriate for (something) ▪ Hot summer days like this just *scream for* ice cream and visits to the pool.

[2]scream *noun, pl* **screams**

1 [*count*] : a loud and high cry or sound ▪ She let out a piercing *scream*. — often + *of* ▪ *screams of* terror ▪ the *screams of* the fire trucks as they raced by

2 [*singular*] *informal* + *old-fashioned* : a person or thing that is very funny ▪ She's an absolute *scream*.

scream•er /'skri:mɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal*

1 : something that moves or works very quickly ▪ The batter hit a *screamer* right at the shortstop. ▪ She kicked a *screamer* into the net. ▪ My last computer was pretty fast, but this one's a real *screamer*.

2 : a person who tends to scream : a person who screams more often or more easily than most people ▪ Don't startle her—she's a *screamer*.

scream•ing /'skri:mɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : very noticeable and difficult to ignore ▪ The room's walls were painted in a *screaming* yellow. ▪ *screaming* headlines ▪ a *screaming* need for reform ▪ (*US*) I have a *screaming* headache.

2 *US* : very fast or powerful ▪ The batter hit a *screaming* line drive right at the shortstop.

scream•ing•ly /'skri:mɪŋli/ *adv, informal* : very or extremely ▪ a *screamingly* funny film

scree /'skri:/ *noun, pl* **screes** [*count, noncount*] : an area of loose stones on the side of a mountain

[1]screech /'skri:ʧ/ *noun, pl* **screech•es** [*count*]

1 : a loud and very high cry that usually expresses extreme pain, anger, or fear ▪ With a loud *screech*, she smashed the plate against the wall.

2 : a loud and very high sound ▪ the *screech* of brakes

[2]screech *verb* **screeches**; **screeched**; **screech•ing**

1 : to cry out or shout in a loud and very high voice because of extreme pain, anger, fear, etc. [*no obj*] I *screeched* when I saw the mouse. ▪ He kept *screeching* at the children to pay attention. [+ *obj*] "You can't do this to me!" she *screeched*.

2 [*no obj*] : to make a loud and very high sound ▪ The car ***screeched to a halt/stop***. [=made a loud and very high sound as it stopped] — often used figuratively ▪ Her promising career *screeched to a halt* [=suddenly stopped/ended] when she was caught stealing.

– **screeching** *adj* ▪ The car came to a ***screeching halt***. ▪ The project came to a *screeching halt*.

screech owl *noun, pl* ~ **owls** [*count*] : a kind of small American owl that has bunches of feathers that look like ears on the sides of its head

screed /'skri:d/ *noun, pl* **screeds** [*count*] *disapproving* : a long and often angry piece of writing that usually accuses someone of something or complains about something ▪ In her *screed* against the recording industry, she blamed her producer for ruining her career.

[1]screen /'skri:n/ *noun, pl* **screens**

1 [*count*] **a** : the usually flat part of a television or computer monitor that shows the images or text : the part of a television or computer that you look at when you are using it ▪ Don't sit too close to the *screen* or you'll get a headache. ▪ A pop-up ad appeared on the *screen*. ▪ a television/TV *screen* ▪ a computer/display *screen* — see picture at COMPUTER **b** : a large, flat, white surface on which images or movies are shown ▪ When I go to the movies, I like to sit close to the *screen*.

2 [*noncount*] : the art or profession of acting in movies ▪ a star of stage and *screen* [=a famous actor who acts in plays and movies] ▪ The two actors perform well together ***on screen***. [=in movies or on TV] — often used before another noun ▪ a *screen* actor ▪ She has tremendous ***screen presence***. [=a powerful quality that attracts attention in movies] — see also BIG SCREEN, SILVER SCREEN

3 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a sheet that is made of very small wire or plastic strings which are woven together and that is set in a frame in a window, door, etc., to let air in but keep insects out ▪ a window *screen* ▪ a *screen* door [=a door that has a screen built into it]

4 [*count*] : something that is used to hide, protect, cover, or block a person or thing: such as **a** : a group of trees or plants that separates one area from another ▪ We planted a *screen* of shrubs so the neighbors couldn't see into our yard. **b** : a large, thin piece of wood, paper, or cloth that is set in a frame and used to separate one room or part of a room from another ▪ You can change your clothes behind the *screen*. **c** : something that hides the real nature of an activity, feeling, etc. ▪ His activities were just a *screen* for his real plans. **d** *sports* : a planned action in some sports (such as basketball or ice hockey) in which a player or a player's view is legally blocked by an opponent ▪ The goalie couldn't see the puck because of the *screen*. — see also SMOKE SCREEN, SUNSCREEN, WINDSCREEN

5 [*count*] *American football* : SCREEN PASS ▪ The quarterback threw a *screen* to the halfback.

– see also SILK SCREEN

[2]screen *verb* **screens**; **screened**; **screen•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to examine (people or things) in order to decide if they are suitable for a particular purpose ▪ A committee will *screen* candidates for the job, but the final hiring decision will be made by Ms. Brown. ▪ someone who *screens* luggage at the airport [=someone who examines the luggage of airplane passengers in order to make sure that nothing dangerous is brought onto an airplane] ▪ We *screen* the kids' music so that we can approve what they listen to. ▪ He usually ***screens his (telephone/phone) calls***. [=he usually lets his answering machine answer his phone so that he can hear who is calling before he decides to talk to whoever it is]

2 a : to do a test on (someone) to find out if that person has or is likely to develop a disease — usually + *for* ▪ All blood donors are *screened for* AIDS. ▪ She was *screened for* breast cancer. **b** : to do a test on (a person's blood, urine, etc.) to find out if the person has been using an illegal substance — usually + *for* ▪ All athletes will be *screened for* performance-enhancing drugs prior to the events.

3 : to show (a movie, television show, etc.) to the public on a screen ▪ We'll be *screening* his latest film in two weeks.

4 : to hide, protect, cover, or block (someone or something) with a screen ▪ I was *screened* by the cars so no one saw me. ▪ The altar was *screened*. ▪ We planted a row of shrubs to *screen* our backyard from the neighbors. ▪ The goalie was *screened* on that play. [=players blocked the goalie from seeing the puck] ▪ a ***screened porch*** [=a porch that has walls made of screens] — often used figuratively ▪ We try to *screen* our children from the violence on TV.

screen out [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***screen (someone or something) out*** *or* ***screen out (someone or something)*** : to remove (someone or something that is not suitable for a particular purpose) from a group that is being examined ▪ Not all students will be allowed to participate. Students receiving a D or lower will be *screened out*. **2** ***screen (something) out*** *or* ***screen out (something)*** : to prevent (something harmful) from passing through ▪ The lotion is supposed to *screen out* [=*block*] the sun's harmful rays.

screen•er /'skri:nɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or thing that screens something or someone; *especially* : a person whose job is to examine airplane passengers and their luggage in order to make sure that nothing dangerous is brought onto an airplane ▪ Airline *screeners* found a suspicious package in his luggage which turned out to be a bomb.

screen•ing /'skri:nɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** : the act of screening people or things: such as **a** [*count*] : an event in which a movie is shown to an audience ▪ We were late for the (movie) *screening*. **b** : the act of doing a test on a person or a person's blood, urine, etc., to look for evidence of a disease, illegal drug, etc. [*noncount*] methods of *screening* for cancer [*count*] Players must pass three random drug *screenings*. **c** : the act of examining people or things in order to decide if they are suitable for a particular purpose [*noncount*] Federal agents handle passenger and luggage *screening* at the airport. [*count*] The company will be conducting applicant *screenings* Wednesday.

screen pass *noun, pl* ~ **passes** [*count*] *American football* : a pass to a receiver who is behind the line of scrimmage and is protected by a line of blockers

screen•play /'skri:nˌpleɪ/ *noun, pl* **-plays** [*count*] : the written form of a movie that also includes instructions on how it is to be acted and filmed : the script for a movie ▪ an award for best *screenplay*

screen saver *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a computer program that shows a moving image or set of images on a computer screen when the computer is on but is not being used

screen test *noun, pl* ~ **tests** [*count*] : a recording of a short performance by an actor that is made with a movie or video camera and that is used to decide if that person should be given a part in a movie

S

screen•writ•er /ˈskri:nˌraɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who writes screenplays

[1]screw /ˈskru:/ *noun, pl* **screws** [*count*]

1 : a narrow, pointed metal cylinder that has a wide flat or rounded top and a ridge (called a thread) that goes around it in a spiral ✧ A screw is used to hold things together or to attach things. It is inserted into wood, metal, etc., by being turned. ▪ Tighten the *screws*. — see picture at CARPENTRY; compare [1]NAIL 1

2 : an object that has a thread like a screw which is used to attach or connect it to something — usually used before another noun ▪ The bottle has a ***screw cap/top***. [=a cap/top that is attached and removed by turning it]

3 *informal + offensive* **a** : an act of sexual intercourse **b** : a sexual partner

4 *slang* : a prison guard

have a screw loose *or* ***have a loose screw*** *informal* : to be crazy ▪ He acts like he *has a screw loose*. ▪ You've got to *have a loose screw* to think that's a good idea. = You've got to ***have a few loose screws*** to think that's a good idea.

put the screws on/to (someone or something) *informal* : to use force or the threat of force to make (someone or something) do what you want ▪ The government is finally *putting the screws to* an industry that's been evading environmental laws for years.

tighten the screws *informal* : to put more pressure on someone or something to do something ▪ We need to *tighten the screws* on people who've been evading the tax.

[2]screw *verb* **screws; screwed; screw•ing**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to attach (something) with a screw ▪ I *screwed* the boards together. ▪ The cupboards are *screwed* to the wall.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** [+ *obj*] : to turn (something) so that it attaches or connects to something ▪ *Screw* the cap on tight. ▪ *Screw* the light bulb into the fixture. **b** [*no obj*] : to fit onto or into something by being turned ▪ The lid *screws* onto the jar. ▪ The light bulb *screws* right in.

3 *informal + offensive* **a** [*no obj*] : to have sex **b** [+ *obj*] : to have sex with (someone)

4 [+ *obj*] *informal* **a** : to take something from (someone) by lying or breaking a rule ▪ I'd given them all of my savings before I realized I was being *screwed*. [=*cheated*] — often + *out of* ▪ The company *screwed* them *out of* thousands of dollars of investment money. **b** : to prevent (someone) from having or getting something that is deserved or expected ▪ He will *screw* you if you give him the chance. — often + *out of* or (*US*) *over* ▪ She was *screwed out of* the job. [=she should have gotten the job but she didn't get it] ▪ The company changed its return policy and (totally) *screwed* me *over*.

5 [+ *obj*] *informal + impolite* — used to express anger, disgust, etc. ▪ She doesn't like it? Well, *screw* her. ▪ ***Screw it*** [=*forget it*], I'm not waiting around forever.

6 [+ *obj*] : to press or squeeze (something) so that it is no longer flat or smooth — often + *up* ▪ He *screwed* [=*crumpled*] *up* the letter into a ball and threw it into the trash.

have/get your head screwed on right/straight see [1]HEAD

screw around [*phrasal verb*] *chiefly US, informal* **1** : to do things that are not useful or serious : to waste time ▪ Quit *screwing around* [=*messing around, fooling around*] and get back to work. **2** : to have sex with someone who is not your husband, wife, or regular partner ▪ She found out he's been *screwing around*. [=*fooling around*] — often + *with* ▪ She was *screwing around with* her boss. **3** : to use or do something in a way that is not very serious ▪ I spent the afternoon *screwing around* [=*messing around*] on the piano. — often + *with* ▪ *screwing around with* paints **4** ***screw around with (something)*** : to handle or play with (something) in a careless or foolish way ▪ It's really dangerous to *screw around with* your cell phone while you're driving.

screw up [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1 a** : to make a mistake : to do something incorrectly ▪ Sorry about that, I *screwed up*. ▪ You really *screwed up* this time. **b** ***screw (something) up*** *or* ***screw up (something)*** : to make a mistake in (something) ▪ The waiter *screwed up* our order. ▪ This performance is important, so don't *screw* it *up*. **2** ***screw (something) up*** *or* ***screw up (something)*** : to damage or ruin (something) ▪ Drugs *screwed up* her life. : to damage or change (something) so that it does not work properly ▪ I don't know what I did, but I somehow *screwed up* the computer. **3** ***screw (someone) up*** *or* ***screw up (someone)*** : to make (someone) very upset and unhappy for a long time ▪ The divorce really *screwed* him *up*. **4** ***screw (something) up*** *or* ***screw up (something)*** : to tighten the muscles of (your face or eyes) ▪ He *screwed* his face *up* into a frown. ▪ She *screwed up* her eyes [=she squinted] and tried to read the sign. **5** ***screw up the/your courage*** : to make yourself brave enough to do something difficult ▪ I finally *screwed up the courage* to tell them that I was quitting. — see also [2]SCREW 6

[1]screw•ball /ˈskru:ˌbɑ:l/ *noun, pl* **-balls** [*count*]

1 *baseball* : a pitch that is thrown with spin so that the ball curves in a direction that is opposite to the direction of a curveball

2 *chiefly US, informal* : a crazy person : a person who is not able to think in a clear or sensible way ▪ She really did that? What a *screwball*.

[2]screwball *adj, always used before a noun, US, informal* : funny in a very silly and strange way ▪ a *screwball* comedy

screw•driv•er /ˈskru:ˌdraɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a tool that is used for turning screws — see picture at CARPENTRY

screwed–up *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *informal* : not right or normal : not acting or functioning the way a person or thing should ▪ He's a pretty *screwed-up* kid. ▪ Our computer network is all *screwed-up*.

screw–top *adj, always used before a noun* : having a top or lid that that it can be attached and removed by being turned ▪ a *screw-top* jar [=a jar with a top that screws on]

screw•up /ˈskru:ˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *informal + disapproving*

1 : a mistake or error ▪ That was a major *screwup*.

2 : a person who often makes mistakes especially about important things : someone who often screws up ▪ She's a *screwup* who can't hold down a job.

screwy /ˈskru:wi/ *adj* **screw•i•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *informal*

1 : different from what you expect because of being strange or unusual ▪ I knew something was *screwy*. ▪ a *screwy* idea

2 : not sensible or reasonable ▪ *screwy* people ▪ a *screwy* foreign policy

[1]scrib•ble /ˈskrɪbəl/ *verb* **scrib•bles; scrib•bled; scrib•bling**

1 : to write (something) quickly and in a way that makes it difficult to read [+ *obj*] She *scribbled* a note to him and then dashed off to her meeting. ▪ He *scribbled* down his phone number. [*no obj*] Students *scribbled* furiously as the professor lectured. ▪ She was *scribbling* away in a notebook.

2 [*no obj*] : to draw lines, shapes, etc., that have no particular meaning in a quick and careless way ▪ The toddler *scribbled* all over the paper.

– scribbling *noun, pl* **scribblings** [*count*] ▪ I couldn't read the doctor's illegible *scribblings*.

[2]scribble *noun, pl* **scribbles**

1 [*noncount*] : writing that is difficult to read because it has been done quickly or carelessly ▪ She could barely make out the doctor's *scribble*.

2 ***scribbles*** [*plural*] : lines, shapes, etc., that have no particular meaning and are drawn in a quick and careless way ▪ The chalkboard was adorned with the children's *scribbles*.

scrib•bler *noun, pl* **-blers** [*count*] *humorous + disapproving* : a writer or author ▪ My wife's a banker, but I'm just a *scribbler* who writes for the newspaper.

[1]scribe /ˈskraɪb/ *noun, pl* **scribes** [*count*]

1 : a person in the past whose job was to copy manuscripts and books ▪ Medieval *scribes* were often monks.

2 *chiefly US, informal* : a journalist or writer ▪ She was interviewed for the newspaper by a local *scribe*.

[2]scribe *verb* **scribes; scribed; scrib•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (a shape, design, mark, etc.) in something by cutting or scratching with a sharp pointed tool ▪ *Scribe* a line along the board where you will be trimming it.

[1]scrim•mage /ˈskrɪmɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-mag•es**

1 [*noncount*] *American football* : the point in a game at which the center passes or throws the ball to the quarterback ▪ The first play from *scrimmage* netted them a touchdown. — see also LINE OF SCRIMMAGE

2 [*count*] *US* : an informal game that is played for practice : a game that is not official ▪ a preseason *scrimmage*

[2]scrimmage *verb* **-mages; -maged; -mag•ing** [*no obj*] *US* : to play in a scrimmage ▪ We *scrimmage* every Saturday. ▪ Last weekend we *scrimmaged* against Bell High.

scrimp /ˈskrɪmp/ *verb* **scrimps; scrimped; scrimp•ing** [*no obj*] : to spend as little money as you can : to be careful about spending money ▪ They ***scrimped and saved*** for their big vacation.

[1]scrip /ˈskrɪp/ *noun, pl* **scrips** [*count*] *technical*
1 : a document which says that the person who has the document has the right to something (such as stock or land)
2 : special money that a government makes during an emergency and that can only be used for a short period of time
– compare [2]SCRIP

[2]scrip *noun, pl* **scrips** [*count*] *US, informal* : PRESCRIPTION 1a ▪ I need to get my *scrip* filled. — compare [1]SCRIP

[1]script /ˈskrɪpt/ *noun, pl* **scripts**
1 [*count*] **a** : the written form of a play, movie, television show, etc. ▪ The actors haven't had time to study the *script*. ▪ She sent her *script* to several television production studios. ▪ an early version of the *script* **b** : a plan for what is going to be done or said in a particular situation ▪ When questioned, officials followed the *script* and declined comment.
2 a [*noncount*] : a type of handwriting in which all the letters in a word are connected to each other ▪ She wrote in *script* [=*cursive*] instead of printing. **b** : a particular style of writing or printing : a way that a particular set of letters, numbers, etc., is written or printed [*noncount*] words written in cuneiform *script* [*count*] roman and italic *scripts* **c** : the letters of a language arranged in their usual order : ALPHABET [*noncount*] languages that use the Cyrillic *script* [*count*] The message was written in a foreign *script*.

[2]script *verb* **scripts; script•ed; script•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to write the script for (a play, movie, television show, etc.) ▪ I *scripted* three episodes of the show. — often used as *(be) scripted* ▪ The actors' dialogue *was* carefully *scripted*.
2 : to plan how (something) will happen, be done, etc. ▪ The discussion couldn't have gone better if we had *scripted* it. ▪ The trip didn't go as *scripted*.

scripted *adj* : written at an earlier time ▪ a *scripted* speech/joke; *also* : planned in a careful way at an earlier time ▪ a *scripted* campaign ▪ Her public appearances are all *scripted* events.

scrip•ture /ˈskrɪptʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures**
1 *Scripture or the Scriptures* : the books of either the Old Testament or the New Testament or of both : the Bible ▪ someone who frequently quotes *Scripture* ▪ Each day they read (from) *the Scriptures*. ▪ *the* Hebrew *Scriptures*
2 *scriptures* [*plural*] : the sacred writings of a religion ▪ sacred/holy *scriptures*
– **scrip•tur•al** /ˈskrɪptʃərəl/ *adj* ▪ a *scriptural* passage

script•writ•er /ˈskrɪptˌraɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who writes the written form of a play, movie, television show, etc. : a person who writes a script ▪ Hollywood *scriptwriters*

scrod /ˈskrɑːd/ *noun, pl* **scrod** [*count, noncount*] *US* : a young fish (such as a cod or a haddock) that is eaten as food

[1]scroll /ˈskroʊl/ *noun, pl* **scrolls** [*count*]
1 : a long piece of paper that rolls around one or two cylinders and that usually has something written or drawn on it ▪ the Dead Sea *Scrolls* ▪ He read from the *scroll*.
2 : a decoration that looks like the curled ends of a scroll ▪ a scarf with lovely green *scrolls* on it


scroll

[2]scroll *verb* **scrolls; scrolled; scroll•ing** *computers* : to move text or images of a Web page, document, etc., up, down, or to the side on a computer screen so that you can see all of it [*no obj*] *scroll* through an e-mail ▪ She *scrolled* (down) to the bottom of the screen. [+ *obj*] You have to *scroll* the screen to see the bottom of the Web page.

scroll bar *noun, pl* ~ **bars** [*count*] *computers* : a narrow bar along the bottom or side of a window that you click on with a mouse to see parts of the window that are hidden

scroll saw *noun, pl* ~ **saws** [*count*] *US* : a machine that has a narrow blade for cutting curves and decorative patterns in wood, metal, plastic, etc.

Scrooge *or* **scrooge** /ˈskruːʤ/ *noun, pl* **Scroog•es** *or* **scrooges** [*count*] *informal* : a selfish and unfriendly person who is not willing to spend or give away money — usually singular ▪ His boss is a real *Scrooge* who never gives people raises. ✧ ***Scrooge*** is from the name of Ebenezer Scrooge, the main character in the story *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens.

scro•tum /ˈskroʊtəm/ *noun, pl* **scro•tums** *or* **scro•ta** /ˈskroʊtə/ [*count*] : the sack of skin that contains the testicles of men and male animals

scrounge /ˈskraʊnʤ/ *verb* **scroung•es; scrounged; scroung•ing**
1 : to persuade someone to give you (something) for free [+ *obj*] I managed to *scrounge* enough money for a bus ticket. — often + *off* or *from* ▪ I *scrounged* a few bucks *off* my friend for lunch. ▪ She *scrounged* some money *from* her folks. [*no obj*] He's always *scrounging off* his friends instead of paying for things himself.
2 *US* : to get or find something by looking in different places, asking different people, etc. [*no obj*] We *scrounged* around for firewood. [+ *obj*] We managed to *scrounge* some firewood. — often + *up* ▪ I tried to *scrounge up* some tickets to the show, but I didn't have any luck.
– **scroung•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[1]scrub /ˈskrʌb/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : small bushes and trees ▪ A chipmunk hid in the *scrub*.
2 : land that is covered with small bushes and trees ▪ In the desert *scrub*, temperatures can reach well over 100 degrees.
– compare [2]SCRUB

[2]scrub *noun, pl* **scrubs**
1 [*count*] **a** : the act of rubbing something hard with a rough object or substance and often with soap in order to clean it : the act of scrubbing something — usually singular ▪ He gave the pan a good *scrub*. [=he scrubbed the pan] **b** : a powerful cleanser that is used to clean the skin ▪ a face *scrub*
2 *scrubs* [*plural*] *US* : special loose clothing that is worn by people who work in hospitals ▪ hospital/surgical *scrubs*
– compare [1]SCRUB

[3]scrub *verb* **scrubs; scrubbed; scrub•bing**
1 : to rub (something) hard with a rough object or substance and often with soap in order to clean it [+ *obj*] She *scrubbed* the potatoes. [*no obj*] We *scrubbed* and *scrubbed* until the floor was clean.
2 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to decide that (something, such as a game, performance, etc.) will not happen : to cancel (something) ▪ They *scrubbed* the game because of the bad weather.
scrub off [*phrasal verb*] ***scrub off (something)*** *or* ***scrub (something) off*** : to remove (something) from a surface by scrubbing ▪ I *scrubbed off* the heavy stage makeup. ▪ *scrubbing* dirt and grime *off* the walls
scrub out [*phrasal verb*] ***scrub out (something)*** *or* ***scrub (something) out*** **1** : to remove (something) from an object by scrubbing ▪ a stain in the carpet that was impossible to *scrub out* **2** : to scrub the inside of (something) ▪ She *scrubbed out* the flower pots and filled them with fresh soil.
scrub up [*phrasal verb*] : to wash your hands and arms thoroughly ▪ The doctor *scrubbed up* for surgery.

scrub•ber /ˈskrʌbɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bers** [*count*]
1 : a tool or machine that is used for scrubbing something ▪ a vegetable *scrubber* [=a brush that is used for scrubbing vegetables] ▪ a floor *scrubber*
2 : a person whose job is to scrub something ▪ She got a job as a pot *scrubber*.
3 *technical* : a machine that removes a dangerous substance from air, water, etc. ▪ The *scrubbers* will reduce the power plant's sulfur emissions.

scrub brush (*US*) *or Brit* **scrubbing brush** *noun, pl* ~ **brushes** [*count*] : a small brush with stiff bristles that is used for scrubbing things

scrub•by /ˈskrʌbi/ *adj* **scrub•bi•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : covered with small bushes and trees ▪ *scrubby* land
2 : small and not growing well ▪ *scrubby* trees/bushes

scrub•land /ˈskrʌbˌlænd/ *noun, pl* **-lands** : land that is covered with small bushes and trees [*noncount*] a large area of *scrubland* [*count*] the *scrublands* of the American West

scruff /ˈskrʌf/ *noun* [*singular*] : the skin on the back of the neck ▪ She held the kitten ***by the scruff of its neck***.

scruffy /ˈskrʌfi/ *adj* **scruff•i•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : not neat, clean, or orderly ▪ a *scruffy* beard ▪ *scruffy* college students ▪ The neighborhood is full of dilapidated houses with *scruffy* backyards.

scrum /ˈskrʌm/ *noun, pl* **scrums** [*count*]
1 *rugby* **a** : a way of starting play again in which players from each team come together and try to get control of the ball by pushing against each other and using their feet when the ball is thrown in between them **b** : the group of players who are involved in a scrum
2 : a large group of people who are close together in one place ▪ He pushed through the *scrum* [=*crowd, throng*] of holiday shoppers. ▪ The actress was caught in a media *scrum*. [=a crowd of reporters, photographers, etc.]

scrump•tious /ˈskrʌmpʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal*

S

: very pleasant to taste : DELICIOUS ▪ a *scrumptious* cake

scrunch /ˈskrʌnʧ/ *verb* **scrunch•es**; **scrunched**; **scrunch•ing**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to make your body lower or shorter by bending your legs, making your back bend forward, lowering your head, etc. ▪ I *scrunched* down in the chair. ▪ I spent the night *scrunched* (up) in the back of the car.

2 [+ *obj*] : to tighten the muscles of (your face or nose) — usually + *up* ▪ She *scrunched up* her face/nose.

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to put (several or many people or things) in a space that is too small — usually used as *(be) scrunched* ▪ The restaurant's tables *are* all *scrunched* together. **b** : to press or squeeze (something) so that it is no longer flat or smooth ▪ I *scrunched* the fabric in my hand. — often + *up* ▪ He *scrunched* [=*crumpled*] *up* the paper and threw it away.

4 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to make the loud sound of something being crushed ▪ The snow was *scrunching* [=(more commonly) *crunching*] under our feet.

scrunch•ie *or* **scrunchy** /ˈskrʌnʧi/ *noun, pl* **scrunch•ies** [*count*] *US* : a piece of elastic in the shape of a circle that is covered with fabric and used to hold hair back in a ponytail, bun, etc. — see picture at GROOMING

[1]scru•ple /ˈskru:pəl/ *noun, pl* **scruples** : a feeling that prevents you from doing something that you think is wrong [*count*] — usually plural ▪ They seem to have no *scruples* [=*qualms*] about distorting the truth. ▪ moral/religious *scruples* ▪ a woman without *scruples* [*noncount*] She acted without *scruple*.

[2]scruple *verb* **scruples**; **scru•pled**; **scru•pling** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to be unwilling *to do* something because you think it is improper, morally wrong, etc. — usually used in negative statements ▪ He did not *scruple to lie* about it. [=he was willing to lie about it; lying about it did not bother him]

scru•pu•lous /ˈskru:pjələs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : very careful about doing something correctly ▪ She was always *scrupulous* about her work. ▪ The work requires *scrupulous* attention to detail. ▪ They were *scrupulous* [=*meticulous*] in their testing.

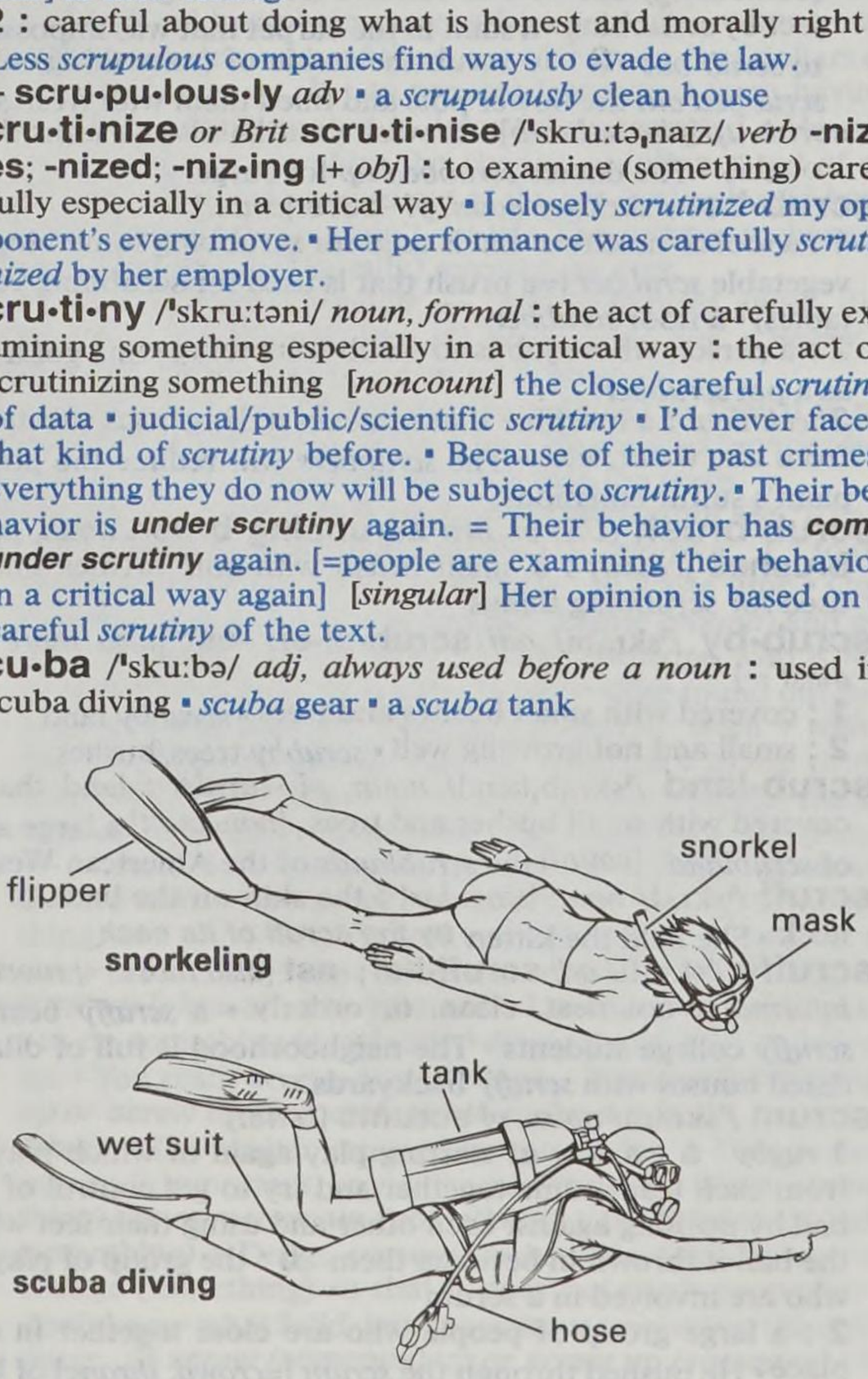
2 : careful about doing what is honest and morally right ▪ Less *scrupulous* companies find ways to evade the law.

– **scru•pu•lous•ly** *adv* ▪ a *scrupulously* clean house

scru•ti•nize *or Brit* **scru•ti•nise** /ˈskru:tə,naɪz/ *verb* **-niz•es**; **-nized**; **-niz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to examine (something) carefully especially in a critical way ▪ I closely *scrutinized* my opponent's every move. ▪ Her performance was carefully *scrutinized* by her employer.

scru•ti•ny /ˈskru:təni/ *noun, formal* : the act of carefully examining something especially in a critical way : the act of scrutinizing something [*noncount*] the close/careful *scrutiny* of data ▪ judicial/public/scientific *scrutiny* ▪ I'd never faced that kind of *scrutiny* before. ▪ Because of their past crimes, everything they do now will be subject to *scrutiny*. ▪ Their behavior is ***under scrutiny*** again. = Their behavior has ***come under scrutiny*** again. [=people are examining their behavior in a critical way again] [*singular*] Her opinion is based on a careful *scrutiny* of the text.

scu•ba /ˈsku:bə/ *adj, always used before a noun* : used in scuba diving ▪ *scuba* gear ▪ a *scuba* tank



scuba diving *noun* [*noncount*] : a sport or activity in which you swim underwater using an air tank and a special breathing machine that you strap on your body ▪ Her hobbies include sailing and *scuba diving*. ▪ We ***went scuba diving*** for the first time this summer.

– **scuba dive** *verb* ~ **dives**; ~ **dived**; ~ **div•ing** [*no obj*] ▪ He plans to *scuba dive* while on vacation. – **scuba diver** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] ▪ He's an expert *scuba diver*.

scud /ˈskʌd/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **scuds**; **scud•ded**; **scud•ding** [*no obj*] *literary* : to move or go quickly ▪ Clouds *scudded* across the sky.

[1]scuff /ˈskʌf/ *verb* **scuffs**; **scuffed**; **scuff•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to make a mark or scratch in the surface of (something) by scraping it ▪ I *scuffed* (up) my new shoes the very first time I wore them.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to walk without lifting your feet : to drag your feet while you walk ▪ She *scuffed* down the hall towards her room.

– **scuffed** *adj* ▪ *scuffed* shoes/boots ▪ an old, *scuffed* leather jacket

[2]scuff *noun, pl* **scuffs**

1 [*count*] : a mark that is made by scuffing something ▪ I tried to rub the *scuff* (mark) out of my shoe.

2 ***scuffs*** [*plural*] *US* : slippers that are open at the heel ▪ She slid into her *scuffs* and headed into the kitchen.

scuf•fle /ˈskʌfəl/ *verb* **scuf•fles**; **scuf•fled**; **scuf•fling** [*no obj*]

1 : to fight briefly and usually not very seriously ▪ Children *scuffled* on the playground. ▪ Protesters and police *scuffled*.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move quickly and with short steps : SCURRY ▪ Small creatures *scuffled* in the underbrush.

– **scuffle** *noun, pl* **scuf•fles** [*count*] ▪ They got in/into a *scuffle*. ▪ A *scuffle* broke out between the players.

[1]scull /ˈskʌl/ *noun, pl* **sculls**

1 [*count*] : a long and very narrow boat that is usually rowed by one or two people ▪ a double *scull* [=a scull for two people]

2 ***sculls*** [*plural*] : a race using sculls ▪ He took first place in the single *sculls*.

[2]scull *verb* **sculls**; **sculled**; **scull•ing** [*no obj*] : to row a scull or other small boat ▪ She *sculled* along the river.

– **scull•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ He's one of the top *scullers* in the state. – **scull•ing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She joined the *sculling* team. ▪ He ***went sculling*** early that morning.

scul•lery /ˈskʌləri/ *noun, pl* **-ler•ies** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a room that is near the kitchen in a large and usually old house and that is used for washing dishes, doing messy kitchen tasks, etc.

sculpt /ˈskʌlpt/ *verb* **sculpts**; **sculpt•ed**; **sculpt•ing**

1 : to make (something) by carving or molding clay, stone, etc. : to make (a sculpture) [+ *obj*] She carefully *sculpted* the wood. — often used as *(be) sculpted* ▪ The figures *were sculpted* from wood. ▪ The statue *was sculpted* in ice. — often used figuratively ▪ She carefully *sculpted* the narrative of the story. [*no obj*] The children painted and *sculpted* all morning.

2 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to make (a part of your body) more muscular by doing exercises ▪ *Sculpt* your back with push-ups.

sculpt•ed /ˈskʌlptəd/ *adj*

1 a : carved or molded into a particular shape from wood, stone, clay, etc. ▪ a *sculpted* facade **b** : made into a particular shape by someone or something ▪ her *sculpted* bangs ▪ a wind-*sculpted* rock formation

2 a : having a clear shape ▪ *sculpted* cheekbones **b** *chiefly US* : very muscular and attractive ▪ a lean, *sculpted* athlete/body

sculp•tor /ˈskʌlptɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a person who makes sculptures

sculp•tress /ˈskʌlptrəs/ *noun, pl* **-tress•es** [*count*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : a woman who makes sculptures

sculp•ture /ˈskʌlpʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures**

1 : a piece of art that is made by carving or molding clay, stone, metal, etc. [*count*] a *sculpture* of an elephant ▪ an abstract *sculpture* [*noncount*] an exhibit of African *sculpture* — compare STATUE

2 [*noncount*] : the process or art of carving or molding clay, stone, metal, etc., into a sculpture ▪ She's studying *sculpture*.

– **sculp•tur•al** /ˈskʌlpʧərəl/ *adj* ▪ the *sculptural* arts ▪ a *sculptural* piece

sculp•tured /ˈskʌlpʧɚd/ *adj* : carved or molded into a particular shape from wood, stone, clay, etc. ▪ a *sculptured* [=(more commonly) *sculpted*] facade

scum /ˈskʌm/ *noun, pl* **scums**

1 [*noncount*] : a layer of something unpleasant or unwanted

that forms on top of a liquid ▪ Boil the chicken and use a spoon to remove any *scum* that floats to the surface. ▪ ***pond scum*** [=a layer of algae on top of a pond]

2 *informal* : a dishonest, unkind, or unpleasant person [*noncount*] Ignore him; he's *scum*. ▪ They are the ***scum of the earth***. [=the worst people on the earth] [*count*] He's a complete *scum*.

– **scum•my** /'skʌmi/ *adj* **scum•mi•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] ▪ *scummy* water ▪ a *scummy* person

scum•bag /'skʌm,bæg/ *noun, pl* **-bags** [*count*] *slang* : a dishonest, unkind, or unpleasant person ▪ She's a total *scumbag*.

[1]scup•per /'skʌpɚ/ *verb* **-pers**; **-pered**; **-per•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to cause (something) to stop or fail ▪ The boss *scuppered* [=(*US*) *scuttled*] the plan. ▪ The latest information could *scupper* the peace talks.

[2]scupper *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] *technical* : a hole in the side of a boat that allows water to drain from the deck

scur•ri•lous /'skɚələs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : said or done unfairly to make people have a bad opinion of someone ▪ *scurrilous* attacks on the senator ▪ *scurrilous* rumors

– **scur•ri•lous•ly** *adv*

scur•ry /'skɚi/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **-ries**; **-ried**; **-ry•ing** [*no obj*] : to move quickly and with short steps ▪ She *scurried* off to finish the job. ▪ Mice *scurried* around the house.

scur•vy /'skɚvi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a disease that is caused by not eating enough fruits or vegetables that contain vitamin C

[1]scut•tle /'skʌtl/ *verb* **scut•tles**; **scut•tled**; **scut•tling** [+ *obj*]

1 *US* : to cause (something) to end or fail ▪ He tried to *scuttle* [=(*Brit*) *scupper*] the conference/sale.

2 : to sink (a ship) by putting holes in the bottom or sides

– compare [2]SCUTTLE

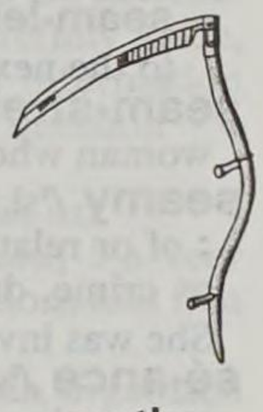
[2]scuttle *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **scuttles**; **scuttled**; **scuttling** [*no obj*] : to move quickly and with short steps ▪ Crabs *scuttled* along the ocean floor. ▪ He *scuttled* away to find his hat. — compare [1]SCUTTLE

[3]scuttle *noun, pl* **scuttles** [*count*] : a metal pail for carrying coal

scut•tle•butt /'skʌtl,bʌt/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal* : talk or stories about someone that may not be true ▪ There's some *scuttlebutt* [=there's a rumor] that he might be planning to leave his wife.

scuz•zy /'skʌzi/ *adj* **scuz•zi•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *US slang* : dirty, dishonest, or unpleasant ▪ He is a *scuzzy* guy. ▪ a *scuzzy* bathroom

[1]scythe /'saɪð/ *noun, pl* **scythes** [*count*] : a farming tool with a curved blade and long handle that is used for cutting grass, grain, etc.



scythe

[2]scythe *verb* **scythes**; **scythed**; **scyth•ing** : to cut (something, such as grass or grain) with a scythe [+ *obj*] *scything* the wheat — often used figuratively ▪ Her hands *scythed* [=*cut through*] the air. [*no obj*] — usually used figuratively ▪ Her hands *scythed* through the air.

SD *abbr* South Dakota

SE *abbr* southeast; southeastern

sea /'si:/ *noun, pl* **seas**

1 a : the salt water that covers much of the Earth's surface [*noncount*] We traveled ***by sea***. [=on a ship] — often used with *the* ▪ The ship sank to the bottom of *the sea*. [=*the ocean*] ▪ creatures of *the sea* ▪ He was sailing ***the open sea***. [=sailing far away from land] — often used before another noun ▪ a *sea* voyage ▪ a *sea* animal/creature ▪ the *sea* floor [*plural*] (*literary*) ▪ the uncharted *seas* — see also HIGH SEAS **b** *or* ***Sea*** [*count*] : a large body of water that is part of the sea or that has land around part or all of it ▪ the Mediterranean *Sea* ▪ the *seas* of the Southern Hemisphere — see color picture on page C7; see also SEVEN SEAS

2 [*count*] : an area of the sea — used to describe the movement of the water in the sea ▪ a calm/rough *sea* — often plural ▪ We sailed in heavy *seas*. [=in very large waves]

3 [*count*] : a large amount or number *of* people or things spread over a large area — usually singular ▪ a *sea of* screaming fans ▪ a golden *sea of* wheat — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a *sea of* sadness

4 *or* ***Sea*** [*count*] *technical* : one of the large, flat areas on the moon or on Mars ▪ lunar *seas* ▪ the *Sea* of Tranquility

at sea **1** : sailing or traveling on the sea ▪ The navy spent as much time in port as they did *at sea*. ▪ The crew was ***lost at sea***. [=the crew disappeared while traveling on the sea] **2** : confused and not confident ▪ She felt completely *at sea* when she started her new job.

between the devil and the deep blue sea see DEVIL

fish in the sea see [1]FISH

go to sea *somewhat old-fashioned* : to become a sailor ▪ He *went to sea* at a young age.

out to sea : toward or into a part of the ocean that is far away from land ▪ The boat headed *out to sea*. ▪ He fell overboard and was ***swept out to sea***.

put (out) to sea : to leave a port, harbor, etc., and begin traveling on the sea ▪ The ship *put to sea*. ▪ We will dock tonight and *put out to sea* tomorrow.

sea air *noun* [*noncount*] : the air near the sea ▪ He breathed in the *sea air*.

sea anemone *noun, pl* **~ -nes** [*count*] : a small, brightly colored sea animal that looks like a flower and sticks to rocks, coral, etc.

sea•bed /'si:,bɛd/ *noun*

the seabed : the ground that is at the bottom of the sea

sea•bird /'si:,bɚd/ *noun, pl* **-birds** [*count*] : a bird that lives on or near the sea and finds food in it ▪ gulls and other *seabirds*

sea•board /'si:,boɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] : the part of a country that is along or near the sea ▪ He lives on the eastern *seaboard*. ▪ a *seaboard* city

sea•borne /'si:,boɚn/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : carried in a ship sailing across the sea ▪ *seaborne* cargo

2 : involving or using ships that sail across the sea ▪ *seaborne* trade

sea breeze *noun, pl* **~ breezes** [*count*] : a light wind that blows from the sea toward land

sea captain *noun, pl* **~ -tains** [*count*] : the captain of a ship that travels on the sea

sea change *noun, pl* **~ changes** [*count*] : a big and sudden change — usually singular ▪ There's been a *sea change* in public opinion. ▪ Her attitude has undergone a *sea change* [=her attitude has changed completely] in recent months.

sea•coast /'si:,koʊst/ *noun, pl* **-coasts** : the land along the edge of a sea [*count*] a beautiful *seacoast* ▪ the eastern *seacoast* [*noncount*] a stretch of *seacoast* [=*coast, shore, shoreline*] ▪ a *seacoast* [=*coastal*] town

sea dog *noun, pl* **~ dogs** [*count*] *old-fashioned + literary* : an experienced sailor

sea•far•er /'si:,ferɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : someone who works or travels on a boat or ship on the sea : SAILOR

sea•far•ing /'si:,ferɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of traveling on the sea especially while working on a boat or a ship ▪ He began a life of *seafaring*.

– **seafaring** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ He always tells stories from his *seafaring* days. ▪ a *seafaring* people ▪ a *seafaring* adventure

sea•floor /'si:,floɚ/ *noun, pl* **-floors** [*count*] : the ground that is at the bottom of the sea — usually singular ▪ a sunken ship lying on the *seafloor*

sea•food /'si:,fu:d/ *noun* [*noncount*] : fish and shellfish that live in the ocean and are used for food ▪ I'm allergic to *seafood*. ▪ a *seafood* dish/restaurant

sea•front /'si:,frʌnt/ *noun, pl* **-fronts** [*count*] : the part of a town, area, etc., that is near the sea — usually singular ▪ hotels on/along the *seafront* — often used before another noun ▪ *seafront* [=(*US*) *oceanfront*] property

sea•go•ing /'si:,gowɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : made or used for traveling on the sea ▪ a *seagoing* [=*ocean-going*] ship/craft/vessel

sea green *noun* [*noncount*] : a bluish-green color like the sea — see color picture on page C2

– **sea–green** *adj* ▪ She has *sea-green* eyes.

sea•gull /'si:,gʌl/ *noun, pl* **-gulls** [*count*] : a large, common, usually gray and white bird that lives near the ocean : GULL — see color picture on page C9

sea horse *noun, pl* **~ horses** [*count*] : a small fish that has a head that looks like a horse's head and that swims with its head above its body and tail

[1]seal /'si:l/ *verb* **seals**; **sealed**; **seal•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to close (something) tightly so that air, liquid, etc., cannot get in or out ▪ He *sealed* the jar. — often + *up* ▪ He *sealed up* the cracks in the wall. **b** [+ *obj*] : to close (an envelope, bag, etc.) by sticking or pressing two of its parts to-

S

gether ▪ Would you *seal* this envelope? **c** [*no obj*] : to become closed tightly ▪ Make sure the bag *seals* properly.
2 [+ *obj*] : to cover the surface of (something) with a substance that will protect it ▪ We used a sealant/sealer to *seal* the wood to make it waterproof.
3 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) definite and final ▪ His home run *sealed* the victory. [=his home run made it certain that his team would win] ▪ (*informal*) They finally ***sealed the deal***. [=they finally reached an agreement and made a deal] ▪ Their decision ***sealed her fate***. = Once they made their decision, ***her fate was sealed***. [=their decision made it certain that something bad or unwanted would happen to her]
4 [+ *obj*] : to prevent someone from going into or through (an area or place) ▪ Troops have *sealed* the border between the two countries. ▪ The room/chamber has been *sealed* and no one can enter.
my lips are sealed see LIP
seal in [*phrasal verb*] ***seal (something) in*** *or* ***seal in (something)*** : to prevent (something that is in something else) from getting out or escaping ▪ He seared the steak to *seal in* the juices.
seal off [*phrasal verb*] ***seal off (something)*** *or* ***seal (something) off*** : to prevent people from entering or leaving (an area or place) ▪ Police *sealed off* the crime scene.
– **sealed** *adj* ▪ a *sealed* jar

²seal *noun, pl* **seals** [*count*]
1 a : an official mark that is stamped on paper or on a small piece of wax to show that something (such as a document) is genuine and has been officially approved ▪ The paperwork must have a notary's *seal*. **b** : a small piece of stamped wax or a small sticker that is put on a letter or envelope to keep it closed or to show that it has not been opened
2 : a device with a raised design that can be pressed into something (such as paper or wax) to make a seal
3 a : a piece of material (such as rubber) that is used on the lid of a container to keep air, water, etc., out of the container or to show the container has not been opened ▪ a rubber *seal* on the jar ▪ The plastic *seal* on the bottle was broken. **b** : the state of being closed tightly so that no air, water, etc., can pass through ▪ The caulk gives the window an airtight *seal*.
seal of approval : an action or statement that shows approval or official acceptance ▪ The bill has the President's *seal of approval*. ▪ Fans have given the band's new song their *seal of approval*. [=fans like the band's new song]
set the seal on *Brit, formal* : to make (something) final or definite ▪ The goal *set the seal on* their victory. [=the goal sealed/assured their victory]
under seal *law, formal* : having an official seal that prevents the public from seeing or reading it ▪ a document/contract *under seal*
– compare ³SEAL

³seal /ˈsi:l/ *noun, pl* **seals**
1 [*count*] : a large animal that lives in the sea near coasts, has flippers, and eats fish
2 [*noncount*] : the skin of a seal usually used for fur ▪ a jacket made of *seal*
– compare ²SEAL



seal

SEAL /ˈsi:l/ *noun, pl* **SEALs** [*count*] *US* : a soldier in the U.S. Navy who has special training and belongs to a small group that performs dangerous missions ▪ a Navy *SEAL*
sea lane /ˈsi:ˌleɪn/ *noun, pl* ~ **lanes** [*count*] : a route that ships regularly take across the sea
seal•ant /ˈsi:lənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count*] : a substance that is put on a surface in order to protect it from air, water, etc. — called also *sealer*
sea legs *noun* [*plural*] : the ability to walk steadily and not feel sick while traveling on a boat or ship ▪ When I first started sailing, it took me a while to get my *sea legs*.
¹seal•er /ˈsi:lɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : SEALANT — compare ²SEALER
²sealer *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a person who hunts seals
2 : a ship that is used in hunting seals
– compare ¹SEALER
sea level *noun* [*noncount*] : the average height of the sea's surface ✧ Sea level is a standard level that is used when measuring the height or depth of a place on land ▪ The city is a mile above *sea level*. ▪ The valley sits well below *sea level*.
seal•ing /ˈsi:lɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of hunting seals
sealing wax *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of wax used especially in the past for making seals on letters and documents
sea lion *noun, pl* ~ **lions** [*count*] : a large seal that lives near coasts in the Pacific Ocean
seam /ˈsi:m/ *noun, pl* **seams** [*count*]
1 a : a line where two pieces of cloth or other material are sewn together ▪ the *seams* of a dress **b** : a line where two pieces of wood, metal, dough, etc., are joined together ▪ the *seams* of a boat
2 *technical* : a layer of coal, rock, etc., that is between two other layers of rock underground ▪ coal *seams* ▪ a rich *seam* of iron ore — sometimes used figuratively to describe a good source of something valuable ▪ The book is a rich *seam of* information about the history of baseball.
be bursting at the seams see ¹BURST
come/fall apart at the seams *informal* : to break into parts or pieces — usually used figuratively to describe someone or something that is in very bad condition ▪ The plan/company is *falling apart at the seams*. ▪ She looks like she's going to *come apart at the seams*.
sea•man /ˈsi:mən/ *noun, pl* **-men** [*count*]
1 : an experienced sailor
2 : a sailor in the U.S. or British Navy or the U.S. Coast Guard who is not an officer
sea•man•ship /ˈsi:mənˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : skill in sailing or operating a ship ▪ The captain shows great *seamanship*.
seamed /ˈsi:md/ *adj*
1 : having a visible line where two pieces of material are joined together ▪ *seamed* stockings
2 : having deep lines or wrinkles ▪ her *seamed* face
seam•less /ˈsi:mləs/ *adj*
1 : having no seams ▪ a *seamless* rug/boat
2 : moving from one thing to another easily and without any interruptions or problems ▪ The transitions from scene to scene were *seamless*. ▪ a *seamless* transfer of power
3 : perfect and having no flaws or errors ▪ a *seamless* [=*flawless*] performance
– **seam•less•ly** *adv* ▪ The speaker moved from one subject to the next *seamlessly*.
seam•stress /ˈsi:mstrəs/ *noun, pl* **-stress•es** [*count*] : a woman who sews clothes, curtains, etc., as a job
seamy /ˈsi:mi/ *adj* **seam•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : of or relating to unpleasant and usually illegal things (such as crime, drugs, etc.) ▪ the *seamy* [=*seedy*] side of the city ▪ She was involved in a *seamy* corruption scandal.
séance /ˈseɪˌɑ:ns/ *also* **se•ance** *noun, pl* **-anc•es** [*count*] : a meeting where people try to communicate with the spirits of dead people ▪ They're having/holding a *séance*.
sea•plane /ˈsi:ˌpleɪn/ *noun, pl* **-planes** [*count*] : an airplane that can take off from and land on water
sea•port /ˈsi:ˌpoɚt/ *noun, pl* **-ports** [*count*] : a town or city with a harbor where ships stop to load and unload cargo : PORT ▪ Boston is a major *seaport* in the northeastern U.S.
sea power *noun, pl* ~ **-ers**
1 [*count*] : a country that has a large and powerful navy ▪ Britain was the world's greatest *sea power* at one time.
2 [*noncount*] : the strength and size of a country's navy ▪ a massive increase in *sea power*
sear /ˈsiɚ/ *verb* **sears**; **seared**; **sear•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to burn and damage the surface of (something) with strong and sudden heat ▪ The tree was *seared* by lightning. ▪ The flames *seared* my skin. — often used figuratively ▪ That image was *seared* [=*burned*] into my memory. [=I cannot forget that image] — see also SEARING
2 *US* : to cook the surface of (something, such as a piece of meat) quickly with intense heat ▪ The steak was *seared* over a hot grill.
¹search /ˈsɚʧ/ *noun, pl* **search•es**
1 : an attempt to find someone or something : the act or process of looking for someone or something [*count*] a thorough/exhaustive/quick *search* ▪ We will begin/launch/con-

duct a *search* for a new manager this week. ▪ A ***search and rescue team*** [=a group of people trained to find and help lost people] was sent out for the hikers. — often + *for* ▪ The *search for* the crew was called off. ▪ Police are continuing their *search for* the killer. [*noncount*] Scientists are ***in search of*** the answer. [=scientists are searching for the answer] — see also STRIP SEARCH

2 [*count*] : an attempt to find information in a database, network, Web site, etc., by using a computer program ▪ I performed a *search* for the file. ▪ I did a Web *search* for restaurants in that area.

²search *verb* **searches; searched; search•ing**

1 a [*no obj*] : to carefully look for someone or something : to try to find someone or something ▪ They haven't found him yet, so they have to keep *searching*. ▪ They *searched* among/through the wreckage (for survivors). ▪ We *searched* [=*looked*] everywhere but we couldn't find the keys. — often + *for* ▪ They're still *searching for* the lost child. — often used figuratively ▪ Scientists are *searching for* a cure. [=are doing research to try to find a cure] ▪ He *searched for* the words to comfort her. [=he tried to think of words that he could say to comfort her] ▪ She *searched for* an answer to his question. **b** [+ *obj*] : to carefully look for someone or something in (something) ▪ Police *searched* the vehicle. — often + *for* ▪ He *searched* his room *for* his wallet. **c** [+ *obj*] : to carefully look through the clothing of (someone) for something that may be hidden ▪ The police *searched* her for concealed weapons. ▪ He was *searched* by the guard before he was allowed to enter the courtroom.

2 : to use a computer to find information in (a database, network, Web site, etc.) [+ *obj*] The software allows you to *search* thousands of sites at the same time. — often + *for* ▪ She *searched* the Web *for* information about the car. [*no obj*] She *searched for* information on the Web.

3 [+ *obj*] : to look carefully at (something) in order to get information about it ▪ He *searched* her face, hoping to see some glimmer of emotion.

search me *informal* — used in speech to say that you do not know the answer to a question ▪ "Why did they do that?" "*Search me*." [=I don't know]

search out [*phrasal verb*] ***search (someone or something) out*** *or* ***search out (someone or something)*** : to find (someone or something) by carefully looking ▪ She *searched out* the relevant information.

– **search•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ *Searchers* couldn't find the lost hikers.

search engine *noun, pl* ~ **-gines** [*count*] : a computer program that is used to look for information on the Internet

searching *adj, always used before a noun* : carefully made, done, asked, etc., in order to find out more information about someone or something ▪ a *searching* question ▪ a *searching* gaze/look

– **search•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ She looked *searchingly* at us.

search•light /ˈsɚtʃˌlaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-lights** [*count*] : a very bright light that can be aimed in different directions and that is used to find people or things in the dark

search party *noun, pl* ~ **parties** [*count*] : an organized group of people who are looking for someone or something that is missing ▪ If the hikers don't return by tomorrow, a *search party* will be sent out.

search warrant *noun, pl* ~ **-rants** [*count*] : a legal document that gives the police permission to search a place for evidence

sear•ing /ˈsɪrɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : very hot ▪ the *searing* heat of the fire

2 : extremely intense, severe, etc. ▪ She felt a *searing* pain in her foot. ▪ (*chiefly US*) It was a *searing* experience.

3 *of writing or speech* : very strong and critical ▪ a *searing* review ▪ She made/launched a *searing* attack on her political enemies.

– **sear•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ *searingly* hot food

sea salt *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of salt that is made from seawater and is used in cooking

sea•scape /ˈsiːˌskeɪp/ *noun, pl* **-scapes** [*count*] : a picture or painting of the sea ▪ an artist known for her *seascapes*

sea•shell /ˈsiːˌʃɛl/ *noun, pl* **-shells** [*count*] : the hard, empty shell of a small sea creature (such as a clam) ▪ She collects *seashells*.

sea•shore /ˈsiːˌʃoɚ/ *noun*

the seashore : the land along the edge of the sea that is usually covered with sand or rocks ▪ They built a house near *the seashore*.

– **seashore** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ the *seashore* ecosystem

sea•sick /ˈsiːˌsɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : feeling sick because of the movement of a boat or ship that you are traveling on ▪ The storm/waves made her *seasick*.

– **sea•sick•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The medicine prevents *seasickness*.

¹sea•side /ˈsiːˌsaɪd/ *adj, always used before a noun* : located in the area near the sea ▪ a *seaside* hotel ▪ a quaint *seaside* town/community

²seaside *noun*

the seaside *chiefly Brit* : the areas or towns along or near the sea ▪ a trip to *the seaside*

¹sea•son /ˈsiːzn̩/ *noun, pl* **-sons**

1 [*count*] : one of the four periods (spring, summer, autumn, and winter) into which the year is commonly divided ▪ Spring is my favorite *season* (of the year). ▪ I enjoy watching the *seasons* change every year.

2 : a particular period of time during the year: such as **a** [*count*] : a period of time when a particular sport is being played ▪ the baseball/football *season* ▪ The team had a good *season* last year. [=the team played well last year] — see also OFF-SEASON, POSTSEASON, PRESEASON **b** : a period of time when a particular event, process, activity, etc., occurs [*count*] These plants have a short growing *season*. ▪ the ***breeding/mating season*** [=the period of time when animals, birds, etc., are mating] ▪ the ***Christmas season*** ▪ (*US*) the ***holiday season*** [=the time from late November through January when several holidays (such as Christmas, Hanukkah, and New Year's Eve) happen] [*noncount*] The article talks about ways to stay healthy during ***flu season***. [=the time of year, and especially the winter, when many people get influenza and other mild illnesses] ▪ June marks the beginning of ***tourist season***. [=the time when many people go to visit places as tourists] ▪ During ***peak season*** [=the time when tourists visit the most], the island is very crowded. **c** [*count, noncount*] : a period of time when people are legally allowed to hunt, fish, etc. ▪ Deer *season* starts next week. ▪ lobster *season* ▪ hunting/fishing *season* — see also OPEN SEASON **d** [*count, noncount*] : the time of the year during which something grows and can be harvested ▪ blueberry *season* **e** : a time of the year during which a particular type of weather usually happens [*count*] the hot/dry/rainy *season* [*noncount*] Monsoon *season* is coming soon. **f** [*singular*] : a time of the year when a new fashion, color, hair style, etc., is popular ▪ This *season's* fashions are very feminine. ▪ Pink is in style this *season*. **g** [*noncount*] : a period of time when a series of new television shows, plays, etc., are being shown or performed ▪ I can't wait until the new (television) *season* starts. ▪ The theater company will be putting on plays by Shakespeare this *season*. ▪ one of the shows in the network's *season* lineup

in season/out of season **1** ✧ When fruits and vegetables are *in season*, it is the time of year when they are being harvested and are easily available. When they are *out of season*, they are not being harvested in a place near you and are more difficult or expensive to get. ▪ Strawberries are *in season*. ▪ They import asparagus when it is *out of season* here. **2** ✧ When animals, fish, etc., are *in season*, it is the time of year when they can be legally hunted, caught, etc. When they are *out of season*, they cannot be legally hunted, caught, etc. ▪ Deer may only be hunted *in season*. ▪ That fish is not *in season*. = That fish is *out of season*.

Season's Greetings — used in writing as a greeting in the time of year when Christmas and several other holidays happen near each other

²season *verb* **-sons; -soned; -son•ing**

1 : to add salt, pepper, spices, etc., to (something) to give it more flavor [+ *obj*] He *seasoned* the stew. [*no obj*] ***Season to taste***. [=add as much seasoning as you like so it tastes good to you]

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (wood) ready for use by slowly drying it ▪ You must *season* the firewood.

sea•son•able /ˈsiːzn̩əbəl/ *adj, of weather* : normal for a certain time of year ▪ We've been having *seasonable* weather. ▪ These temperatures are *seasonable*. — opposite UNSEASONABLE

– **sea•son•ably** /ˈsiːzn̩əbli/ *adv* ▪ The weather has been *seasonably* cool.

sea•son•al /ˈsiːzn̩əl/ *adj*

1 : happening or needed during a particular time of the year ▪ The rise in gas prices is *seasonal*. ▪ The store hires *seasonal* workers during the holidays.

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2 : normal for a certain time of year ▪ *seasonal* decorations ▪ I have *seasonal* allergies.

– **sea•son•al•i•ty** /ˌsi:zəˈnæləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* ▪ We tracked the *seasonality* of rainfall levels. – **sea•son•al•ly** *adv* ▪ The restaurant changes its menu *seasonally*.

seasonal affective disorder *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : an illness that makes people feel sad and tired during the winter because there is less light during the day

seasoned *adj*

1 *of food* : having a lot of spices, herbs, salt, pepper, etc., added ▪ a highly *seasoned* stew

2 *always used before a noun* : having a lot of experience doing something ▪ a *seasoned* actor/writer/traveler

3 *of wood* : dry and ready for use ▪ *seasoned* lumber

sea•son•ing /ˈsi:zn̩ɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** : a substance (such as salt, pepper, a spice, or an herb) that is used to add flavor to food [*count*] My favorite *seasonings* are black pepper and oregano. [*noncount*] Add some *seasoning* to the marinade. ▪ The soup needs more *seasoning*.

season ticket *noun, pl* ~ **-ets** [*count*] : a ticket for a certain place, activity, or series of events (such as sports contests) that you can use many times during a particular period of time ▪ I have/hold *season tickets* for our team's games. ▪ I get a *season ticket* for the commuter train from my employer. ▪ *season ticket* holders

[1]seat /ˈsi:t/ *noun, pl* **-seats**

1 [*count*] : something (such as a chair) that you sit on : a place for sitting ▪ There were *seats* for six people at the table. ▪ an uncomfortable bicycle *seat* ▪ a car with leather *seats* ▪ He used the box as a *seat*. ▪ He couldn't find his *seat* in the concert hall. ▪ The city recently built a new 1,000-*seat* theater. ▪ She booked/reserved a *seat* on the next flight to Rome. ▪ Please ***have/take a seat*** [=please sit down] ▪ The teacher asked us to ***take our seats***. [=sit down in our usual or assigned places] — see picture at BICYCLE; see also BACKSEAT, CATBIRD SEAT

2 a [*count*] : the part of a chair or other piece of furniture that a person sits on ▪ The stool's *seat* is broken. ▪ The chairs have woven *seats*. **b** [*singular*] : the part of a piece of clothing (such as a skirt or pair of pants) that you sit on — + *of* ▪ You have a tear in the *seat of* your pants. **c** [*count*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : the part of the body on which you sit ▪ I fell off the horse and had a sore *seat* [=*bottom*] for weeks.

3 [*count*] : an official position within an organization and the right to be present when that organization meets ▪ The Democrats gained two more *seats* in the last election. ▪ She won a Senate *seat*. ▪ a *seat* on the federal court ▪ a *seat* on the board ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) He ***took his seat*** [=began his official duties as a member] in Parliament.

4 [*singular*] **a** : a place or area where a particular activity, function, etc., occurs — + *of* ▪ The university has been a *seat of* learning since the Middle Ages. ▪ the part of the brain that is the *seat of* reasoning **b** : a place (such as a city) where the people who run a government, religion, etc., are based — + *of* ▪ the *seat of* government/power ▪ The Vatican is the *seat of* the Roman Catholic Church. — see also COUNTY SEAT

by the seat of your pants : by using your own judgment and feelings to deal with each new problem or task without planning, preparation, or help from others ▪ He was running the company *by the seat of his pants*. ▪ We were ***flying by the seat of our pants*** when we started our business. — see also SEAT-OF-THE-PANTS

get/put bums on seats see [5]BUM

in the driver's seat see DRIVER

on the edge of your seat see [1]EDGE

[2]seat *verb* **seats**; **seat•ed**; **seat•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to give (a person) a place to sit ▪ I could *seat* you here if you wish. — often used as *(be) seated* ▪ Please *be seated*. [=please sit down] ▪ She *was seated* in the front row.

2 : to have enough seats for (a certain number of people) ▪ The restaurant *seats* 120 (people). ▪ The plans call for a stadium *seating* 30,000 people.

seat belt *noun, pl* ~ **belts** [*count*] : a strap on a vehicle's seat that holds a person in the seat if there is an accident ▪ Fasten your *seat belt*. — see picture at CAR

seat•er /ˈsi:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : something (such as a vehicle) that has a specified number of seats — used in combination ▪ Our couch is a three-*seater*. — see also TWO-SEATER

seat•ing /ˈsi:tɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*noncount*] : seats or places to sit ▪ There won't be enough *seating* for everyone. ▪ The auditorium has *seating* for 400. ▪ There is additional *seating* on the deck. ▪ The auditorium has a *seating* capacity of 400. ▪ Here is the ***seating arrangement/plan*** [=a plan that shows where people should sit] for our wedding reception.

2 [*count*] : a scheduled time when people are allowed into a performance, a meal, etc. ▪ There are two *seatings* for tea. ▪ We bought tickets for the 5:30 *seating* of the show.

seat•mate /ˈsi:tˌmeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-mates** [*count*] *US* : a person who sits next to you in a bus, airplane, etc. ▪ My *seatmate* on the flight to Rome was very friendly.

seat–of–the–pants *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly US* : done or made by using your own judgment and feelings without planning, preparation, or help from others ▪ It was a *seat-of-the-pants* decision.

sea turtle *noun, pl* ~ **turtles** [*count*] : a type of large turtle that lives in the sea

sea urchin *noun, pl* ~ **-chins** [*count*] : a small sea animal that lives on the ocean floor and is covered in sharp spines

sea•wall /ˈsi:ˌwɑ:l/ *noun, pl* **-walls** [*count*] : a wall built to keep sea waves from coming up onto land

sea•ward /ˈsi:wɚd/ *also* **sea•wards** /ˈsi:wɚdz/ *adv* : toward the sea ▪ We drifted *seaward*. ▪ She gazed *seaward*.

– **seaward** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ the *seaward* slope of the mountain

sea•wa•ter /ˈsi:ˌwɑ:tɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : water in or from the sea

sea•weed /ˈsi:ˌwi:d/ *noun, pl* **-weeds** [*count, noncount*] : a type of plant that grows in the sea

sea•wor•thy /ˈsi:ˌwɚði/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : fit or safe to travel on the sea ▪ a *seaworthy* ship — compare AIRWORTHY, ROADWORTHY

– **sea•wor•thi•ness** /ˈsi:ˌwɚðinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He doubted the ship's *seaworthiness*.

se•ba•ceous /sɪˈbeɪʃəs/ *adj, always used before a noun, biology* : producing an oily substance in the body ▪ *sebaceous* glands

[1]sec *abbr* **1** second, seconds ▪ 2 min, 45 *sec* **2** section ▪ *Sec* 2, Row K, Seat 45 **3** ***Sec.*** secretary ▪ *Sec.* of Internal Affairs

[2]sec /ˈsɛk/ *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : a very brief time : SECOND ▪ Wait just a *sec*.

SEC *abbr, US* Securities and Exchange Commission ✧ The Securities and Exchange Commission is a part of the U.S. federal government that enforces laws about securities like stocks.

sec•a•teurs /ˌsɛkəˈtɚz/ *noun* [*plural*] *Brit* : PRUNING SHEARS

se•cede /sɪˈsi:d/ *verb* **-cedes**; **-ced•ed**; **-ced•ing** [*no obj*] : to separate from a nation or state and become independent ▪ South Carolina *seceded* from the Union in 1860.

se•ces•sion /sɪˈsɛʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** [*count*] : the act of separating from a nation or state and becoming independent ▪ the *secession* of the Southern states

se•ces•sion•ist /sɪˈsɛʃənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a person who thinks that a nation, state, etc., should separate from another and become independent

se•clude /sɪˈklu:d/ *verb* **-cludes**; **-clud•ed**; **-clud•ing** [+ *obj*] : to keep (someone) away from other people ▪ He *secluded* himself in his room to study for the exam.

secluded *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : hidden from view : private and not used or seen by many people ▪ a *secluded* beach ▪ We looked for a *secluded* spot in the park to have our picnic.

2 : placed apart from other people ▪ She led a *secluded* [=*solitary*] life on the family farm.

se•clu•sion /sɪˈklu:ʒən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the act of placing or keeping someone away from other people : the act of secluding someone ▪ the *seclusion* of women that occurs in some countries

2 : the state of being away from other people : a secluded state or condition ▪ I enjoyed the *seclusion* of the island. ▪ After his wife died he lived ***in seclusion***. [=he lived by himself and kept away from other people]

[1]sec•ond /ˈsɛkənd/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 a : occupying the number two position in a series ▪ We sat in the *second* row. ▪ the *second* house on the left ▪ the author's *second* novel ▪ B is the *second* letter in the alphabet. ▪ That's the *second* time I've seen him today. ▪ The office is on the ***second floor***. [=(*US*) the floor just above the lowest floor; (*Brit*) the floor that is two floors above the lowest floor] **b** : next to the first in importance or rank ▪ Chocolate is my first choice; vanilla is my *second* choice. ▪ I won *second* prize.

c : another of the same kind ▪ They needed a *second* car. [=they needed two cars] ▪ The chair needs a *second* coat of paint. ▪ The word has a *second* meaning. [=the word has two meanings] ▪ She took a *second* helping [=she took another serving] of carrots. ▪ English as a ***second language*** [=a language that you learn in addition to the language you first learned when you were a young child] ▪ I could have fired him, but I gave him a ***second chance*** [=I gave him another chance] ▪ I recommend you get a ***second opinion*** [=advice from another doctor to make sure the first advice is right] ▪ He passed her by without (giving her) a ***second glance*** [=he didn't notice her] ▪ She liked the house enough to give it a ***second look*** [=she looked at the house again]

2 — used to refer to the forward gear or speed of a vehicle that is next to the lowest forward gear ▪ You should put the car in *second* gear when you go up the hill. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The movie never really gets out of *second* gear. ▪ The program is shifting into *second* gear now that all the proposals have been approved.

3 : having or playing the part in a group of instruments that is one level lower than the first ▪ She plays *second* violin in the city orchestra. — see also *play second fiddle* at [1]FIDDLE

every second — used to indicate how often a repeated activity happens or is done ▪ We elect a mayor *every second* year. [=in alternate years; every other year]

second only to **:** only less important than (something or someone) ▪ Rice is *second only to* corn as the state's major crop.

second to none see [1]NONE

[2]second *adv*

1 : in a position that only comes after one other in time, order, or importance ▪ The university ranks *second* in the nation. ▪ This is the *second* most common error made by job applicants. ▪ Milan is Italy's *second* largest city. ▪ I placed/finished *second* in the race. = (*US*) I came in *second* in the race. = (*Brit*) I came *second* in the race. ▪ The misspelled word is in the ***second to last*** paragraph. [=in the paragraph that comes just before the last one] — see also SECOND BEST

2 — used to introduce a statement that is the second in a series of statements ▪ It's pointless to plan a trip—first, we can't afford one, and *second*, we don't have time to take one.

[3]second *noun, pl* **-onds**

1 [*singular*] **:** something that is second **:** the second thing in a series ▪ His birthday is on the *second* of June. [=on June 2] ▪ The win was his *second* of the year. — see also *a close second* at [2]CLOSE

2 *seconds* [*plural*] **:** another serving of food taken after you are finished with the first serving ▪ Who wants *seconds*?

3 [*singular*] **:** a statement made to support or approve a motion in a meeting ▪ There's been a motion to vote on the proposal. Do I hear a *second*?

4 [*count*] **:** a product that is cheaper than normal because it is damaged or imperfect — usually plural ▪ These curtains are *seconds*. ▪ The store sells factory *seconds*.

5 [*noncount*] **:** the forward gear or speed in a vehicle that is one speed higher than first gear ▪ Put the car/bicycle in *second* when you go up the hill.

6 [*count*] *Brit* **:** an undergraduate degree of the second highest level from a British university ▪ He took/received a *second* in history.

7 [*noncount*] *baseball* **:** SECOND BASE ▪ He stole *second*. ▪ There's a runner on *second*.

8 [*count*] **:** a person whose job is to help someone who is fighting in a boxing match or duel

– compare [4]SECOND

[4]second *noun, pl* **-onds** [*count*]

1 a : a unit of time that is equal to 1/60 of a minute ▪ There was a delay of several *seconds*. ▪ a 30-*second* TV commercial ▪ phone lines transmitting data at 1,200 bits per *second* ▪ The sound came on for a *second* or two and then went off again. **b** *informal* **:** a very brief period of time ▪ For a *second* (there) I thought you were kidding. ▪ This will (just/only) take a *second*. ▪ I'll be back in a *second*. [=I'll be back very soon] ▪ I can't come ***right this second*** [=at this very moment] ▪ "Did you enjoy her visit?" "I enjoyed ***every second***" [=I enjoyed the entire visit] ▪ I expect her back ***any second now*** [=very soon] ▪ It could happen ***at any second*** [=at any time] — see also SPLIT SECOND

2 *technical* **:** one of 60 equal parts into which a minute can be divided for measuring angles ▪ 40 degrees, 27 minutes, and 45 *seconds*

just a second see [2]JUST

just this second see [2]JUST

– compare [3]SECOND

[5]second *verb* **sec•onds; sec•ond•ed; sec•ond•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to approve (something, such as a motion) during a meeting so that discussion or voting can begin ▪ I would like to *second* the motion to adjourn. **b** *informal* **:** to agree with (a suggestion or statement) ▪ "Let's call it a day." "I'll *second* that."

2 /sɪˈkɑːnd/ *Brit* **:** to move (someone) from a regular job to a different place, department, etc., for a short period of time — usually used as *(be) seconded* ▪ She *was seconded* to the Birmingham office for six months.

– sec•ond•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ Nomination forms must be signed by a nominator and a *seconder*.

[1]sec•ond•ary /ˈsɛkənˌderi, *Brit* ˈsɛkəndri/ *adj*

1 : not as important or valuable as something else ▪ Winning is *secondary*—we play for the fun of the sport. ▪ There are some *secondary* issues/considerations which must be taken into account as well. ▪ *secondary* goals ▪ I want a car that's reliable; the color is of *secondary* importance. ▪ The *secondary* roads are indicated on the map with a green line. — often + *to* ▪ In some children's books, the text is *secondary to* the illustrations. — compare PRIMARY, TERTIARY

2 : of or relating to education of students who have completed primary school ▪ This job requires at least a *secondary* [=high school] education. ▪ a *secondary* English textbook — see also SECONDARY SCHOOL

3 : caused by or coming from something else ▪ a *secondary* infection ▪ Better gas mileage is a *secondary* benefit of reduced speed limits. ▪ The biography uses mostly *secondary* sources. [=information that did not come from original/primary sources but came from research done by others]

– sec•ond•ari•ly /ˌsɛkənˈderəli/ *adv* ▪ The building planners are only *secondarily* concerned with accessibility.

[2]secondary *noun, pl* **-aries** [*count*] *American football* **:** the players on the defense who are positioned away from the line of scrimmage and who mainly try to stop forward passes by the offense ▪ The team has a strong *secondary*.

secondary color *noun, pl* ~ **-ors** [*count*] **:** a color (such as green, orange, or purple) that is formed by mixing two primary colors

secondary school *noun, pl* ~ **schools** [*count*]

1 *US* **:** HIGH SCHOOL 1 ▪ a job that requires at least a *secondary school* education

2 *Brit* **:** a school for children between the ages of 11 and 16 or 18 — compare PRIMARY SCHOOL

second banana *noun, pl* ~ **-nanas** [*count*] *US, informal* **:** a someone who is not as important or powerful as another person ▪ an actor who always plays (the) *second banana* to some big star — compare TOP BANANA

second base *noun* [*singular*] *baseball* **:** the base that must be touched second by a base runner ▪ He slid into *second base*.; *also* **:** the position of the player who defends the area near second base ▪ He used to play *second base* for the Red Sox. — compare FIRST BASE, HOME PLATE, THIRD BASE

second baseman *noun, pl* ~ **-men** [*count*] *baseball* **:** the player who defends the area near second base **:** the fielder who plays second base

second best *noun* [*noncount*] **:** something that is good but not the best ▪ He won't settle for *second best*.

come off second best *chiefly Brit* **:** to finish in second place **:** to fail to win ▪ Our team *came off second best*.

– sec•ond–best /ˌsɛkəndˈbɛst/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ We were seated at the *second-best* table. ▪ He was considered the team's *second-best* pitcher.

second childhood *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a time when an old person whose mind is failing begins to behave like a child again ▪ an old man going through his *second childhood*

second class *noun*

1 [*noncount*] **a :** a level of service on a train, ship, etc., that is just below first class ▪ The airline offers special services for travelers in first and *second class*. **b :** a class of mail in the U.S. that includes newspapers, magazines, etc. **c :** a class of mail in the UK that costs less and takes longer to arrive than first class

2 [*singular*] *Brit* **:** an undergraduate degree of the second highest level given by a British university ▪ She got an upper *second class* in English at Oxford.

second–class *adj*

1 : of or relating to second class ▪ a *second-class* seat ▪ *second-class* postage

S

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2 : to have enough seats for (a certain number of people) ▪ The restaurant *seats* 120 (people). ▪ The plans call for a stadium *seating* 30,000 people.

seat belt *noun, pl* ~ **belts** [*count*] : a strap on a vehicle's seat that holds a person in the seat if there is an accident ▪ Fasten your *seat belt*. — see picture at CAR

seat•er /ˈsi:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : something (such as a vehicle) that has a specified number of seats — used in combination ▪ Our couch is a three-*seater*. — see also TWO-SEATER

seat•ing /ˈsi:tɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*noncount*] : seats or places to sit ▪ There won't be enough *seating* for everyone. ▪ The auditorium has *seating* for 400. ▪ There is additional *seating* on the deck. ▪ The auditorium has a *seating* capacity of 400. ▪ Here is the ***seating arrangement/plan*** [=a plan that shows where people should sit] for our wedding reception.

2 [*count*] : a scheduled time when people are allowed into a performance, a meal, etc. ▪ There are two *seatings* for tea. ▪ We bought tickets for the 5:30 *seating* of the show.

seat•mate /ˈsi:tˌmeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-mates** [*count*] *US* : a person who sits next to you in a bus, airplane, etc. ▪ My *seatmate* on the flight to Rome was very friendly.

seat–of–the–pants *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly US* : done or made by using your own judgment and feelings without planning, preparation, or help from others ▪ It was a *seat-of-the-pants* decision.

sea turtle *noun, pl* ~ **turtles** [*count*] : a type of large turtle that lives in the sea

sea urchin *noun, pl* ~ **-chins** [*count*] : a small sea animal that lives on the ocean floor and is covered in sharp spines

sea•wall /ˈsi:ˌwɑ:l/ *noun, pl* **-walls** [*count*] : a wall built to keep sea waves from coming up onto land

sea•ward /ˈsi:wɚd/ *also* **sea•wards** /ˈsi:wɚdz/ *adv* : toward the sea ▪ We drifted *seaward*. ▪ She gazed *seaward*.

– **seaward** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ the *seaward* slope of the mountain

sea•wa•ter /ˈsi:ˌwɑ:tɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : water in or from the sea

sea•weed /ˈsi:ˌwi:d/ *noun, pl* **-weeds** [*count, noncount*] : a type of plant that grows in the sea

sea•wor•thy /ˈsi:ˌwɚði/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : fit or safe to travel on the sea ▪ a *seaworthy* ship — compare AIRWORTHY, ROADWORTHY

– **sea•wor•thi•ness** /ˈsi:ˌwɚðinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He doubted the ship's *seaworthiness*.

se•ba•ceous /sɪˈbeɪʃəs/ *adj, always used before a noun, biology* : producing an oily substance in the body ▪ *sebaceous* glands

[1]sec *abbr* **1** second, seconds ▪ 2 min, 45 *sec* **2** section ▪ *Sec* 2, Row K, Seat 45 **3** ***Sec.*** secretary ▪ *Sec.* of Internal Affairs

[2]sec /ˈsɛk/ *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : a very brief time : SECOND ▪ Wait just a *sec*.

SEC *abbr, US* Securities and Exchange Commission ✧ The Securities and Exchange Commission is a part of the U.S. federal government that enforces laws about securities like stocks.

sec•a•teurs /ˌsɛkəˈtɚz/ *noun* [*plural*] *Brit* : PRUNING SHEARS

se•cede /sɪˈsi:d/ *verb* **-cedes; -ced•ed; -ced•ing** [*no obj*] : to separate from a nation or state and become independent ▪ South Carolina *seceded* from the Union in 1860.

se•ces•sion /sɪˈsɛʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** [*count*] : the act of separating from a nation or state and becoming independent ▪ the *secession* of the Southern states

se•ces•sion•ist /sɪˈsɛʃənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a person who thinks that a nation, state, etc., should separate from another and become independent

se•clude /sɪˈklu:d/ *verb* **-cludes; -clud•ed; -clud•ing** [+ *obj*] : to keep (someone) away from other people ▪ He *secluded* himself in his room to study for the exam.

secluded *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : hidden from view : private and not used or seen by many people ▪ a *secluded* beach ▪ We looked for a *secluded* spot in the park to have our picnic.

2 : placed apart from other people ▪ She led a *secluded* [=*solitary*] life on the family farm.

se•clu•sion /sɪˈklu:ʒən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the act of placing or keeping someone away from other people : the act of secluding someone ▪ the *seclusion* of women that occurs in some countries

2 : the state of being away from other people : a secluded state or condition ▪ I enjoyed the *seclusion* of the island. ▪ After his wife died he lived ***in seclusion***. [=he lived by himself and kept away from other people]

[1]sec•ond /ˈsɛkənd/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 a : occupying the number two position in a series ▪ We sat in the *second* row. ▪ the *second* house on the left ▪ the author's *second* novel ▪ B is the *second* letter in the alphabet. ▪ That's the *second* time I've seen him today. ▪ The office is on the ***second floor***. [=(*US*) the floor just above the lowest floor; (*Brit*) the floor that is two floors above the lowest floor] **b** : next to the first in importance or rank ▪ Chocolate is my first choice; vanilla is my *second* choice. ▪ I won *second* prize.

c : another of the same kind ▪ They needed a *second* car. [=they needed two cars] ▪ The chair needs a *second* coat of paint. ▪ The word has a *second* meaning. [=the word has two meanings] ▪ She took a *second* helping [=she took another serving] of carrots. ▪ English as a ***second language*** [=a language that you learn in addition to the language you first learned when you were a young child] ▪ I could have fired him, but I gave him a ***second chance*** [=I gave him another chance] ▪ I recommend you get a ***second opinion*** [=advice from another doctor to make sure the first advice is right] ▪ He passed her by without (giving her) a ***second glance*** [=he didn't notice her] ▪ She liked the house enough to give it a ***second look*** [=she looked at the house again]

2 — used to refer to the forward gear or speed of a vehicle that is next to the lowest forward gear ▪ You should put the car in *second* gear when you go up the hill. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The movie never really gets out of *second* gear. ▪ The program is shifting into *second* gear now that all the proposals have been approved.

3 : having or playing the part in a group of instruments that is one level lower than the first ▪ She plays *second* violin in the city orchestra. — see also *play second fiddle* at ¹FIDDLE

every second — used to indicate how often a repeated activity happens or is done ▪ We elect a mayor *every second* year. [=in alternate years; every other year]

second only to : only less important than (something or someone) ▪ Rice is *second only to* corn as the state's major crop.

second to none see ¹NONE

²second *adv*

1 : in a position that only comes after one other in time, order, or importance ▪ The university ranks *second* in the nation. ▪ This is the *second* most common error made by job applicants. ▪ Milan is Italy's *second* largest city. ▪ I placed/finished *second* in the race. = (*US*) I came in *second* in the race. = (*Brit*) I came *second* in the race. ▪ The misspelled word is in the ***second to last*** paragraph. [=in the paragraph that comes just before the last one] — see also SECOND BEST

2 — used to introduce a statement that is the second in a series of statements ▪ It's pointless to plan a trip—first, we can't afford one, and *second*, we don't have time to take one.

³second *noun, pl* **-onds**

1 [*singular*] : something that is second : the second thing in a series ▪ His birthday is on the *second* of June. [=on June 2] ▪ The win was his *second* of the year. — see also *a close second* at ²CLOSE

2 *seconds* [*plural*] : another serving of food taken after you are finished with the first serving ▪ Who wants *seconds*?

3 [*singular*] : a statement made to support or approve a motion in a meeting ▪ There's been a motion to vote on the proposal. Do I hear a *second*?

4 [*count*] : a product that is cheaper than normal because it is damaged or imperfect — usually plural ▪ These curtains are *seconds*. ▪ The store sells factory *seconds*.

5 [*noncount*] : the forward gear or speed in a vehicle that is one speed higher than first gear ▪ Put the car/bicycle in *second* when you go up the hill.

6 [*count*] *Brit* : an undergraduate degree of the second highest level from a British university ▪ He took/received a *second* in history.

7 [*noncount*] *baseball* : SECOND BASE ▪ He stole *second*. ▪ There's a runner on *second*.

8 [*count*] : a person whose job is to help someone who is fighting in a boxing match or duel

– compare ⁴SECOND

⁴second *noun, pl* **-onds** [*count*]

1 a : a unit of time that is equal to 1/60 of a minute ▪ There was a delay of several *seconds*. ▪ a 30-*second* TV commercial ▪ phone lines transmitting data at 1,200 bits per *second* ▪ The sound came on for a *second* or two and then went off again. **b** *informal* : a very brief period of time ▪ For a *second* (there) I thought you were kidding. ▪ This will (just/only) take a *second*. ▪ I'll be back in a *second*. [=I'll be back very soon] ▪ I can't come ***right this second*** [=at this very moment] ▪ "Did you enjoy her visit?" "I enjoyed ***every second***" [=I enjoyed the entire visit] ▪ I expect her back ***any second now*** [=very soon] ▪ It could happen ***at any second*** [=at any time] — see also SPLIT SECOND

2 *technical* : one of 60 equal parts into which a minute can be divided for measuring angles ▪ 40 degrees, 27 minutes, and 45 *seconds*

just a second see ²JUST

just this second see ²JUST

– compare ³SECOND

⁵second *verb* **sec•onds; sec•ond•ed; sec•ond•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to approve (something, such as a motion) during a meeting so that discussion or voting can begin ▪ I would like to *second* the motion to adjourn. **b** *informal* : to agree with (a suggestion or statement) ▪ "Let's call it a day." "I'll *second* that."

2 /sɪˈkɑːnd/ *Brit* : to move (someone) from a regular job to a different place, department, etc., for a short period of time — usually used as *(be) seconded* ▪ She *was seconded* to the Birmingham office for six months.

– **sec•ond•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ Nomination forms must be signed by a nominator and a *seconder*.

¹sec•ond•ary /ˈsɛkənˌderi, *Brit* ˈsɛkəndri/ *adj*

1 : not as important or valuable as something else ▪ Winning is *secondary*—we play for the fun of the sport. ▪ There are some *secondary* issues/considerations which must be taken into account as well. ▪ *secondary* goals ▪ I want a car that's reliable; the color is of *secondary* importance. ▪ The *secondary* roads are indicated on the map with a green line. — often + *to* ▪ In some children's books, the text is *secondary to* the illustrations. — compare PRIMARY, TERTIARY

2 : of or relating to education of students who have completed primary school ▪ This job requires at least a *secondary* [=high school] education. ▪ a *secondary* English textbook — see also SECONDARY SCHOOL

3 : caused by or coming from something else ▪ a *secondary* infection ▪ Better gas mileage is a *secondary* benefit of reduced speed limits. ▪ The biography uses mostly *secondary* sources. [=information that did not come from original/primary sources but came from research done by others]

– **sec•ond•ar•i•ly** /ˌsɛkənˈderəli/ *adv* ▪ The building planners are only *secondarily* concerned with accessibility.

²secondary *noun, pl* **-aries** [*count*] *American football* : the players on the defense who are positioned away from the line of scrimmage and who mainly try to stop forward passes by the offense ▪ The team has a strong *secondary*.

secondary color *noun, pl* ~ **-ors** [*count*] : a color (such as green, orange, or purple) that is formed by mixing two primary colors

secondary school *noun, pl* ~ **schools** [*count*]

1 *US* : HIGH SCHOOL 1 ▪ a job that requires at least a *secondary school* education

2 *Brit* : a school for children between the ages of 11 and 16 or 18 — compare PRIMARY SCHOOL

second banana *noun, pl* ~ **-nanas** [*count*] *US, informal* : a someone who is not as important or powerful as another person ▪ an actor who always plays (the) *second banana* to some big star — compare TOP BANANA

second base *noun* [*singular*] *baseball* : the base that must be touched second by a base runner ▪ He slid into *second base*.; *also* : the position of the player who defends the area near second base ▪ He used to play *second base* for the Red Sox. — compare FIRST BASE, HOME PLATE, THIRD BASE

second baseman *noun, pl* ~ **-men** [*count*] *baseball* : the player who defends the area near second base : the fielder who plays second base

second best *noun* [*noncount*] : something that is good but not the best ▪ He won't settle for *second best*.

come off second best *chiefly Brit* : to finish in second place : to fail to win ▪ Our team *came off second best*.

– **sec•ond–best** /ˌsɛkəndˈbɛst/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ We were seated at the *second-best* table. ▪ He was considered the team's *second-best* pitcher.

second childhood *noun* [*noncount*] : a time when an old person whose mind is failing begins to behave like a child again ▪ an old man going through his *second childhood*

second class *noun*

1 [*noncount*] **a** : a level of service on a train, ship, etc., that is just below first class ▪ The airline offers special services for travelers in first and *second class*. **b** : a class of mail in the U.S. that includes newspapers, magazines, etc. **c** : a class of mail in the UK that costs less and takes longer to arrive than first class

2 [*singular*] *Brit* : an undergraduate degree of the second highest level given by a British university ▪ She got an upper *second class* in English at Oxford.

second–class *adj*

1 : of or relating to second class ▪ a *second-class* seat ▪ *second-class* postage

S

2 a : not given the same rights or treatment as the rest of the people in a society • They complained that they were being treated like ***second-class citizens***. [=being treated as if they were less important and deserving of respect than other people] **b** : not of the best quality • They received *second-class* treatment. • a *second-class* mind/intellect
– **second-class** *adv* • She always travels *second-class*.

Second Coming *noun*
the Second Coming : the time when Christians believe that Jesus Christ will return to judge humanity at the end of the world

second cousin *noun, pl* ~ **-sins** [*count*] : a child of your parent's cousin • Susan is my *second cousin*. — compare FIRST COUSIN

second-degree *adj, always used before a noun*
1 *US, of a crime* : of a level of seriousness that is less than first-degree : deserving punishment but not the most severe punishment • *second-degree* assault/murder
2 : causing a moderate level of injury • He received/suffered *second-degree* burns. • a *second-degree* concussion — compare FIRST-DEGREE, THIRD-DEGREE
– **second degree** *noun* [*singular*] *US* • He was charged with assault in the *second degree*.

sec•ond–guess /ˌsɛkənd'gɛs/ *verb* **-guess•es**; **-guessed**; **-guess•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *US* : to criticize or question the actions or decisions of someone • Don't *second-guess* the umpire. = Don't *second-guess* the umpire's decision.
2 : to try to guess or predict what (someone or something) will do • He gave up trying to *second-guess* the stock market.
– **sec•ond–guess•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US* • He received criticism from *second-guessers* in the media.

sec•ond•hand /'sɛkənd'hænd/ *adj*
1 a : having had a previous owner : USED • He buys *secondhand* CDs. • a dealer in *secondhand* furniture **b** : buying or selling things that have already been owned or used • He's always haunting the *secondhand* shops for bargains. • a *secondhand* bookstore
2 : not original : taken from someone who was not directly involved • *secondhand* information/reports — compare FIRSTHAND
– **secondhand** *adv* • She buys all her clothes *secondhand*. • I heard about the news *secondhand*.

second hand *noun, pl* ~ **hands** [*count*] : the hand that marks the seconds on a watch or clock — compare HOUR HAND, MINUTE HAND

secondhand smoke *noun* [*noncount*] : smoke from a cigarette, cigar, pipe, etc., that can be inhaled by people who are near the person who is smoking

second–in–command *noun, pl* **seconds–in–command** [*count*] : someone who is ranked second in a group or organization • He served as *second-in-command* to the sheriff. • the police chief's *second-in-command*

second lieutenant *noun, pl* ~ **-ants** [*count*] : an officer in the U.S. Army, Air Force, or Marine Corps who ranks below a first lieutenant

sec•ond•ly /'sɛkəndli/ *adv* — used to introduce a statement that is the second statement in a series • I'm moving because, for one thing, my apartment is too small, and, *secondly*, I found one closer to my job. — compare FIRSTLY, THIRDLY

se•cond•ment /sɪ'kɑːndmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : a period of time when you are away from your regular job while you do another job • She returned to London after her *secondment* in/to Birmingham.

second nature *noun* [*noncount*] : something you can do easily or without much thought because you have done it many times before • After a while, using the gearshift becomes *second nature*.

second person *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *grammar* : a set of words or forms (such as pronouns or verb forms) that refer to the person that the speaker or writer is addressing — often used before another noun • "You" is the *second person* singular and plural pronoun in English.
2 : a writing style that uses second person pronouns and verbs • The author begins the story in the *second person* with the sentence "You open the door and step into the room." — compare FIRST PERSON, THIRD PERSON

sec•ond–rate /ˌsɛkənd'reɪt/ *adj* : not very good : of ordinary or inferior quality • a *second-rate* education • The meal was only *second-rate*.

sec•ond–string /ˌsɛkənd'strɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly US, sports* : not used as one of the regular players on a team • a *second-string* quarterback — compare FIRST-STRING
– **second stringer** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US*

second thought *noun, pl* ~ **thoughts** [*count*] : a feeling of guilt, doubt, worry, etc., that you have after you have decided to do something or after something has happened • After she agreed to lend him the money, she had *second thoughts*. • She was having *second thoughts* about getting married. • They throw away perfectly good food ***without (so much as) a second thought***. [=without worrying about it] • Don't ***give a second thought to*** [=don't worry about] that broken vase. • He hardly ***gave it a second thought***.
on second thought (*US*) *or Brit* ***on second thoughts*** : after thinking about something again • *On second thought*, I think I'll go after all.

second wind *noun* [*singular*] : a feeling of new energy that allows you to continue to do something after you had begun to feel tired • The sight of the finish line gave the runners a *second wind*. • He suddenly got his *second wind* and was able to complete the project on time.

se•cre•cy /'siːkrəsi/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the act of keeping information secret • She ***swore him to secrecy***. [=made him promise to keep a secret]
2 : the quality or state of being hidden or secret • The project was cloaked/shrouded in *secrecy*. [=the true nature of the project was kept secret]

[1]se•cret /'siːkrət/ *adj*
1 : kept hidden from others : known to only a few people • the robbers' *secret* hideout • a *secret* compartment/passage/cave • a *secret* formula/ingredient • Her *secret* wish is to become a senator. • The message was written in *secret* code. • I don't know the *secret* password. • He was sent on a *secret* mission. • They engaged in *secret* negotiations with the enemy. • She tried to keep her marriage *secret*. • She has a ***secret admirer***. [=someone admires her but she does not know who it is] • She has a ***secret lover***. [=a lover that no one else knows about] — see also SECRET AGENT, SECRET POLICE, SECRET SERVICE, TOP SECRET
2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : keeping information hidden from others : SECRETIVE • They've been very *secret* about their plans.
– **se•cret•ly** *adv* • She wrote to him *secretly*. • He was *secretly* delighted by their decision. • They got married *secretly*.

[2]secret *noun, pl* **-crets** [*count*]
1 : a fact or piece of information that is kept hidden from other people • Don't tell him about the party—it's a *secret*. • I'm going to tell you a *secret*, but you have to promise not to tell anyone else. • They're getting married. The *secret* is out. [=everyone now knows that they're getting married] • He knows how to ***keep a secret***. [=if you tell him a secret he won't tell it to anyone else] • This wine may be Italy's ***best-kept secret***. [=something very good that not many people know about] • ***It's no secret*** [=many people know] that he has connections to the Mafia. • I'll ***let you in on a (little) secret***. [=I'll tell you a secret] • The report disclosed the company's ***dirty little secret***. [=something bad that the company does not want people to know] • Don't worry. ***Your secret is safe with me***. [=I won't tell anyone your secret] — see also TRADE SECRET
2 : a special or unusual way of doing something to achieve a good result • You always look great. What's your *secret*? • She shared her beauty *secrets* with the group. • The *secret* to/of a good sauce is the base. • What is the ***secret to your success***? [=why are you so successful?]
3 : something that cannot be explained • the *secrets* of the universe • one of nature's greatest *secrets*
in secret : in a private place or manner • They met *in secret*. [=*secretly*]
make no secret of : to show or express (something) openly : to not try to hide (something) • She *made no secret of* her dislike for him.

secret agent *noun, pl* ~ **agents** [*count*] : a person who tries to get secret information about another country, government, etc. • He was accused of being a *secret agent* for a foreign government.

sec•re•tar•i•at /ˌsɛkrə'terijət/ *noun, pl* **-ats** [*count*] : a department in a governmental organization that is headed by a secretary or a secretary-general • the United Nations *secretariat*

sec•re•tary /'sɛkrəˌteri, *Brit* 'sɛkrətri/ *noun, pl* **-tar•ies** [*count*]
1 : a person whose job is to handle records, letters, etc., for another person in an office • You can set up an appointment

with my *secretary*. • He works as a legal *secretary*. • She is our ***executive/administrative secretary***. [=a secretary with some management duties] — see also PRESS SECRETARY

2 : a person in a club or other organization who is in charge of keeping letters and records • He was the club's *secretary*.

3 a *US* : an official who is selected by the President and is in charge of a particular department of the government • the *Secretary* of Commerce • the Treasury *Secretary* **b** *Brit* : a government official who helps a minister, an ambassador, etc. • He is a junior *secretary* at the embassy. **c** *Brit* : SECRETARY OF STATE 2 — see also FOREIGN SECRETARY

– sec•re•tar•i•al /ˌsɛkrəˈterijəl/ *adj* • *secretarial* duties

Secretary–General *noun, pl* **Secretaries–General** [*count*] : an official who is in charge of an organization • the *Secretary-General* of the United Nations

Secretary of State *noun, pl* **Secretaries of State** [*count*]

1 : the head of the U.S. government department that is in charge of how the country relates to and deals with foreign countries • The President appointed the *Secretary of State*.

2 : the head of one of several important departments of the British government • the *Secretary of State* for Home Affairs

[1]se•crete /sɪˈkri:t/ *verb* **-cretes**; **-cret•ed**; **-cret•ing** [+ *obj*] *biology* : to produce and give off (a liquid) • glands that *secrete* saliva — compare [2]SECRETE

[2]secrete *verb* **-cretes**; **-creted**; **-creting** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to put (something) in a hidden place • He *secreted* [=*hid*] the money under the mattress. — compare [1]SECRETE

se•cre•tion /sɪˈkri:ʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *biology*

1 [*noncount*] : the production of a liquid by part of a plant or animal • the *secretion* of stomach acids • insulin *secretion*

2 [*count*] : a substance produced and given off by a plant or animal part • gastric *secretions* • root *secretions* that repel insects

se•cre•tive /ˈsi:krətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not letting people see or know what you are doing or thinking : tending to act in secret • a highly *secretive* organization • He's very *secretive* about his work.

– se•cre•tive•ness *noun* [*noncount*]

secret police *noun*

the secret police : a police organization that is run by a government and that operates in a secret way to control the actions of people who oppose the government

secret service *noun*

1 ***the Secret Service*** : a U.S. government department in charge of protecting elected leaders of the U.S. and visiting leaders

2 [*singular*] : a government department that protects a country's secrets and obtains secret information about other countries • the British *secret service*

sect /ˈsɛkt/ *noun, pl* **sects** [*count*]

1 : a religious group that is a smaller part of a larger group and whose members all share similar beliefs • Buddhist *sects* • a *sect* of Judaism

2 : a religious or political group that is connected to a larger group but that has beliefs that differ greatly from those of the main group • a fundamentalist Christian *sect* • radical Muslim *sects*

sec•tar•i•an /sɛkˈterijən/ *adj* : relating to religious or political sects and the differences between them • *sectarian* movements • The country was split along *sectarian* lines. • *sectarian* violence

– sec•tar•i•an•ism /sɛkˈterijəˌnɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] • The country was split by *sectarianism*.

[1]sec•tion /ˈsɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] **a** : one of the parts that form something • the upper *section* of the bridge • This *section* of the road is closed. **b** : a particular area that is part of a larger place • the frozen food *section* in the supermarket • the library's reference *section* • the Crown Heights *section* of Brooklyn • Do you want to sit in the nonsmoking *section*? **c** : a part of a newspaper, play, book, etc. • Can I see the sports *section* (of the newspaper)? • The dictionary includes a *section* on signs and symbols. • *Section* 1123 of the bankruptcy code **d** : a part of a group of people • ads that target one *section* of the population • He had his own ***cheering section*** in the stands. [=his own group of people who were cheering for him]

2 [*count*] : one of several parts made so that something can be put together easily • The siding comes in five-foot *sections*.

3 [*count*] : a part of a band or orchestra that has instruments of a particular kind • the brass *section* • the rhythm *section*

4 [*count*] *US* : one of the parts of an orange, grapefruit, or similar fruit that can be easily separated from each other • a *section* of grapefruit — see color picture on page C5

5 [*count*] *medical* : a layer cut from a part of the body • He examined tissue *sections* of the brain under a microscope. — see also CESAREAN SECTION

6 a [*noncount*] : a diagram showing how something would look if it was cut from the top to the bottom : CROSS SECTION • a drawing of a ship ***in section*** **b** [*count*] *mathematics* : a shape that is made when a line cuts through a solid figure • a conical *section*

7 [*count*] *US* : a piece of land that is one mile wide and one mile long

[2]section *verb* **-tions**; **-tioned**; **-tion•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to divide (something) into parts • Peel and *section* the orange. • *Section* the chicken and marinate the parts.

2 *Brit* : to officially send (a mentally ill person) to a psychiatric hospital • She was *sectioned* by the judge.

section off [*phrasal verb*] ***section (something) off*** *or* ***section off (something)*** : to separate (an area) from a larger area • Part of the field was *sectioned off* for parking.

[1]sec•tion•al /ˈsɛkʃənl/ *adj*

1 : showing how something would look if it were cut from the top to the bottom • a *sectional* drawing/view of a ship

2 : concerned only with one part of a group or community • *sectional* [=(more commonly) *local*] interests • *sectional* conflict

3 : made up of sections that can be put together or taken apart easily • *sectional* shelving

[2]sectional *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] *US* : a type of long seat (called a sofa) that has three or more separate sections • a leather *sectional* — called also *sectional sofa*

sec•tion•al•ism /ˈsɛkʃənəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : a tendency to be more concerned with the interests of your particular group or region than with the problems and interests of the larger group, country, etc. • a nation divided by *sectionalism*

sec•tor /ˈsɛktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]

1 : an area of an economy : a part of an economy that includes certain kinds of jobs • the industrial/agricultural/service *sector* — see also PRIVATE SECTOR, PUBLIC SECTOR

2 : an area for which someone (such as a military commander) is responsible • He was assigned to the northern *sector*.

3 *computers* : one of the parts that a computer disk is divided into • Data is stored on the disk in 512-byte *sectors*.

4 *geometry* : an area in a circle that lies between two straight lines drawn from the center of the circle to the edge of the circle • a 90-degree *sector*

sec•u•lar /ˈsɛkjələɚ/ *adj*

1 a [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not spiritual : of or relating to the physical world and not the spiritual world • *secular* concerns **b** : not religious • *secular* music • a *secular* society • Both *secular* and religious institutions can apply for the funds. **c** : of, relating to, or controlled by the government rather than by the church : CIVIL • *secular* courts

2 — used to describe a member of the clergy who lives in ordinary society and not in a monastery • a *secular* priest

secular humanism *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : HUMANISM; *especially* : humanism viewed as a system of values and beliefs that are opposed to the values and beliefs of traditional religions

– secular humanist *noun, pl* ~ **-ists** [*count*]

sec•u•lar•ism /ˈsɛkjələˌrɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the belief that religion should not play a role in government, education, or other public parts of society

– sec•u•lar•ist /ˈsɛkjələrɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

– secularist *or* **sec•u•lar•is•tic** /ˌsɛkjələˈrɪstɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • the more *secularist* wing of the party • a *secularistic* view

sec•u•lar•ize *also Brit* **sec•u•lar•ise** /ˈsɛkjələˌraɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to take religion out of (something) : to make (something) secular • attempts to *secularize* the government • a *secularized* society

2 : to transfer the ownership or control of (something) from a religious organization to the state • The government *secularized* the hospital.

– sec•u•lar•i•za•tion *also Brit* **sec•u•lar•i•sa•tion** /ˌsɛkjələrəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌsɛkjələˌraɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]se•cure /sɪˈkjɚ/ *adj* **se•cur•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : protected from danger or harm • We need to make our network more *secure* against attacks by hackers. • The children were safe and *secure* in their beds. • A safe is provided

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go] ▪ He kissed her goodbye and *saw* her onto the plane. [=he watched her get onto the plane] — see also SEE OFF (below)

16 [+ *obj*] : to help or support (someone or something) for a particular period of time ▪ We had enough supplies to *see* us (out) to the end of winter. [=the supplies were enough to last until the end of winter] — usually + *through* ▪ The support of his friends *saw* him *through* his depression. [=helped him to get through his depression] ▪ The legislators vowed to *see* the bill *through* Congress to make sure that it became a law. ▪ They have enough money to *see* them *through*.

17 [+ *obj*] : to make a bet that is equal to (another player's bet) in poker ▪ I'll *see* your 10 and raise you 10. ▪ I'll *see* you and raise 10.

has seen better days see ¹BETTER

I'll be seeing you *informal* — used to say goodbye

let me see, let's see see ¹LET

long time no see see ¹LONG

not see the forest/wood for the trees see TREE

see about [*phrasal verb*] ***see about (something)*** **1** : to do what is required for (something) : to deal with (something) ▪ She is *seeing about* getting tickets to the concert. ▪ I should *see about* [=*attend to*] dinner soon. **2** ***we'll (soon) see about that*** — used in speech to say that you are not going to allow someone to do something or to behave in a particular way ▪ "He says that he's not going." "Well, *we'll (soon) see about that*."

see after [*phrasal verb*] ***see after (someone or something)*** : to take care of (someone or something) ▪ *See after* [=*look after*] the baggage, while I see if our flight is on time. ▪ Can you *see after* the baby for me?

see and be seen : to see and be noticed by important or fashionable people ▪ We go to the club to *see and be seen*.

see around/round [*phrasal verb*] ***see around/round (something)*** *Brit* : to move about while looking at (something) : to tour (something) ▪ If you'd like to *see around* [=*look around*] the factory, someone can accompany you.

see double see ⁴DOUBLE

see eye to eye : to have the same opinion : AGREE — usually used in negative statements ▪ They don't *see eye to eye* on this issue.

see fit see ¹FIT

see here — used to introduce a statement when you want someone to notice what you are saying ▪ *See here* [=*look here*], you need to start behaving more responsibly.

see if I care see ²CARE

see in [*phrasal verb*] ***see (something) in (someone or something)*** : to notice or perceive (something good or attractive) in (someone or something) ▪ She *saw* great musical talent *in* her son. ▪ I think their plan is crazy, but he apparently *sees* something *in* it. ▪ I can't understand what she *sees in* him. = I don't know what she *sees in* him. [=I don't know why she likes/admires him]

seeing is believing see BELIEVE

see off [*phrasal verb*] ***see (someone) off*** *or* ***see off (someone)*** **1** : to go to an airport, train station, etc., with (someone who is leaving) in order to say goodbye ▪ She *saw* him *off* at the train station. **2** *Brit* **a** : to chase or force (someone) away from a place ▪ The police finally *saw* them *off*. **b** : to defeat or stop (an enemy, opponent, etc.) ▪ They *saw off* the opposition.

see out [*phrasal verb*] ***see (something) out*** : to continue to work at (something) until it is completed ▪ He *saw* the project *out* to its very end.

see over [*phrasal verb*] ***see over (something)*** *Brit* : to walk around and examine (a place) carefully ▪ They went to *see* the house *over*. [=look the house over]

see red see ²RED

see stars see ¹STAR

see the back of see ¹BACK

see the light, see the light of day see ¹LIGHT

see things : to see things that do not really exist : HALLUCINATE ▪ There's no one there—you must be *seeing things*.

see through [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***see through (someone or something)*** : to realize the true nature of (someone or something) ▪ She *saw through* his lies. [=she knew he was lying] ▪ I can't lie to her—she'd ***see right through*** me. **2** ***see (something) through*** : to continue to work at (something) until it is completed ▪ He *saw* the project *through* to the end. — see also ¹SEE 16 (above)

see to [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***see to (something)*** : to do or provide what is needed for (something) ▪ His uncle *saw to* his education. [=his uncle made the necessary payments, arrangements, etc., for his education] ▪ The hotel staff *saw to* [=*attended to*] my every need. : to deal with (something) ▪ I have to *see to* [=*attend to*] dinner. ▪ I'll *see to* your order at once. ▪ You really ought to have that rash *seen to* by a doctor. **2** ***see to it*** : to make sure that something is done ▪ Can you *see to it* that everyone gets a copy of this memo?

see you *or* ***see you around*** *or* ***see you later*** *informal* — used to say goodbye ▪ "I guess I'll be going now." "OK. (I'll) *See you later*."

see your way (clear) to see ¹WAY

what/who should you see but see SHOULD

²see *noun, pl* **sees** *formal*

1 [*count*] : the area in which a bishop has authority : DIOCESE

2 [*noncount*] : the authority or power of a bishop

3 [*count*] : the office of a bishop

¹seed /ˈsi:d/ *noun, pl* **seeds**

1 : a small object produced by a plant from which a new plant can grow [*count*] a packet of sunflower *seeds* ▪ He planted/sowed the *seeds* three inches apart. ▪ (*US*) apple/orange *seeds* [=(*Brit*) *pips*] [*noncount*] She raked the grass *seed* into the soil. ▪ She grows her plants ***from seed***. [=by planting seeds rather than by some other method] — see color picture on page C5

2 [*count*] : the beginning of something which continues to develop or grow ▪ Her comment ***planted/sowed a seed of*** doubt in his mind. [=caused him to begin to have doubts] ▪ The government's policies *planted/sowed the seeds of* war/destruction. [=created a situation that led to war/destruction]

3 [*count*] : a player or team that is ranked as one of the best in a competition (such as a tennis tournament) in order to be sure that the best players or teams do not play against each other in the early part of the competition ▪ The top *seed* won the tournament. ▪ Our team is the number one *seed*. ▪ She is ranked as the third *seed*.

4 [*noncount*] **a** *literary* : all the children, grandchildren, etc., of a particular man ▪ the *seed* of Abraham **b** *old-fashioned* + *humorous* : a man's semen ▪ a man spreading his *seed* [=fathering many children]

go to seed *or* ***run to seed*** **1** : to produce seeds ▪ The flowers will *go to seed* and spread. ▪ The plant *runs to seed* rapidly in hot weather. **2** : to become less attractive, effective, etc., because of age or lack of care ▪ He let himself *go to seed* after he lost his job.

²seed *verb* **seeds**; **seed•ed**; **seed•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to plant (an area of ground) with seeds ▪ We *seeded* the field with corn. ▪ a newly *seeded* lawn

2 [*no obj*] *of a plant* : to produce seeds ▪ These plants will *seed* late in the fall.

3 [+ *obj*] : to remove (seeds) from a fruit or vegetable ▪ After you wash and *seed* the peppers you can chop them.

4 [+ *obj*] : to give (a player or team) a particular rank which shows how likely that person or team is to win a competition (such as a tennis tournament) — usually used as *(be) seeded* ▪ The team/player *was seeded* first/last in the tournament. ▪ the top-*seeded* player

seed itself *of a plant* : to produce new plants from its own seeds ▪ This plant spreads quickly because it *seeds itself*.

³seed *adj, always used before a noun* : used for producing a new crop of plants ▪ *seed* corn/potatoes

seed•bed /ˈsi:dˌbɛd/ *noun, pl* **-beds** [*count*] : an area of soil prepared for planting seeds — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a *seedbed* for innovation [=a place/situation in which innovation can occur]

seed•less /ˈsi:dləs/ *adj* : having no seeds inside ▪ *seedless* grapes ▪ a *seedless* orange

seed•ling /ˈsi:dlɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-lings** [*count*] : a young plant that is grown from seed

seed money *noun* [*noncount*] : money that is used for starting a new business, program, project, etc. ▪ He provided *seed money* for the campaign. — called also *seed capital*

seedy /ˈsi:di/ *adj* **seed•i•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : dirty or in bad condition ▪ a *seedy* motel ▪ He was wearing a *seedy* suit.

2 : not respectable or decent ▪ a *seedy* bar ▪ a *seedy* area of the city

3 : having bad morals : DISHONEST ▪ a *seedy* lawyer

4 : having a lot of seeds ▪ *seedy* fruit

see•ing /ˈsi:jɪŋ/ *conj* — used to explain the reason for a statement ▪ *Seeing* how often she gets into trouble [=since she gets into trouble so often], I don't think we should help her this time. — often + *that* or *as* ▪ There's not much we can do, *seeing that* [=*since*] they've already made their decision. ▪ *See-*

ing as you've met my family, don't you think I should meet yours? ▪ ***Seeing as how*** [=*since*] I'm not busy right now, I can help you.

Seeing Eye *trademark, US* — used for a dog that is trained to guide a blind person

seek /ˈsi:k/ *verb* **seeks**; **sought** /ˈsɑ:t/; **seek•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal*

1 : to search for (someone or something) : to try to find (someone or something) ▪ He is *seeking* employment. [=he is looking for a job] ▪ The office is *seeking* a salesperson. ▪ The prince is *seeking* a wife. ▪ Snakes *seek* the sun to warm their bodies. ▪ thrill-*seeking* travelers [=travelers who want to have very exciting/thrilling experiences]

2 : to ask for (help, advice, etc.) ▪ You should visit your doctor and *seek* his advice. ▪ You should *seek* medical help immediately if you experience any chest pain or shortness of breath. ▪ The church is *seeking* donations/volunteers.

3 a : to try to get or achieve (something) ▪ He *sought* revenge for his son's murder. ▪ During the war, she *sought* asylum in Spain. ▪ They *sought* refuge in Canada. ▪ The company is *seeking* new ways to improve service. ▪ The mayor is *seeking* reelection. ▪ She *seeks* perfection in her work. ▪ attention-*seeking* behavior ▪ Immigrants come to America to ***seek their fortune***. [=to try to become rich] ▪ They are ***seeking compensation/damages*** [=they are trying to get money] for their loss. **b** : to make an attempt *to do* something ▪ Doctors have been *seeking* [=*trying*] *to find* a cure. ▪ The builders *sought to make* the bridge stronger.

seek out [*phrasal verb*] ***seek (someone or something) out*** *or* ***seek out (someone or something)*** : to search for and find (someone or something) ▪ His parents *sought out* the best doctors in the field. ▪ White blood cells *seek out* and destroy infections.

– see also HEAT-SEEKING

– **seek•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ *seekers* of perfection ▪ job/thrill/pleasure/autograph *seekers*

seem /ˈsi:m/ *verb* **seems**; **seemed**; **seem•ing** [*linking verb*]

1 : to appear to be something or to do something : to have a quality, appearance, etc., that shows or suggests a particular characteristic, feeling, etc. ▪ She *seemed* happy. ▪ He didn't *seem* interested. ▪ Their request *seems* reasonable/strange. ▪ What they're doing doesn't *seem* right to me. ▪ The letter *seems* important. ▪ Her story *seems* true. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ Her story *seems to be* true. ▪ She *seems to know* our secret. [=I have the feeling/impression that she knows our secret] ▪ He didn't *seem to remember* that part of the story. — often used in the phrases ***seem like, seem as if***, and ***seem as though*** ▪ He *seems like* a nice man. = He *seems* (to be) a nice man. ▪ We waited for what *seemed like* hours. ▪ Buying a new car *seemed like* a good idea at the time. ▪ It *seemed as if/though* the work would never end.

2 — used with *it* to make a statement about what appears to be true based on what is known ▪ *It seems* (that) they forgot about the meeting. ▪ The concert will not take place, *it seems*. ▪ "Are we on schedule?" "***So it seems***." [=yes, I think that we are on schedule] ▪ They are very rude, or *so it seems* (to me).

3 — used to make a statement less definite or more polite; followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ I *seem to remember* that you said you'd help me. — often used in negative statements ▪ I can't *seem to solve* the problem. [=I have tried to solve the problem, but I can't] ▪ I couldn't *seem to hit* the ball straight. ▪ What *seems to be* the problem? [=what is the problem?]

seem•ing /ˈsi:mɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun, somewhat formal* : appearing to be true but not being true or certain : APPARENT ▪ Parents discussed the teacher's *seeming* lack of interest in the students. ▪ I was fooled by the *seeming* simplicity of the instructions.

– **seem•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ *seemingly* contradictory statements [=statements that seem to be contradictory] ▪ a *seemingly* impossible stunt ▪ a *seemingly* simple job

seem•ly /ˈsi:mli/ *adj* **seem•li•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~] *formal + old-fashioned* : proper or appropriate for the situation ▪ *seemly* behavior ▪ a *seemly* reply — opposite UNSEEMLY

seen *past participle of* [1]SEE

seep /ˈsi:p/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **seeps**; **seeped**; **seep•ing** [*no obj*] : to flow or pass slowly through small openings in something ▪ Blood was *seeping* through the bandage. ▪ The chemicals *seeped* into the ground. ▪ Water was *seeping* in (through the cracks). — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The secret *seeped* out.

seep•age /ˈsi:pɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-ag•es** *formal* : an occurrence in which a liquid or gas flows or passes slowly through small openings [*count*] gas/oil *seepages* ▪ the *seepage* of water [*noncount*] Check for *seepage* in the basement.

seer /ˈsiɚ/ *noun, pl* **seers** [*count*] : someone who predicts things that will happen in the future ▪ prophets and *seers* ▪ political *seers* [=people who make predictions about politics]

seer•suck•er /ˈsiɚˌsʌkɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a light type of cloth that has an uneven surface and a pattern of lines — often used before another noun ▪ a *seersucker* dress/jacket/suit

[1]**see•saw** /ˈsi:ˌsɑ:/ *noun, pl* **-saws**

1 [*count*] : a long, flat board that is balanced in the middle so that when one end goes up the other end goes down ✧ Children play on a seesaw by sitting on each of its ends and moving each other up and down by pushing off the ground with their feet. ▪ Let's play/ride on the *seesaw*. — called also (*US*) *teeter-totter*; see picture at PLAYGROUND

2 [*singular*] : a situation in which something keeps changing from one state to another and back again ▪ Their relationship was an emotional *seesaw*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *seesaw* battle for power ▪ a *seesaw* economy

[2]**seesaw** *verb* **-saws**; **-sawed**; **-saw•ing** [*no obj*] : to keep changing from one state or condition to another and then back again ▪ The lead *seesawed* between the two runners right up to the finish line. ▪ Stock prices have continued to *seesaw*. [=to go up and down]

seethe /ˈsi:ð/ *verb* **seethes**; **seethed**; **seeth•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to feel or show strong emotion (such as anger) even though you try to control it ▪ He *seethed* at his brother's success. — often + *with* ▪ He *seethed with* anger/jealousy. ▪ The letter *seethes with* resentment. ▪ a *seething* letter

2 : to be in a state of constant activity ▪ We found ourselves in the middle of a *seething* crowd. — often used as *(be) seething with* ▪ The island *is seething with* tourists. [=there are very many tourists moving around on the island] ▪ The field *was seething with* crickets. ▪ His brain *was seething with* ideas.

see–through /ˈsi:ˌθru:/ *adj* : thin enough to be seen through ▪ a *see-through* blouse/container ▪ The plastic is *see-through*. [=*transparent*]

[1]**seg•ment** /ˈsɛgmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*]

1 : one of the parts into which something can be divided : SECTION ▪ The railroad track is divided into *segments*. — often + *of* ▪ in the final *segment of* the book ▪ The *segment of* the population over 70 years of age is growing larger. ▪ The company controls a large *segment of* the market. ▪ the *segments of* an orange

2 *geometry* **a** : a part of a circle formed by drawing a straight line between two points on the circle **b** : a part of a straight line between two points

[2]**seg•ment** /ˈsɛgˌmɛnt, *Brit* sɛgˈmɛnt/ *verb* **-ments**; **-ment•ed**; **-ment•ing** [+ *obj*] : to divide (something) into parts ▪ Market researchers have *segmented* the population into different age groups.

– **segmented** *adj* ▪ a worm that has a *segmented* body = a *segmented* worm [=a worm whose body is made of different segments or sections]

seg•men•ta•tion /ˌsɛgmənˈteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the process of dividing something into parts or segments ▪ the *segmentation* of the population

seg•re•gate /ˈsɛgrɪˌgeɪt/ *verb* **-gates**; **-gat•ed**; **-gat•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to separate groups of people because of their particular race, religion, etc. ▪ The civil rights movement fought against practices that *segregated* blacks and whites. — often + *from* ▪ He grew up at a time when blacks were *segregated from* whites. ▪ During religious services, women are *segregated from* men. — opposite INTEGRATE

2 : to not allow people of different races to be together in (a place, such as a school) ▪ Many states at that time continued to *segregate* public schools. ▪ racially *segregated* schools ▪ a *segregated* neighborhood — opposite INTEGRATE

seg•re•ga•tion /ˌsɛgrɪˈgeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the practice or policy of keeping people of different races, religions, etc., separate from each other ▪ racial/religious *segregation* ▪ They fought to end the *segregation* of public schools. ▪ the *segregation* of men and women

seg•re•ga•tion•ist /ˌsɛgrɪˈgeɪʃənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a person who supports racial segregation ▪ *segregationists* versus integrationists ▪ a *segregationist* politician/state/attitude/view

se•gue /ˈsɛˌgweɪ/ *verb* **se•gues**; **se•gued**; **se•gue•ing** [*no obj*] : to move without stopping from one activity, topic,

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song, etc., to another ▪ She quickly *segued* to the next topic. ▪ The band smoothly *segued* from one song to the next. ▪ In the movie, a shot of the outside of the house *segued* neatly to/into a shot of the family inside the house.
– **segue** *noun, pl* **segues** [*count*] ▪ a nice *segue* to the next song ▪ She used the question as a *segue* to her next topic.

seis•mic /ˈsaɪzmɪk/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 *technical* : of, relating to, or caused by an earthquake ▪ *seismic* activity/data/waves/zones
2 [*more ~; most ~*] : very great or important ▪ *Seismic* social changes have occurred. ▪ The discovery caused a ***seismic shift*** [=a great change] in public attitudes.
– **seis•mi•cal•ly** /ˈsaɪzmɪkli/ *adv* ▪ a *seismically* active region [=a region where many earthquakes occur]

seis•mo•graph /ˈsaɪzməˌgræf, *Brit* ˈsaɪzməˌgrɑːf/ *noun, pl* **-graphs** [*count*] : a device that measures and records the movement of the earth during an earthquake

seis•mol•o•gy /saɪzˈmɑːlədʒi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the scientific study of earthquakes
– **seis•mo•log•i•cal** /ˌsaɪzməˈlɑːdʒɪkəl/ *adj* ▪ *seismological* research – **seis•mol•o•gist** /saɪzˈmɑːlədʒɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*]

seize /ˈsiːz/ *verb* **seiz•es**; **seized**; **seiz•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to use legal or official power to take (something) ▪ Police *seized* [=*confiscated*] the weapons and drugs. ▪ The bank *seized* their property. **b** : to get or take (something) in a forceful, sudden, or violent way ▪ The army has *seized* control of the city. ▪ A rebel group attempted to *seize* power. ▪ He suddenly *seized* the lead in the final lap of the race. **c** : to attack and take control of (a place) by force or violence ▪ The soldiers *seized* [=*captured*] the fort.
2 a : to forcefully take and hold (someone or something) with your hand or arms : GRAB ▪ He *seized* her by the arm. ▪ He tried to *seize* the gun from him. ▪ She ***seized hold of*** my hand. [=she seized my hand] **b** : to take (someone) as a prisoner ▪ The police *seized* [=*arrested*] the robbers. ▪ *Seize* that man! ▪ She was *seized* by kidnappers and carried off to a hidden location.
3 : to take or use (something, such as a chance or opportunity) in a quick and eager way ▪ He ***seized the chance/initiative/opportunity*** to present his ideas to his boss. ▪ My father taught me to ***seize the day***. [=to do the things I want to do when I have the chance instead of waiting for a later time] ▪ ***Seizing the moment***, she introduced herself to the famous film director.
4 a : to begin to affect (someone) suddenly ▪ Panic *seized* him. = He was *seized* by panic. **b** : to have a powerful effect on (someone) ▪ His movies *seized* the public's imagination. [=the public became very interested in and enthusiastic about his movies] ▪ She was suddenly *seized* with the idea [=she suddenly had the idea] of owning her own restaurant.
seize on/upon [*phrasal verb*] ***seize on/upon (something)*** : to take or use (something, such as a chance or opportunity) in a quick and eager way ▪ His critics have *seized on* the scandal to call for his resignation. ▪ She ***seized on the opportunity*** to tell her side of the story.
seize up [*phrasal verb*] : to stop working because the moving parts can no longer move ▪ The engine/brakes suddenly *seized up*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Her brain *seized up* when she tried to answer the question.

sei•zure /ˈsiːʒɚ/ *noun, pl* **-zures**
1 [*noncount*] : the act of taking control of something especially by force or violence ▪ the *seizure* of power by the rebels
2 *law* : the act of taking something by legal authority [*noncount*] property that is protected from *seizure* ▪ the *seizure* of evidence by the police [*count*] Not all searches and *seizures* by the police require a warrant.
3 [*count*] *medical* : an abnormal state in which you become unconscious and your body moves in an uncontrolled and violent way ▪ an epileptic *seizure* [=*fit*] ▪ The patient has been experiencing *seizures*. [=*convulsions*]

sel•dom /ˈsɛldəm/ *adv* : not often : almost never ▪ We *seldom* [=*rarely*] eat pork. ▪ We *seldom* go to the movies. ▪ This type of turtle *seldom* grows over four inches in length. ▪ We seldom agree. = (*somewhat formal*) *Seldom* do we agree. ▪ I have seldom had to wait so long. = (*somewhat formal*) *Seldom* have I had to wait so long.
seldom ever see EVER
seldom if ever see EVER

[1]se•lect /səˈlɛkt/ *verb* **-lects**; **-lect•ed**; **-lect•ing**
1 : to choose (someone or something) from a group [+ *obj*] Please *select* one item from the list. ▪ The school will only *select* 12 applicants for enrollment. — often used as *(be) selected* ▪ People *were selected* at random to take the survey. ▪ The restaurant *was* recently *selected* as one of the best in the area. ▪ She *was selected* to work on the project. ▪ The book is a collection of *selected* essays and letters. [*no obj*] Knowing the importance of making the right choice, he *selected* carefully.
2 [+ *obj*] *computers* : to choose (a particular action, section of text, etc.) especially by using a mouse ▪ Use the mouse to *select* [=*highlight*] the text you want to copy. ▪ Copy the *selected* text. ▪ *Select* "Insert" from the "Edit" menu.

[2]select *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : chosen from a group to include the best people or things ▪ Only a few *select* employees attended the meeting. ▪ A *select* committee was formed to plan the project. ▪ The group was small and *select*. ▪ A *select* number of people are invited. ▪ Only a ***select few*** will be accepted into the program.
2 *always used before a noun* : of the highest quality ▪ a *select* hotel ▪ The statue was made from a *select* [=*choice*] piece of marble. ▪ He only drinks *select* wines.

se•lec•tion /səˈlɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*noncount*] : the act of choosing something or someone from a group ▪ The *selection* of the best poem was difficult. ▪ His *selection* as athlete of the year surprised many people. [=people were surprised when he was selected/chosen as athlete of the year] ▪ It was not easy to ***make my selection***. [=it was not easy to choose] — sometimes used before another noun ▪ the *selection* process/committee/criteria — see also NATURAL SELECTION
2 [*count*] **a** : someone or something that is chosen from a group ▪ Who is your *selection* [=*choice*] for president? ▪ She sang *selections* from her new album. [=she sang songs that she selected from her new album] **b** : a collection of things chosen from a group of similar things — usually singular; usually + *of* ▪ The pub has a wide *selection of* beers. [=has many different beers]

se•lec•tive /səˈlɛktɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : careful to choose only the best people or things ▪ He is very *selective* [=*picky, choosy*] about which tomatoes to use for the sauce. ▪ The club is *selective* in choosing members. ▪ The college has a highly *selective* admissions process.
2 : involving the selection of people or things from a group ▪ *selective* breeding ▪ She has a ***selective memory***. [=she remembers only what she wants to remember]
– **se•lec•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ The advertisement *selectively* targets men between the ages of 18 and 24. ▪ The dog is *selectively* bred for its calm temperament. – **se•lec•tiv•i•ty** /səˌlɛkˈtɪvəti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

se•lec•tor /səˈlɛktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]
1 : a device used for choosing a function, setting, etc., on a piece of equipment ▪ a channel *selector* ▪ a gear *selector* ▪ the input/output *selector* — often used before another noun ▪ Flip the *selector* switch from 25 volts to 70 volts.
2 *Brit* : someone who chooses the best or most suitable people for a sports team ▪ a *selectors* committee

se•le•ni•um /səˈliːnijəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a chemical element that is used in electronic devices to make them sensitive to light

self /ˈsɛlf/ *noun, pl* **selves** /ˈsɛlvz/
1 [*count*] : the person that someone normally or truly is — used to describe the way someone acts or feels ▪ He's just not his usual/normal *self* today. ▪ She was her ***old self*** again after some sleep. [=she returned to behaving/feeling as she normally did after some sleep] ▪ He was a mere ***ghost/shadow of his former self*** after the illness. [=he was much weaker after his illness] ▪ She showed her ***true/real self***. [=she stopped pretending and showed what type of person she really was]
2 [*count*] : a particular part of your personality or character that is shown in a particular situation ▪ She showed her better *self* at the party. ▪ Her public *self* is very different from her private *self*. ▪ He started taking yoga and meditation classes to get in touch with his ***inner self***. [=the emotional and spiritual part of himself]
3 [*noncount*] : the personality or character that makes a person different from other people : the combination of emotions, thoughts, feelings, etc., that make a person different from others ▪ We each develop a unique sense of *self*. [=a unique idea about who we are] ▪ Philosophers have written about the conception/idea of the *self*.
4 [*noncount*] *formal* : your own personal interest or advantage ▪ She helped without any thought of *self*. [=without any thought of trying to make things better for herself]
5 [*count*] — used to refer to a person ▪ a photo of her young-

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er *self* ▪ He puts his whole *self* into each and every game. [=he tries very hard to play his best in each game] ▪ (*informal*) "Go get me another beer." "You can get it your (own) damn *self*!" ▪ (*informal*) I could barely drag my sorry *self* out of bed.

self- /ˌsɛlf/ *combining form*

1 a : yourself or itself ▪ *self*-pitying **b :** of yourself or itself ▪ *self*-destructive ▪ *self*-sacrifice

2 : by, to, with, for, or toward yourself or itself ▪ *self*-made ▪ *self*-evident ▪ *self*-propelled ▪ *self*-addressed ▪ *self*-respect

self–ab·sorbed /ˌsɛlfəbˈsoɚbd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : only caring about and interested in yourself ▪ *self-absorbed* people ▪ He's so (completely/totally) *self-absorbed* that he didn't even notice I was crying!

– **self–ab·sorp·tion** /ˌsɛlfəbˈsoɚpʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

self–abuse /ˌsɛlfəˈbju:s/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : things that you do that harm your own body or health ▪ drug addiction and other forms of *self-abuse*

2 *old-fashioned* + *disapproving* : MASTURBATION

self–ac·tu·al·i·za·tion *also Brit* **self–ac·tu·al·i·sa·tion** /ˌsɛlfˌæktʃəwələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌsɛlfˌæktʃuəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the process of fully developing and using your abilities

self–ad·dressed /ˌsɛlfəˈdrɛst/ *adj* : having the sender's address on it so that it can be sent back to that person ▪ a *self-addressed* envelope

self–ad·he·sive /ˌsɛlfədˈhi:sɪv/ *adj* : able to stick to something without first being made wet ▪ *self-adhesive* labels/stamps

self–ap·point·ed /ˌsɛlfəˈpoɪntəd/ *adj, disapproving* : thinking of yourself as having a particular position, job, responsibility, etc., without considering the opinions or wishes of other people ▪ a *self-appointed* guardian of public morals

self–as·sem·bly /ˌsɛlfəˈsɛmbli/ *adj, always used before a noun, Brit* — used to describe a product that is bought in parts that you have be put together ▪ *self-assembly* furniture

– **self–assembly** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The box says "*self-assembly* [=*assembly*] required."

self–as·ser·tive /ˌsɛlfəˈsɚtɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very confident and willing to express opinions ▪ a bold and *self-assertive* young lawyer

– **self–as·ser·tive·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

self–as·ser·tion /ˌsɛlfəˈsɚʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of expressing or defending your rights, claims, or opinions in a confident or forceful way

self–as·sess·ment /ˌsɛlfəˈsɛsmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*] : the act or process of judging your own achievements or progress

self–as·sur·ance /ˌsɛlfəˈʃɚrəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] : confidence in yourself and your abilities ▪ I was impressed by his *self-assurance*.

self–as·sured /ˌsɛlfəˈʃɚd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing confidence in yourself and your abilities ▪ She was calm and *self-assured*. ▪ He has a *self-assured* manner.

self–aware·ness /ˌsɛlfəˈweɚnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : knowledge and awareness of your own personality or character ▪ Her *self-awareness* was unusual in such a young child.

– **self–aware** /ˌsɛlfəˈweɚ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a remarkably *self-aware* child

self–ca·ter·ing /ˌsɛlfˈkeɪtərɪŋ/ *adj, Brit* : provided with equipment that allows you to cook your own food while you are on holiday ▪ a *self-catering* cottage/apartment ▪ *self-catering* holidays

– **self–catering** *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* ▪ Prices start at £199 for a week's *self-catering*.

self–cen·tered (*US*) *or Brit* **self–cen·tred** /ˌsɛlfˈsɛntɚd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : too interested in yourself and not caring about the needs or feelings of other people : SELFISH ▪ I think he's a *self-centered* and opinionated jerk.

– **self–cen·tered·ness** (*US*) *or Brit* **self–cen·tred·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

self–con·cept /ˈsɛlfˈkɑ:nˌsɛpt/ *noun, pl* **-cepts** [*count*] *formal* : the idea that you have about the kind of person you are ▪ Children need to develop a positive *self-concept*.

self–con·fessed /ˌsɛlfkənˈfɛst/ *adj, always used before a noun* : freely and openly admitting that you are a particular type of person ▪ a *self-confessed* forger ▪ a *self-confessed* television addict

self–con·fi·dent /ˌsɛlfˈkɑ:nfədənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing confidence in yourself and your abilities ▪ a quietly *self-confident* man ▪ She has a *self-confident* look about her.

– **self–con·fi·dence** /ˌsɛlfˈkɑ:nfədəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He lacks the *self-confidence* to speak his mind. – **self–con·fi·dent·ly** *adv*

self–con·grat·u·la·tion /ˌsɛlfkənˌgrætʃəˈleɪʃən, ˌsɛlfkənˌgrædʒəˈleɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *usually disapproving* : a way of behaving or speaking which shows that you are very happy about something that you have done ▪ The president's speech was full of *self-congratulation* about making the company profitable again.

– **self–con·grat·u·la·to·ry** /ˌsɛlfkənˈgrætʃələˌtori, ˌsɛlfkənˈgrædʒələˌtori, *Brit* ˌsɛlfkənˌgrætʃəˈleɪtri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *self-congratulatory* attitude/tone

self–con·scious /ˌsɛlfˈkɑ:nʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : uncomfortably nervous about or embarrassed by what other people think about you ▪ She's *self-conscious* whenever she has to give a speech. — often + *about* ▪ He's very *self-conscious about* his appearance.

2 *usually disapproving* : done in a way that shows an awareness of the effect that is produced : done in a deliberate way ▪ the *self-conscious* irony in the play ▪ a *self-conscious* attempt to win people's sympathy

– **self–con·scious·ly** *adv* ▪ He *self-consciously* smoothed his hair. – **self–con·scious·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

self–con·tained /ˌsɛlfkənˈteɪnd/ *adj*

1 : not requiring help or support from anyone or anything else : complete by itself ▪ a *self-contained* community [=a community that provides all the supplies, services, etc., that people need for everyday life] ▪ This machine is a *self-contained* unit/system.

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : tending to keep thoughts and feelings private and to deal with things without help from other people ▪ He is a very *self-contained* young man.

3 *Brit* : having a kitchen and bathroom ▪ a *self-contained* flat

self–con·tra·dic·to·ry /ˌsɛlfˌkɑ:ntrəˈdɪktəri/ *adj* : having two or more parts that disagree with each other ▪ Your argument is *self-contradictory*. ▪ a *self-contradictory* statement

self–con·trol /ˌsɛlfkənˈtroʊl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : control over your feelings or actions ▪ a lack of *self-control* ▪ You have to show/learn a little *self-control*. ▪ He lost his *self-control* and lashed out at the other player. ▪ When it comes to chocolate, I ***lose all self-control***. [=I cannot stop myself from eating too much chocolate]

– **self–con·trolled** /ˌsɛlfkənˈtroʊld/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

self–crit·i·cism /ˌsɛlfˈkrɪtəˌsɪzəm/ *noun, pl* **-cisms** : criticism of your own faults and weaknesses [*noncount*] His autobiography is full of *self-criticism*. [*count*] There are many *self-criticisms* in his autobiography.

– **self–crit·i·cal** /ˌsɛlfˈkrɪtɪkəl/ *adj* ▪ a *self-critical* evaluation

self–de·cep·tion /ˌsɛlfdɪˈsɛpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] : the act of making yourself believe something that is not true ▪ He was unaware of his own *self-deceptions*.

self–de·feat·ing /ˌsɛlfdɪˈfi:tɪŋ/ *adj*

1 : meant to solve a problem but actually causing the same or another problem : causing more problems than it solves ▪ Violence is a *self-defeating* solution. ▪ a *self-defeating* strategy/policy

2 : preventing you from doing or achieving something ▪ Don't just assume you'll fail! That's a *self-defeating* attitude.

self–de·fense (*US*) *or Brit* **self–de·fence** /ˌsɛlfdɪˈfɛns/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the act of defending yourself, your property, etc. ▪ He argued that shooting the burglar was *self-defense*. ▪ She hit back ***in self-defense***.

2 : skills that make you capable of protecting yourself during an attack ▪ Women are advised to take at least one class in *self-defense*. ▪ a *self-defense* instructor

self–de·ni·al /ˌsɛlfdɪˈnajəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of not allowing yourself to have or do something you want ▪ Dieting is an exercise in *self-denial*. ▪ The monks lead a life of *self-denial*. = The monks practice *self-denial*.

self–dep·re·cat·ing /ˌsɛlfˈdɛprɪˌkeɪtɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : meant to make yourself or the things you do seem unimportant ▪ He spoke in a *self-deprecating* tone. ▪ *self-deprecating* humor

– **self–dep·re·ca·tion** /ˌsɛlfˌdɛprɪˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ his humble *self-deprecation*

self–de·struct /ˌsɛlfdɪˈstrʌkt/ *verb* **-structs**; **-struct·ed**; **-struct·ing** [*no obj*] : to destroy itself ▪ The missile automatically *self-destructs* if it goes off course. — often used figuratively ▪ The team had a large lead most of the game but *self-*

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destructed in the ninth inning and lost. ▪ a rock star who *self-destructed* on drugs

– **self–destruct** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *self-destruct* button/mechanism/system

self–de•struc•tion /ˌsɛlfdɪˈstrʌkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] : the act of hurting or killing yourself ▪ an act of *self-destruction* ▪ His drinking started him ***on the path/road to self-destruction***.

– **self–de•struc•tive** /ˌsɛlfdɪˈstrʌktɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ *self-destructive* behavior

self–de•ter•mi•na•tion /ˌsɛlfdɪˌtɚməˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the right of the people of a particular place to choose the form of government they will have

2 : the freedom to make your own choices

self–dis•ci•pline /ˌsɛlfˈdɪsəplən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the ability to make yourself do things that should be done ▪ It's hard to exercise every day. You have to have a lot of *self-discipline*. ▪ a lack of *self-discipline*

– **self–dis•ci•plined** /ˌsɛlfˈdɪsəplənd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ *self-disciplined* students

self–dis•cov•ery /ˌsɛlfdɪˈskʌvəri/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or process of gaining knowledge or understanding of your abilities, character, and feelings ▪ She was on a voyage of *self-discovery*.

self–doubt /ˈsɛlfˈdaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-doubts** : a feeling of doubt about your own abilities or actions [*noncount*] a moment of *self-doubt* [*count*] Right before the start of the race, all his *self-doubts* returned.

self–drive /ˈsɛlfˈdraɪv/ *adj, always used before a noun, Brit*

1 *of a car* : rented from a company ▪ a *self-drive* [=(*chiefly US*) *rental*] car

2 : done by driving yourself ▪ a *self-drive* holiday/tour

self–ed•u•cat•ed /ˌsɛlfˈɛʤəˌkeɪtəd/ *adj* : educated by your own efforts (such as by reading books) rather than in a school ▪ a *self-educated* businessman

self–ef•fac•ing /ˌsɛlfɪˈfeɪsɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : not trying to get attention or praise for yourself or your abilities : MODEST ▪ He has a *self-effacing* manner. ▪ She is quiet and *self-effacing*.

– **self–ef•face•ment** /ˌsɛlfɪˈfeɪsmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

self–em•ployed /ˌsɛlfɪmˈplɔɪd/ *adj* : earning income from your own business or profession rather than by working for someone else ▪ a *self-employed* businessman

– **self–em•ploy•ment** /ˌsɛlfɪmˈplɔɪmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

self–es•teem /ˌsɛlfəˈstiːm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling of having respect for yourself and your abilities ▪ low/high *self-esteem* ▪ programs to raise/build *self-esteem* among children

self–ev•i•dent /ˌsɛlfˈɛvədənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : clearly true and requiring no proof or explanation ▪ The meaning is *self-evident*. ▪ *self-evident* truths

– **self–ev•i•dent•ly** *adv*

self–ex•am /ˌsɛlfɪgˈzæm/ *noun, pl* **-ams** [*count*] : SELF-EXAMINATION

self–ex•am•i•na•tion /ˌsɛlfɪgˌzæməˈneɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : careful examination of your own behavior and beliefs to see whether they are good or bad ▪ the process of *self-examination*

2 [*count*] *medical* : the act or practice of checking your body for symptoms of illness ▪ Doctors recommend a breast *self-examination* once a month.

self–ex•plan•a•to•ry /ˌsɛlfɪkˈsplænəˌtori, *Brit* ˌsɛlfɪkˈsplænətri/ *adj* : easy to understand without explanation ▪ a *self-explanatory* phrase ▪ The chapter titles of the book are *self-explanatory*.

self–ex•pres•sion /ˌsɛlfɪkˈsprɛʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the expression of your thoughts or feelings especially through artistic activities (such as painting, writing, dancing, etc.) ▪ a form/means/medium/mode of *self-expression* ▪ The strict rules leave little room for *self-expression*.

self–flag•el•la•tion /ˌsɛlfˌflæʤəˈleɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of hitting yourself with a whip as a way to punish yourself or as part of a religious ritual — often used figuratively ▪ journalists engaging in *self-flagellation* [=journalists cricitizing themselves very harshly]

self–ful•fill•ing /ˌsɛlfʊlˈfɪlɪŋ/ *adj*

1 : becoming real or true because it was predicted or expected ▪ The prediction of a rise in the stock market became a ***self-fulfilling prophecy*** when investors heard the report and began buying stock.

2 [*more ~; most ~*] : providing happiness and satisfaction : FULFILLING ▪ She finds running her own business very *self-fulfilling*.

self–ful•fill•ment (*US*) *or Brit* **self–ful•fil•ment** /ˌsɛlfʊlˈfɪlmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the feeling of being happy and satisfied because you are doing something that fully uses your abilities and talents ▪ She found *self-fulfillment* [=*fulfillment*] by starting her own business.

self–gov•ern•ing /ˌsɛlfˈgʌvɚnɪŋ/ *adj* : controlled or ruled by its own members : having self-government ▪ a *self-governing* territory/body

self–gov•ern•ment /ˌsɛlfˈgʌvɚnmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : government or control of a country, group, etc., by its own members rather than by the members of a different country, group, etc. ▪ the island's right to *self-government*

self–help /ˈsɛlfˈhɛlp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the action or process of doing things to improve yourself or to solve your problems without the help of others ▪ books on *self-help*

– **self–help** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *self-help* books/manuals

self•hood /ˈsɛlfˌhʊd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality that makes a person or thing different from others : INDIVIDUALITY

self–iden•ti•fi•ca•tion /ˌsɛlfaɪˌdɛntəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the feeling that you share and understand the problems or experiences of someone else ▪ the young teacher's *self-identification* [=*identification*] with his students

2 : the act of identifying yourself as a particular kind of person ▪ the teenager's *self-identification* as a rebel

self–iden•ti•ty /ˌsɛlfaɪˈdɛntəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality that makes a person or thing different from others : INDIVIDUALITY

self–im•age /ˈsɛlfˈɪmɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the way you think about yourself and your abilities or appearance ▪ She has a positive/negative/strong/poor *self-image*.

self–im•por•tant /ˌsɛlfɪmˈpoɚtn̩t/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *disapproving* : having too high an opinion of your own importance ▪ a *self-important* businessman

– **self–im•por•tance** /ˌsɛlfɪmˈpoɚtn̩s/ *noun* [*noncount*]

self–im•posed /ˌsɛlfɪmˈpoʊzd/ *adj* : required by you of yourself : not given to you by someone else ▪ a *self-imposed* task/deadline/limit ▪ *self-imposed* exile/isolation/punishment

self–in•dul•gent /ˌsɛlfɪnˈdʌlʤənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *disapproving* : allowing yourself to have or do whatever you want in a way that is excessive or wasteful ▪ a *self-indulgent* lifestyle ▪ a *self-indulgent* millionaire

– **self–in•dul•gence** /ˌsɛlfɪnˈdʌlʤəns/ *noun, pl* **-gen•ces** [*noncount*] a moment of *self-indulgence* [*count*] a small *self-indulgence*

self–in•flict•ed /ˌsɛlfɪnˈflɪktəd/ *adj* : caused by your own actions ▪ a *self-inflicted* wound ▪ His problems are mainly *self-inflicted*.

self–in•ter•est /ˌsɛlfˈɪntrəst/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *disapproving* : concern only for getting what you want or need and not about what happens to other people ▪ They acted out of *self-interest* and fear.

2 : your own interest or advantage ▪ Our *self-interest* demands that we help them. [=it benefits us to help them]

– **self–in•ter•est•ed** /ˌsɛlfˈɪntrəstəd/ *adj* ▪ *self-interested* behavior

self•ish /ˈsɛlfɪʃ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *disapproving* : having or showing concern only for yourself and not for the needs or feelings of other people ▪ *selfish* behavior/motives ▪ a *selfish* man ▪ She's interested only in her own *selfish* concerns. ▪ I wish he'd spend less time with his friends and more time with me. Am I being *selfish*?

– **self•ish•ly** *adv* ▪ He *selfishly* kept the money for himself. ▪ She acted *selfishly*. – **self•ish•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *selfishness* of their behavior

self•less /ˈsɛlfləs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having or showing great concern for other people and little or no concern for yourself ▪ a *selfless* act ▪ *selfless* dedication/devotion/love

– **self•less•ly** *adv* ▪ He *selflessly* volunteered to help. – **self•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

self–made /ˈsɛlfˈmeɪd/ *adj* : made rich and successful by your own efforts ▪ a *self-made* man

self–mu•ti•la•tion /ˌsɛlfˌmjuːtəˈleɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : the act of wounding yourself on purpose especially because you are mentally ill

self–per•cep•tion /ˌsɛlfpɚˈsɛpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count,*

noncount] : the idea that you have about the kind of person you are ▪ People's *self-perceptions* are often very different from the way other people perceive them.

self–pity /ˈsɛlfˈpɪti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving* : a feeling of pity for yourself because you believe you have suffered more than is fair or reasonable ▪ He was wallowing in *self-pity*. ▪ She spoke without a trace/hint of *self-pity*.

– **self–pity·ing** /ˈsɛlfˈpɪtijɪŋ/ *adj* ▪ a *self-pitying* complainer

self–por·trait /ˌsɛlfˈpoɚtrət/ *noun, pl* **-traits** [*count*] : a painting or drawing of yourself that is done by yourself

self–pos·sessed /ˌsɛlfpəˈzɛst/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing control of your feelings or actions especially in a difficult situation ▪ She is a remarkably calm and *self-possessed* young woman.

– **self–pos·ses·sion** /ˌsɛlfpəˈzɛʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

self–pres·er·va·tion /ˌsɛlfˌprɛzɚˈveɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : protection of yourself from harm or death ▪ We all have an instinct for *self-preservation*.

self–pro·claimed /ˌsɛlfproʊˈkleɪmd/ *adj, always used before a noun, usually disapproving* : giving yourself a particular name, title, etc., usually without any reason or proof that would cause other people to agree with you ▪ the *self-proclaimed* king of pop ▪ a *self-proclaimed* expert

self–pro·fessed /ˌsɛlfprəˈfɛst/ *adj, always used before a noun, usually disapproving*

1 : SELF-PROCLAIMED ▪ *self-professed* experts

2 : SELF-CONFESSED ▪ a *self-professed* sports junkie

self–pro·pelled /ˌsɛlfprəˈpɛld/ *adj* : able to move itself by means of a motor ▪ a *self-propelled* lawn mower [=a lawn mower that you do not have to push]

self–rais·ing flour /ˈsɛlfˈreɪzɪŋ-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : SELF-RISING FLOUR

self–re·al·i·za·tion /ˌsɛlfˌri:jələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌsɛlfˌrɪəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of achieving the full development of your abilities and talents ▪ Work is often a means of *self-realization*.

self–re·flec·tion /ˌsɛlfrɪˈflɛkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : careful thought about your own behavior and beliefs : SELF-EXAMINATION ▪ a moment of *self-reflection*

self–re·li·ant /ˌsɛlfrɪˈlajənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : confident in your own abilities and able to do things for yourself : not needing help from other people ▪ She worked very hard to be *self-reliant*. ▪ a *self-reliant* adult

– **self–re·li·ance** /ˌsɛlfrɪˈlajəns/ *noun* [*noncount*]

self–re·spect /ˌsɛlfrɪˈspɛkt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : proper respect for yourself as a human being ▪ a sense of dignity and *self-respect* ▪ I lost my job, but not my *self-respect*.

self–re·spect·ing /ˌsɛlfrɪˈspɛktɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : having proper respect for yourself as a human being ▪ No *self-respecting* person would do something like that.

self–re·straint /ˌsɛlfrɪˈstreɪnt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : control over your own actions or feelings that keeps you from doing things you want to do but should not do ▪ I know you like to shop, but you need to exercise/show some *self-restraint*.

self–righ·teous /ˌsɛlfˈraɪʧəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : having or showing a strong belief that your own actions, opinions, etc., are right and other people's are wrong ▪ a *self-righteous* person/tone ▪ *self-righteous* indignation ▪ It's OK to criticize, but don't be/get *self-righteous* about it.

– **self–righ·teous·ly** *adv* – **self–righ·teous·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

self–ris·ing flour /ˈsɛlfˈraɪzɪŋ-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a mixture of flour, salt, and baking powder — called also (*Brit*) *self-raising flour*

self–rule /ˈsɛlfˈru:l/ *noun* [*noncount*] : SELF-GOVERNMENT

self–rul·ing /ˈsɛlfˈru:lɪŋ/ *adj* : SELF-GOVERNING

self–sac·ri·fice /ˈsɛlfˈsækrəˌfaɪs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of giving up something that you want to have or keep in order to help someone else ▪ We should honor the courage and *self-sacrifice* of the brave soldiers who died for our country.

– **self–sa·cri·fic·ing** /ˈsɛlfˈsækrəˌfaɪsɪŋ/ *adj* ▪ *self-sacrificing* parents who put their children first

self·same /ˈsɛlfˌseɪm/ *adj, always used before a noun, literary* : exactly the same ▪ These *selfsame* [=very same] people who complain about the problem also refuse to help correct it.

self–sat·is·fac·tion /ˌsɛlfˌsætəsˈfækʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *usually disapproving* : a feeling of being very pleased or satisfied with yourself and what you have done ▪ his smug *self-satisfaction*

self–sat·is·fied /ˌsɛlfˈsætəsˌfaɪd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *usually disapproving* : feeling or showing self-satisfaction ▪ a *self-satisfied* young woman ▪ a *self-satisfied* smirk

self–seek·ing /ˌsɛlfˈsi:kɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : concerned only about getting what you want or need and not caring about what happens to other people ▪ a *self-seeking* opportunist ▪ *self-seeking* behavior/motives

– **self–seek·er** /ˌsɛlfˈsi:kɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ He's a *self-seeker* who'll do anything to get ahead.

self–ser·vice /ˌsɛlfˈsɚvəs/ *adj* : allowing or requiring customers to serve themselves without help from workers ▪ a *self-service* café ▪ a *self-service* gas station

– **self–service** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The gas station only has *self-service*.

self–serv·ing /ˌsɛlfˈsɚvɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : having or showing concern only about your own needs and interests ▪ *self-serving* motives ▪ a *self-serving* politician

self–start·er /ˌsɛlfˈstɑɚtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who is able to work without needing a lot of instruction or help ▪ The job requires a highly motivated *self-starter*.

self–styled /ˌsɛlfˈstajəld/ *adj, always used before a noun* : called a particular thing by yourself : SELF-PROCLAIMED ▪ *self-styled* experts

self–suf·fi·cient /ˌsɛlfsəˈfɪʃənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : able to live or function without help or support from others ▪ *self-sufficient* villages/farms ▪ His new job allowed him to become more *self-sufficient*.

– **self–suf·fi·cien·cy** /ˌsɛlfsəˈfɪʃənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ economic *self-sufficiency*

self–sup·port·ing /ˌsɛlfsəˈpoɚtɪŋ/ *adj* : earning enough money to live without getting help from other people ▪ She hopes to find a better job so she'll finally be *self-supporting*.

self–taught /ˈsɛlfˈtɑ:t/ *adj*

1 : educated by your own efforts (such as by reading books) rather than by a teacher ▪ a *self-taught* musician

2 : learned by your own efforts rather than at school ▪ *self-taught* knowledge

self–willed /ˈsɛlfˈwɪld/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : determined to do what you want even though other people may not want you to do it ▪ a stubborn and *self-willed* child

self–worth /ˈsɛlfˈwɚθ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling that you are a good person who deserves to be treated with respect : SELF-ESTEEM ▪ a healthy sense of *self-worth*

¹sell /ˈsɛl/ *verb* **sells**; **sold** /ˈsoʊld/; **sell·ing**

1 : to exchange (something) for money [+ *obj*] He *sold* his car. ▪ He buys and remodels houses and then *sells* them at a profit. ▪ She *sold* him a watch for $20. = She *sold* a watch to him for $20. [*no obj*] Stock prices are increasing, so now is a good time to *sell*. — opposite BUY

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) available to be bought ▪ Only a few stores *sell* that type of equipment. ▪ She *sells* insurance. [=she has the job of selling insurance to people] ▪ He is *selling* his car for $1,000. [=he is offering his car for sale at a price of $1,000]

3 [*no obj*] : to be able to be bought for a particular price — + *for* or *at* ▪ Those cookies *sell for* a dollar apiece. ▪ All items in the store are *selling at* half price.

4 a [*no obj*] : to be bought by someone or by many people ▪ That house still hasn't *sold*. [=no one has bought that house] ▪ The houses in that neighborhood aren't *selling*. [=people aren't buying the houses that are for sale in that neighborhood] ▪ They hope the new version will *sell* better than the old one. [=they hope that more people will buy the new version] ▪ The dictionary is *selling* well. [=many people are buying copies of the dictionary] ▪ The newest model just didn't *sell*. [=very few people bought it] **b** [+ *obj*] — used to say how many copies of something have been sold ▪ Their first album *sold* more than a a million copies. [=more than a million copies of the album were bought]

5 : to cause people to want to buy (something) : to cause the sale of (something) [+ *obj*] His name on the cover *sells* the book. [*no obj*] Good advertising *sells*.

6 [+ *obj*] : to persuade someone to accept or approve of (something or someone) ▪ He had a difficult time *selling* his theory to other scientists. ▪ You will really have to *sell* yourself at the interview to get that job.

sell a pup see PUP

sell off [*phrasal verb*] ***sell (something) off*** *or* ***sell off (something)*** : to sell (something) especially for a low price in order to get rid of it quickly or to get money that you need ▪ He *sold off* his car so he could move overseas. ▪ The family plans to *sell* some of the property *off*. — see also SELL-OFF

sell on [*phrasal verb*] ***sell (someone) on (something)*** : to per-

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suade (someone) to be interested in and excited about (something) ▪ He tried to *sell* them *on* the value of the project he was proposing. — often used as *(be) sold on* ▪ She *wasn't sold on* the idea. [=she wasn't convinced that it was a good idea]

sell out [*phrasal verb*] **1 a :** to be bought until no more are available : to be entirely sold ▪ Tickets to the concert *sold out* quickly. ▪ The book has *sold out* in stores across the country. **b :** to sell the entire amount of something ▪ Many stores *sold out* quickly when the book was first published. ▪ The concert *sold out* quickly. [=all the tickets to the concert were quickly bought] **c *be sold out* :** to have sold the entire amount of something ▪ "Are there any more tickets?" "No, I'm sorry, We're (all) *sold out*." [=we've sold all the tickets] — often + *of* ▪ The store *was sold out of* milk again. [=there was no milk at the store because it had all been sold] **d *sell (something) out* or *sell out (something)* :** to sell all of (something) ▪ The tickets were (all) *sold out* quickly. [=all of the tickets were sold quickly] **2 :** to sell all that you own of a business, company, etc. ▪ In the end, the other owners forced her to *sell out*. **3** *disapproving* **:** to do something that does not agree with your beliefs, values, etc., especially in order to make money ▪ Many of the band's fans accused them of *selling out* when they started appearing in television commercials. ▪ The union sees the deal as *selling out* to management. [=the union sees the deal as going against their principles and favoring management] **4 *sell (someone) out* or *sell out (someone)*** *informal* **:** to do something that harms or causes trouble for (someone who trusted you) in order to get something for yourself : to betray (someone) ▪ She *sold out* her accomplices [=she told police who her accomplices were] in exchange for a lower sentence. — see also SELLOUT, SOLD-OUT

sell (someone) down the river *informal* **:** to do something that harms (someone who trusted you) especially in order to get something for yourself : to betray (someone) ▪ I can't believe my best friend would *sell* me *down the river*.

sell (someone or something) short **:** to put too low a value on the ability, importance, or quality of (someone or something) ▪ Don't *sell* yourself *short*. You have some great skills and experience. ▪ I think you're *selling* the book *short*; it's a lot more interesting than that.

sell up [*phrasal verb*] *Brit* **:** to sell your possessions, business, etc., especially so that you can move away ▪ They were forced to *sell up* and go out of business.

sell your body **:** to accept money in exchange for sex

sell your soul (to the devil) **:** to gain wealth, success, power, etc., by doing something bad or dishonest ▪ He has *sold his soul (to the devil)* for fame and prosperity.

[2]sell *noun, pl* **sells** [*count*] *chiefly US* **:** something that is sold — used to say that it is easy or difficult to get people to buy or accept something; usually singular ▪ Her new novel was an easy *sell*. [=her new novel sold well; many people wanted to buy it] ▪ We need to raise taxes, but that's a tough *sell*. [=it's hard to persuade people to accept a tax increase] — see also HARD SELL, SOFT SELL

sell–by date *noun, pl* **~ dates** [*count*] **:** a date that is printed on food packages which shows the last day on which the food can be sold — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He wants to get married before he's past his *sell-by date*. [=before he's too old]

sell•er /ˈsɛlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a person or business that sells something ▪ a ticket *seller* ▪ The *seller* said that the car was in excellent condition. ▪ We're the number one *seller* of appliances in the country. — opposite BUYER; see also BOOKSELLER
2 : a product that sells in a particular way or amount ▪ Her new CD is a hot *seller*. [=a lot of people are buying her new CD] ▪ That book is our top/biggest *seller*. — see also BEST SELLER

seller's market *noun* [*singular*] **:** a situation in which few things of the same kind are for sale, prices are high, and sellers have an advantage over buyers — opposite BUYER'S MARKET

selling point *noun, pl* **~ points** [*count*] **:** a quality or feature that makes people want to buy something ▪ The car's new sound system is a *selling point*. ▪ The house's big/main/major *selling point* is its location.

selling price *noun* [*singular*] **:** the price for which something actually sells ▪ They asked $200,000 for the house, but the eventual *selling price* was $175,000. — compare ASKING PRICE

sell–off /ˈsɛlˌɑːf/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *US* **:** the sale of a large number of stocks or shares that causes their price to drop ▪ The decline in technology stocks prompted a *sell-off* that made matters even worse. — see also *sell off* at [1]SELL
2 *Brit* **:** the sale of an industry that is owned by the government to private buyers

Sellotape /ˈsɛləˌteɪp/ *trademark, Brit* — used for a type of adhesive tape

sell•out /ˈsɛlˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*]
1 : a game, concert, etc., for which all seats are sold ▪ The concert/game/performance was a *sellout*.
2 a : an occurrence in which you do something that does not agree with your beliefs, values, etc., especially in order to make money ▪ The union sees the deal as a *sellout*. **b :** someone who does something that does not agree with that person's beliefs or values especially in order to make money ▪ Angry fans called him a *sellout* when he started appearing in television commercials. — see also *sell out* at [1]SELL

selt•zer /ˈsɛltsɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** water that has bubbles added to it

selves *plural of* SELF

se•man•tic /sɪˈmæntɪk/ *adj, linguistics*
1 : of or relating to the meanings of words and phrases ▪ the process of *semantic* development/change
2 : of or relating to semantics ▪ *semantic* theory ▪ a *semantic* analysis/interpretation
– se•man•ti•cal•ly /sɪˈmæntɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The words are *semantically* related.

se•man•tics /sɪˈmæntɪks/ *noun* [*noncount*] *linguistics*
1 : the study of the meanings of words and phrases in language
2 : the meanings of words and phrases in a particular context ▪ The whole controversy is a matter of *semantics*. [=the controversy was caused by people understanding the same words in different ways]
– se•man•ti•cist /sɪˈmæntəsɪst/ *noun, pl* **-cists** [*count*]

sema•phore /ˈsɛməˌfoɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a system used for sending signals by using two flags that are held in your hands

sem•blance /ˈsɛmbləns/ *noun* [*singular*] **:** the state of being somewhat like something but not truly or fully the same thing — usually + *of* ▪ They found it hard to maintain any *semblance of* control. [=to maintain any appearance of having control; to maintain any control at all] ▪ Her life finally returned to some *semblance of* order/normality. [=her life finally became a little more ordered/normal]

se•men /ˈsiːmən/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the sticky, whitish liquid containing sperm that is produced by a male's sex organs

se•mes•ter /səˈmɛstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *US* **:** one of two usually 18-week periods that make up an academic year at a school or college — compare QUARTER, TERM, TRIMESTER

semi *noun, pl* **sem•is** [*count*] *informal*
1 /ˈsɛˌmaɪ/ **:** SEMIFINAL — usually plural ▪ The team made it to the *semis*.
2 /ˈsɛˌmaɪ/ *US* **:** a short, heavy truck that has a long trailer attached to the back and that is used to move goods : SEMITRAILER
3 /ˈsɛmi/ *Brit* **:** a house that is attached to another house : a semidetached house

semi- *prefix*
1 : half ▪ a *semi*circle ▪ *semi*circular
2 : happening twice during a particular period of time ▪ *semi*annual ▪ *semi*monthly
3 : partly : not completely ▪ *semi*tropical
4 : partial : not complete ▪ *semi*consciousness

semi•an•nu•al /ˌsɛmiˈænjəwəl/ *adj, chiefly US* **:** happening or produced every six months or twice in each year ▪ my *semiannual* visit to my cousin ▪ a *semiannual* journal/report
– semi•an•nu•al•ly *adv*

semi•au•to•mat•ic /ˌsɛmiˌɑːtəˈmætɪk/ *adj, of a gun* **:** able to fire bullets one after the other quickly but not automatically ▪ a *semiautomatic* rifle/weapon/pistol
– semiautomatic *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] ▪ The police found a *semiautomatic* in his car.

semi•breve /ˈsɛmiˌbriːv/ *noun, pl* **-breves** [*count*] *Brit* : WHOLE NOTE

semi•cir•cle /ˈsɛmiˌsɚkəl/ *noun, pl* **-cir•cles** [*count*]

1 : half of a circle
2 : an arrangement of people or things that forms a semicircle ▪ The children sat in a *semicircle*. ▪ The houses are built in a *semicircle*.
– **semi•cir•cu•lar** /ˌsɛmiˈsɚkjələ/ *adj* ▪ a *semicircular* driveway

semi•co•lon /ˈsɛmiˌkoʊlən/ *noun, pl* **-lons** [*count*] : the punctuation mark ; that is used to separate major parts in a sentence and to separate items in a series if the items contain commas

semi•con•duc•tor /ˌsɛmikənˈdʌktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a material or object that allows some electricity or heat to move through it and that is used especially in electronic devices ▪ Silicon is a *semiconductor*.
– **semi•con•duct•ing** /ˌsɛmikənˈdʌktɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *semiconducting* materials/properties

semi•con•scious /ˌsɛmiˈkɑːnʃəs/ *adj* : partially conscious : only somewhat awake and able to understand what is happening around you ▪ The victim was *semiconscious* and could barely talk.

semi•de•tached /ˌsɛmidɪˈtætʃt/ *adj, Brit* : attached to another house by a shared wall on one side ▪ a *semidetached* house/villa
– **semidetached** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ He lives in a *semidetached*.

semi•fi•nal /ˈsɛmiˌfaɪnl/ *noun, pl* **-nals** [*count*] : either one of two matches, games, or contests to decide which people or teams will be in the final part of a competition (such as a series of races or a tennis tournament) ▪ She played against a lesser-known rival in the (women's) *semifinal*. — often plural ▪ She won in the quarterfinals but lost in the *semifinals*. — often used before another noun ▪ the *semifinal* round ▪ *semifinal* teams
– **semi•fi•nal•ist** /ˌsɛmiˈfaɪnlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] ▪ She was a *semifinalist* in the tennis tournament.

semi•for•mal /ˌsɛmiˈfoɚməl/ *adj, US* : somewhat formal : not informal but not highly formal ▪ She wore a *semiformal* gown to the wedding. ▪ a *semiformal* dinner party ▪ a *semiformal* meeting/proposal

semi•month•ly /ˌsɛmiˈmʌnθli/ *adj* : happening or produced two times in each month ▪ a *semimonthly* meeting/newsletter

sem•i•nal /ˈsɛmənl/ *adj*
1 *formal* : having a strong influence on ideas, works, events, etc., that come later : very important and influential ▪ a *seminal* book/work/writer
2 *always used before a noun, medical* : of or containing semen ▪ *seminal* fluid ▪ the *seminal* duct

sem•i•nar /ˈsɛməˌnɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-nars** [*count*]
1 : a meeting in which you receive information on and training in a particular subject ▪ a writing *seminar* ▪ a *seminar* on career planning ▪ educational/investment *seminars*
2 : a class offered to a small group of students at a college or university ▪ a graduate/philosophy *seminar* ▪ a *seminar* room

sem•i•nar•i•an /ˌsɛməˈnerijən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] : someone who is studying at a seminary

sem•i•nary /ˈsɛməˌneri, *Brit* ˈsɛmənəri/ *noun, pl* **-nar•ies** [*count*] : a school for training religious leaders (such as priests, ministers, and rabbis)

se•mi•o•tics /ˌsiːmiˈɑːtɪks, sɛmiˈɑːtɪks/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : the study of signs and symbols and how they are used
– **se•mi•o•tic** /ˌsiːmiˈɑːtɪk, sɛmiˈɑːtɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *semiotic* analysis/theory

semi•pre•cious /ˌsɛmiˈprɛʃəs/ *adj, of a jewel* : fairly valuable : having somewhat less value than a precious stone ▪ *semiprecious* stones such as aquamarines and garnets

semi•pri•vate /ˌsɛmiˈpraɪvət/ *adj*
1 : available to a small number of people : providing some but not complete privacy ▪ a *semiprivate* terrace/pool
2 : shared by two patients ▪ a *semiprivate* room in a hospital

semi•pro /ˈsɛmiˌproʊ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : SEMIPROFESSIONAL
– **semipro** *noun, pl* **-pros** [*count*]

semi•pro•fes•sion•al /ˌsɛmiprəˈfɛʃənəl/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : paid to participate in a sport or activity but not doing it as a full-time job ▪ a *semiprofessional* pitcher/musician
2 : involving semiprofessional athletes ▪ *semiprofessional* soccer/football
– **semiprofessional** *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*]

semi•qua•ver /ˈsɛmiˌkweɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-vers** [*count*] *Brit* : SIXTEENTH NOTE

semi•retired /ˌsɛmiɹɪˈtajɚd/ *adj, US* : working only part-time at a career, job, etc., especially because you have reached the age at which you no longer need or want to work full-time ▪ a *semiretired* executive/nurse

semi•skilled /ˌsɛmiˈskɪld/ *adj* : having or requiring some training : having or requiring less training than skilled labor and more than unskilled labor ▪ *semiskilled* labor/jobs ▪ *semiskilled* and unskilled assembly workers

semi–skimmed milk /ˌsɛmiˈskɪmd-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : milk from which some of the cream has been removed — compare SKIM MILK

semi•sweet /ˌsɛmiˈswiːt/ *adj, US* : slightly sweet ▪ *semisweet* chocolate

Sem•ite /ˈsɛˌmaɪt, *Brit* ˈsiːˌmaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-ites** [*count*] : a member of a group of people originally of southwestern Asia that includes Jews and Arabs

Se•mit•ic /səˈmɪtɪk/ *adj*
1 : of or relating to the language family that includes Hebrew and Arabic
2 : of or relating to the Semites

semi•tone /ˈsɛmiˌtoʊn/ *noun, pl* **-tones** [*count*] *music* : a difference in sound that is equal to 1/12 of an octave — called also (*US*) *half step*

semi•trail•er /ˈsɛˌmaɪˌtreɪlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US*
1 : a long trailer that has wheels at the rear and is attached at its forward end to a large truck
2 : a large truck with a long trailer attached to the back of it — see picture at TRUCK

semi•trop•i•cal /ˌsɛmiˈtrɑːpɪkəl/ *adj* : SUBTROPICAL

semi•week•ly /ˌsɛmiˈwiːkli/ *adj* : happening twice a week ▪ *semiweekly* classes

sem•o•li•na /ˌsɛməˈliːnə/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a type of wheat flour that is often used to make pasta
2 *Brit* : a sweet dessert made from semolina and milk

sen. *abbr* **1** senate; senator **2** senior

sen•ate /ˈsɛnət/ *noun, pl* **-ates**
1 ***the Senate*** : the smaller group of the two groups of people who meet to discuss and make the laws of a country, state, etc. ▪ *the* New York State *Senate*; *especially* : the smaller group of the two groups that form the U.S. Congress ▪ *The Senate* approved the bill. ▪ *The Senate* voted to repeal the tax cut. — often used before another noun ▪ The *Senate* bill was approved. ▪ the *Senate* race ▪ the *Senate* majority leader ▪ a *Senate* aide — compare HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2 [*count*] : a group of people who govern some colleges and universities
3 ***the Senate*** : the group of officials who led the ancient Roman government

sen•a•tor /ˈsɛnətɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a member of a senate or the Senate ▪ Democratic/Republican *senators* ▪ a former *senator* ▪ *Senator* Inouye

sen•a•to•ri•al /ˌsɛnəˈtorijəl/ *adj* : of or relating to a senator or a senate ▪ *senatorial* offices/candidates

send /ˈsɛnd/ *verb* **sends**; **sent** /ˈsɛnt/; **send•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to cause (a letter, an e-mail, a package, etc.) to go or to be carried from one place or person to another ▪ I *sent* [=*mailed*] the letter/package/check to her. ▪ (*US*) I *sent* it to her by mail. = (*Brit*) I *sent* it to her by post. ▪ Please fill out the form and *send* it back (to us). ▪ He *sent* me an e-mail. = He *sent* an e-mail to me. ▪ Supplies were *sent* (out) to the troops. ▪ Satellites receive signals in space and *send* them back to Earth.
2 : to give (a message) to someone ▪ Please *send* my compliments to the chef. [=tell the chef that I enjoyed the food] ▪ Tell her that I *send* my love. [=tell her that I think of her in a loving way] ▪ When you write to him, please *send* him my very best wishes. ▪ ***Send word*** to the others [=tell the others] that we'll be late.
3 : to tell or cause (someone or something) to go to a place ▪ He became ill and was *sent* home from school. ▪ She *sent* the kids to bed immediately after supper. ▪ He was *sent* to prison for armed robbery. ▪ He *sent* me (to the store) for bread and milk. ▪ The company *sent* me to the conference. ▪ "There is a Ms. Jones here to see you." "*Send* her in." ▪ He was *sent* on a secret mission. ▪ Helicopters were *sent* (out) to search for the lost hikers. ▪ They *sent* a limo to pick her up at the airport. ▪ He asked us to *send* a taxi for him.
4 : to make the arrangements and payments that allow (someone) to attend a school, camp, etc. ▪ They are able to *send* both their children to private school. ▪ They *sent* their daughter to soccer camp during the summer. ▪ They are

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sending their son (away/off) to military school.

5 : to tell (someone or something) to go *to* a particular person or place for treatment, help, information, etc. ▪ She *sent* him *to* the information desk. ▪ The teacher *sent* [=*referred*] the students *to* the dictionary for the meaning of the word. ▪ My doctor *sent* me *to* a specialist. ▪ The Senate *sent* the bill *to* a committee.

6 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to cause (someone or something) to move in a particular direction or manner ▪ News of the strike *sent* stock prices down. ▪ The surprise attack *sent* the enemy running. ▪ The punch *sent* him to the floor. ▪ He *sent* the ball into right field. ▪ Her performance ***sent a chill/shiver up/down my spine.*** [=made me feel very excited and emotional]

7 : to put (someone) into a particular state or condition ▪ Her lectures often *send* students to sleep. — usually + *into* ▪ Their decision *sent* him *into* a rage.

send away for [*phrasal verb*] ***send away for (something)*** *or* ***send away to (someone) for (something)*** : to ask to receive (something) by sending a letter, coupon, etc., to someone by mail ▪ I *sent away for* [=*sent off for*] a free sample. ▪ You will have to *send away to* the manufacturer *for* a refund.

send down [*phrasal verb*] ***send down (someone)*** *or* ***send (someone) down*** *Brit, informal* : to send (someone) to prison ▪ He was *sent down* for six years for the robbery.

send for [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***send for (someone)*** : to ask (someone) to come to a place ▪ Someone should *send for* a doctor. **2** ***send for (something)*** : to ask someone to bring or send (something) to you ▪ *Send for* our free product catalog. ▪ The general has already *sent for* reinforcements. ▪ She *sent for* help.

send forth [*phrasal verb*] ***send forth (something)*** *formal* **1** : to cause (something) to be heard ▪ She *sent forth* [=*emitted*, (less formally) *let out*] a loud cry. **2** : to cause (light, heat, etc.) to move outward from a source ▪ The tropical flowers *sent forth* [=*emitted*, (less formally) *gave off*] a wonderful fragrance. **3** : to produce (something) in the process of growing or developing ▪ The plant began to *send forth* [=*send out*] its shoots.

send in [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***send in (someone)*** *or* ***send (someone) in*** **a** : to tell (someone) to go to a place to deal with a difficult situation ▪ Police were *sent in* to restore order. **b** : to tell (a player) to enter a game ▪ He was *sent in* to replace the starting goaltender. **2** ***send in (something)*** *or* ***send (something) in*** : to mail or e-mail (something) to a place ▪ Please *send in* your poems by October 1.

send off [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***send off (something)*** *or* ***send (something) off*** : to send (something) by mail or another service ▪ I *sent off* the package yesterday. **2** ***send off (someone)*** *or* ***send (someone) off*** *chiefly Brit* : to order (a player who has broken a rule) to leave the field for the remainder of the game ▪ He was *sent off* [=*ejected*] for striking another player. **3** ***send off for (something)*** : to ask to receive (something) by sending a letter, coupon, etc., to someone by mail ▪ I *sent off for* [=*sent away for*] a sample.

send on [*phrasal verb*] ***send on (something)*** *or* ***send (something) on*** : to cause (something) to go or to be carried from one place to another ▪ I had my mail/post *sent on* [=*forwarded, sent*] to my new address. ▪ He had his baggage *sent on* ahead. [=sent to the place he is going to]

send out [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***send out (something)*** *or* ***send (something) out*** **a** : to mail (something) to many different people or places ▪ Have you *sent out* the invitations yet? **b** : to cause (a signal) to go out ▪ The pilot *sent out* a distress signal. **c** : to cause (light, heat, etc.) to move outward from a source ▪ The coals *sent out* [=*gave off*] a reddish glow. **d** : to produce (something) in the process of growing or developing ▪ The plant began to *send out* its shoots. **2** ***send out for (something)*** : to ask a restaurant to deliver (food) to you ▪ We *sent out for* pizza.

send (someone or something) packing *informal* : to force (someone or something) to leave a place or situation ▪ We were *sent packing* after the first day of tryouts. ▪ A loss in tomorrow's game will *send* them *packing*. [=will eliminate them from the competition]

send up [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***send up (something)*** *or* ***send (something) up*** **a** : to cause (something) to be heard ▪ He *sent up* a loud cry. [=he cried out loudly] **b** : to cause (something) to move upward ▪ The campfire *sent up* sparks. ▪ If you need help, *send up* a flare so that we can locate you. **c** : to produce (something) in the process of growing or developing ▪ plants *sending up* new shoots **d** : to suggest or propose (something) to a more powerful person or group so that a decision can be made ▪ The bill has been *sent up* to the Senate for a vote. ▪ They are *sending up* a new name/applicant for consideration. **2** ***send up (someone or something)*** *or* ***send (someone or something) up*** *chiefly Brit, informal* : to imitate (someone or something) in an amusing way ▪ The show *sends up* [=*parodies*] soap operas. — see also SEND-UP

send•er /ˈsɛndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who sends a letter, package, message, etc. ▪ He wrote "return to *sender*" on the package.

send–off /ˈsɛndˌɑːf/ *noun, pl* **-offs** [*count*] : an occasion when people gather together to say goodbye to someone who is leaving — usually singular ▪ A crowd of friends gave them a fine *send-off*.

send–up /ˈsɛndˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *informal* : a movie, song, etc., that imitates the style of someone or something else in an amusing way — often + *of* ▪ a *send-up* [=*parody*] *of* horror films — see also *send up* at SEND

se•nes•cence /sɪˈnɛsn̩s/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical + formal* : the state of being old or the process of becoming old ▪ premature *senescence*
– **se•nes•cent** /sɪˈnɛsn̩t/ *adj* ▪ *senescent* cells

se•nile /ˈsiːˌnajəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing a loss of mental ability (such as memory) in old age ▪ a *senile* man in his eighties ▪ Her mother is becoming/getting/going *senile*.
– **se•nil•i•ty** /sɪˈnɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Paranoia is a possible sign of *senility*.

senile dementia *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a condition that affects the mind of aging people and causes them to be confused, to forget things, etc.

[1]se•nior /ˈsiːnjɚ/ *adj*

1 *not used before a noun, US* **a** : older in age — usually + *to* ▪ She is five years *senior to* me. = She is *senior to* me by five years. [=she is five years older than I am] **b** — used chiefly in its abbreviated form *Sr.* to identify a father who has the same name as his son. ▪ John Smith, Jr. and John Smith, *Sr.* — compare JUNIOR

2 : higher in standing or rank than another person in the same position ▪ a *senior* officer/manager/executive ▪ the *senior* vice president of marketing ▪ She is a *senior* aide to the president. ▪ a *senior* editor for the magazine ▪ He recently became a *senior* partner in the accounting/consulting firm. — often + *to* ▪ He is *senior to* me. — compare JUNIOR

3 *always used before a noun* **a** : of, relating to, or designed for older people ▪ a *senior* center ▪ *senior* housing **b** : designed for or done by adults or people over a certain age ▪ the men's *senior* baseball league ▪ *senior* golf

[2]senior *noun, pl* **-niors** [*count*]

1 : a person who is older than another person ▪ She is five years my *senior*. = She is my *senior* by five years. [=she is five years older than I am] — compare JUNIOR

2 : a person who is of a higher rank than another person ▪ As his *senior*, she commanded quite a bit of respect. ▪ She was his *senior* in rank.

3 *US* : a student in the final year of high school or college ▪ high school juniors and *seniors* — often used before another noun ▪ the *senior* class/yearbook/prom ▪ She skipped her *senior* year and went straight to college. ▪ the *senior* captain of a team — compare FRESHMAN, JUNIOR, SOPHOMORE

4 *chiefly US* : SENIOR CITIZEN

senior citizen *noun, pl* ~ **-zens** [*count*] *chiefly US* : an old person ▪ programs/activities for *senior citizens* : a person who is at least a certain age (such as 55) ▪ *Senior citizens* qualify for a discount at the movie theater.

senior high school *noun, pl* ~ **schools** [*count*] *US* : a school that includes the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades and often also the 9th grade : HIGH SCHOOL — compare JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

se•nior•i•ty /sinˈjorəti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the amount of time you have worked at a job or for a company compared to other employees ▪ Promotions are based on merit and *seniority*. ▪ a teacher with less/more *seniority* ▪ He has worked here longer than I have, so he ***has seniority over*** me.

2 : the state of having a higher rank than another person ▪ a position of *seniority*

sen•sa•tion /sɛnˈseɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : a particular feeling or effect that your body experiences ▪ I experienced a stinging/prickling/tingling *sensation* in my arm. ▪ She felt a burning *sensation* in her throat. ▪ visual/bodily *sensations* ▪ a *sensation* of hunger ▪ She craved new experiences and *sensations*.

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2 [*count*] : a particular feeling or experience that may not have a real cause ▪ I had a *sensation* of falling. [=I felt as if I were falling] ▪ She had the strange *sensation* that someone was watching her. ▪ I couldn't quite shake the *sensation* that I'd been fooled.

3 [*noncount*] : the ability to feel things through your physical senses ▪ Her injury left her with no *sensation* in her legs.

4 [*count*] **a** : a lot of excitement and interest — usually singular ▪ The news created (quite) a *sensation*. ▪ News of the corporate merger caused a *sensation* on the stock market. **b** : someone or something that causes a lot of excitement and interest — usually singular ▪ The rave reviews turned the book into a nationwide *sensation* overnight. ▪ a music/pop *sensation*

sen·sa·tion·al /sɛn'seɪʃənl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : causing very great excitement or interest with shocking details ▪ a particularly *sensational* trial/crime ▪ *sensational* headlines ▪ *sensational* news stories

2 : very excellent or great ▪ a *sensational* performance/idea ▪ a *sensational* (new) talent

3 *informal* : very attractive ▪ She looked *sensational* in her new dress.

– **sen·sa·tion·al·ly** *adv* ▪ The books sold *sensationally* well.

sen·sa·tion·al·ism /sɛn'seɪʃənəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving* : the use of shocking details to cause a lot of excitement or interest ▪ The network was accused of *sensationalism* in its reporting.

– **sen·sa·tion·al·ist** /sɛn'seɪʃənəlɪst/ *also chiefly US* **sen·sa·tion·al·is·tic** /sɛnˌseɪʃənə'lɪstɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *sensationalist* tabloids/reporting ▪ *sensationalistic* newspaper stories

sen·sa·tion·al·ize *also Brit* **sen·sa·tion·al·ise** /sɛn'seɪʃənəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es**; **-ized**; **-iz·ing** [+ *obj*] *disapproving* : to describe or show something in a way that makes it seem more shocking than it really is ▪ Journalists should report the news accurately without trying to *sensationalize* it.

– **sensationalized** *adj* ▪ a *sensationalized* story of a kidnapping

[1]sense /'sɛns/ *noun, pl* **sens·es**

1 a [*count*] : one of the five natural powers (touch, taste, smell, sight, and hearing) through which you receive information about the world around you ▪ All of my *senses* were on the alert for danger. — often + *of* ▪ The dog lost his *sense of* smell. ▪ an acute/poor *sense of* hearing — see also SIXTH SENSE **b** [*singular*] : a physical feeling : something that your body experiences — usually + *of* ▪ a *sense of* fatigue/hunger ▪ Ear problems can sometimes affect a person's ***sense of balance***.

2 a [*singular*] : a particular feeling : an emotion that you are aware of ▪ We had a *sense* that something wasn't quite right. — usually + *of* ▪ Once the speech was over, he was filled with a tremendous *sense of* relief. ▪ a *sense of* loss/urgency/pride ▪ a *sense of* well-being ▪ Their *sense of* accomplishment was obvious. ▪ We felt a growing *sense of* danger. ▪ The gun gave him a ***false sense of security***. [=made him feel safer than he really was] ▪ She has a strong ***sense of self***. [=she has strong ideas about who she is] **b** [*count*] : a personal quality : a specific quality that is part of your personality — usually singular; + *of* ▪ He had a great *sense of* adventure. [=he liked adventure very much] ▪ a *sense of* order/duty ▪ She lacked any *sense of* responsibility about financial matters. ▪ He had no *sense of* purpose [=he did not know what he wanted to do with his life] after his divorce. ▪ She has a great ***sense of humor***. [=she says funny things and can see the funny side of things] ▪ He has no *sense of humor*. [=he does not find things amusing] ▪ His excellent ***sense of direction*** [=ability to find his way around easily in a new place] was useful during our travels. ▪ The chairman's speech gave us a clear *sense of direction*. [=helped us to know what we should try to accomplish]

3 *senses* [*plural*] : the ability to think clearly or in a reasonable way ▪ His *senses* were clear despite his illness. ▪ They hoped recent events would ***bring them to their senses***. [=make them act sensibly] ▪ I was scared ***out of my senses***. [=I was so scared that I couldn't think clearly] ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) Are you ***out of your senses***? [=*out of your mind*]

4 [*noncount*] : a proper or reasonable way of thinking about something : an awareness of what is appropriate ▪ He had the *sense* to leave when the crowd got rowdy. [=he acted in a sensible way and left when the crowd got rowdy] ▪ She had the ***good sense*** to stop before she said too much. ▪ I wish she would ***see sense*** [=act in a sensible way] and go to college. — see also COMMON SENSE, HORSE SENSE

5 [*noncount*] : a reason for doing something : a reason why something was done ▪ There's no *sense* [=*point*] in waiting. ▪ I fail to see the *sense* of/in that decision. [=I fail to see why that decision was made]

6 [*count*] : the meaning of something (such as a word or phrase) ▪ Many words have more than one *sense*. ▪ in the biblical/religious/legal *sense* of the word ▪ an abstract/broad *sense* ▪ The American *sense* of this word differs from the British *sense*. ▪ He learned the speech by heart but missed the *sense* entirely. [=he memorized the speech but he did not understand it] — often + *of* ▪ The oldest *sense of* the word dates from 1890. ▪ The intended *sense of* the passage was lost in translation. ▪ The book is a classic ***in every sense of the word***. [=in every possible way]

come to your senses : to begin to think in a sensible or correct way after being foolish or wrong ▪ He finally *came to his senses* and gave up his plans to quit his job and become an artist. ▪ When will you *come to your senses*? Don't you realize that she's been lying to you?

in a/one sense : in one way : from one point of view ▪ *In one sense* [=*in a way*], he was correct.

in no sense : in no way : definitely not ▪ This book is *in no sense* intended for beginners. = *In no sense* is this book intended for beginners. [=this book is too hard or advanced for beginners]

in some senses : in some ways ▪ *In some senses*, it was a wasted effort.

knock some sense into someone's head *or* ***knock some sense into someone*** *informal* : to cause someone to stop thinking or behaving foolishly ▪ I tried to *knock some sense into the boy's head*, but he just wouldn't see reason.

make (any) sense of : to understand (something) ▪ We couldn't *make (any) sense of* the instructions. ▪ Were you able to *make any sense of* what he said?

make sense **1** : to have a clear meaning : to be easy to understand ▪ We read the recommendations and thought they *made* (perfect) *sense*. ▪ The instructions don't *make any sense* (at all). = The instructions ***make no sense*** (at all). = The instructions ***make little sense***. ▪ You're ***not making much sense*** (to me). [=I can't understand what you're saying] **2** : to be reasonable ▪ It *makes sense* to leave early to avoid traffic. ▪ It ***makes little/no sense*** to continue. [=there is little/no point in continuing] ▪ Why would he do such an awful thing? It *makes no sense* (to me).

take leave of your senses see [2]LEAVE

talk (some) sense into/to *informal* : to cause (someone) to stop thinking or behaving foolishly ▪ I couldn't *talk sense to* him. ▪ He *talked (some) sense into* her and she promised she would get rid of that dangerous car.

[2]sense *verb* **senses**; **sensed**; **sens·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *not used in progressive tenses* : to understand or be aware of (something) without being told about it or having evidence that it is true ▪ We *sensed* danger. ▪ She immediately *sensed* my dislike. — often + *that, what, when*, etc. ▪ He *sensed what* was going on and decided to intervene. ▪ I *sensed that* I may have offended you. ▪ My mother told me later that even though she was miles away, she could *sense* [=*tell*] *that* something wasn't right at home. ▪ People can *sense* [=*perceive*] *when* someone isn't being honest.

2 *of a machine* : to detect the presence or occurrence of (something) ▪ A motion detector can *sense* movement. ▪ a device that *senses* (the presence of) fine particles in the air — often + *that, when, whether*, etc. ▪ The system can *sense if* there is a readable CD in the drive.

sense·less /'sɛnsləs/ *adj*

1 : done or happening for no reason ▪ a *senseless* crime/tragedy ▪ *senseless* deaths ▪ *senseless* acts of violence

2 — used after *beat, knock*, etc., to say that someone is hurt badly and becomes unconscious ▪ I was *knocked senseless* by the fall. [=I fell and hit my head and lost consciousness] ▪ They beat him *senseless*. = He was beaten *senseless*. [=he was beaten until he was unconscious]

3 : stupid or foolish ▪ a *senseless* practical joke ▪ Don't be such a *senseless* idiot!

– **sense·less·ly** *adv* – **sense·less·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

sense organ *noun, pl* ~ **-gans** [*count*] : a part of your body (such as your eyes, ears, nose, or tongue) that you use to see, hear, smell, taste, or feel things

sen·si·bil·i·ty /ˌsɛnsə'bɪlətɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ties** *formal*

1 [*count*] : the kinds of feelings that you have when you hear, see, read, or think about something ▪ The speaker gave no thought to the *sensibilities* of his audience. [=the speaker did not worry about how his audience would feel about what he said] ▪ We don't want to offend the viewers' *sensibilities*.

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[=we don't want to upset the people who watch this]
2 [*count*] : the kinds of feelings that a certain type of person tends to have ▪ This movie appeals to people with a feminist *sensibility*. [=this movie appeals to feminists] ▪ The cartoon seems out of line with modern *sensibilities*. [=the cartoon seems strange or offensive to modern people]
3 : the ability to feel and understand emotions [*count*] The writer is remembered most for his *sensibility*. [*noncount*] She's a woman of poetic/artistic *sensibility*.

sen•si•ble /ˈsɛnsəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having or showing good sense or judgment : REASONABLE ▪ *sensible* people ▪ a *sensible* choice/solution/diet ▪ *sensible* prices ▪ a *sensible* answer/question ▪ My teacher gave me some *sensible* advice. ▪ She was *sensible* enough to stop driving when she got too tired.
2 : designed to be comfortable, useful, etc., rather than stylish ▪ *sensible* shoes/clothes ▪ She wore a *sensible* coat.
– **sen•si•bly** /ˈsɛnsəbli/ *adv* ▪ My doctor advised me to eat *sensibly*. ▪ He was *sensibly* dressed.

sen•si•tive /ˈsɛnsətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : easily upset by the things that people think or say about you ▪ a moody, *sensitive* teenager ▪ He acts like a tough guy, but he's really very *sensitive* to criticism. — often + *about* ▪ She's painfully/overly *sensitive about* her looks. [=she cares very/too much about what people say or think about her looks] ▪ a ***sensitive soul*** [=a person who is easily hurt emotionally] — opposite INSENSITIVE **b** : likely to cause people to become upset ▪ *sensitive* [=*touchy*] topics/issues ▪ a politically *sensitive* decision
2 a : aware of and understanding the feelings of other people ▪ I found him to be a *sensitive* and caring person. — often + *to* ▪ She was *sensitive to* the fears of her patients. — opposite INSENSITIVE **b** : having an understanding of something : aware of something — + *to* ▪ We are *sensitive to* the need to act quickly in this situation.
3 : easily affected by something in a way that is not pleasant or good : reacting to something in, on, or around you in a bad way ▪ *sensitive* skin — often + *to* ▪ She is *sensitive to* pollen (in the air). ▪ My teeth are *sensitive to* cold foods. ▪ I am *sensitive to* wheat. [=I become ill when I eat wheat] ▪ Now that I'm older, I'm more *sensitive to* (the) cold. [=I feel colder in cold surroundings now than I did in the past]
4 : able to express thoughts and feelings through writing, music, dance, etc. ▪ a *sensitive* poet/artist ▪ an exquisitely *sensitive* dance performance
5 *technical* **a** : able to sense very small changes in something ▪ a highly *sensitive* device/instrument ▪ *sensitive* scales **b** : changing in response to something ▪ light-*sensitive* film = film that is *sensitive* to light
6 : needing to be handled in a careful or secret way in order to protect someone or something ▪ highly *sensitive* information [=information that could be harmful if many people knew it; information that should be kept secret] ▪ *sensitive* financial data
– **sen•si•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ The problem was handled *sensitively*.

sen•si•tiv•i•ty /ˌsɛnsəˈtɪvəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**
1 a : the tendency to become upset about things that are done to you, are said about you, or relate to you [*noncount*] I was surprised by her extreme *sensitivity* about even the smallest suggestions that we made. — often + *to* ▪ his *sensitivity to* criticism [*count*] Their *sensitivities* were inflamed by his remarks. [=they became very upset by his remarks] **b** [*noncount*] : the tendency to cause people to be upset ▪ the racial *sensitivity* of this issue [=the tendency of people of certain races to become upset about this issue] ▪ This is a matter of great political *sensitivity*.
2 a : an awareness and understanding of the feelings of other people [*noncount*] He handled the situation with great *sensitivity*. ▪ Her decision shows a lack of *sensitivity*. ▪ I would have appreciated a little more *sensitivity* from you. [*singular*] — often + *to* ▪ She has shown a great *sensitivity to* the needs of her students. **b** : an awareness of the details or qualities of something — often + *to* ▪ He displays a remarkable *sensitivity to* the subtle nuances of language.
3 : the quality of being easily affected by something in a bad or unpleasant way [*noncount*] skin *sensitivity* [=the skin's tendency to react in a bad way to substances that touch it] ▪ drug *sensitivity* = *sensitivity* to drugs/medications [*count*] He has chemical *sensitivities*. [=his body reacts badly to certain chemicals] ▪ He has food *sensitivities*. [=he can't eat certain kinds of food] — often + *to* ▪ a *sensitivity to* light/pollen
4 [*singular*] : the ability to express your thoughts and feelings through writing, music, etc. ▪ Her singing is characterized by a rich emotional *sensitivity*.
5 [*noncount*] : the quality of needing to be handled in a careful or secret way ▪ the *sensitivity* of this document/data
6 [*noncount*] *technical* : the ability of a device to sense very small changes in something ▪ The new refinements have improved the *sensitivity* of the motion detector.

sen•si•tize *also Brit* **sen•si•tise** /ˈsɛnsəˌtaɪz/ *verb* **-tiz•es**; **-tized**; **-tiz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) sensitive or more sensitive: such as **a** : to make (someone) more aware of something — usually + *to* ▪ The program is intended to *sensitize* students *to* the dangers of drug use. **b** *medical* : to cause (someone) to become sensitive to a substance and to react to it in a bad way — usually + *to*; usually used as *(be) sensitized* ▪ If you have become *sensitized to* an allergen, even an extremely small amount of the allergen in your environment can trigger an attack.
– **sen•si•ti•za•tion** *also Brit* **sen•si•ti•sa•tion** /ˌsɛnsətəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌsɛnsəˌtaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sen•sor /ˈsɛnˌsoɚ, ˈsɛnsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sors** [*count*] : a device that detects or senses heat, light, sound, motion, etc., and then reacts to it in a particular way ▪ a motion/optical *sensor* ▪ ***Image sensors*** are used in digital cameras. ▪ ***Infrared sensors*** can track an object's movement.

sen•so•ry /ˈsɛnsəri/ *adj* : of or relating to your physical senses ▪ A study was conducted on *sensory* stimulation and its effects on the brain. ▪ *sensory* perceptions ▪ *sensory* deprivation

sen•su•al /ˈsɛnʃəwəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : relating to, devoted to, or producing physical or sexual pleasure ▪ *sensual* desires/pursuits/excesses ▪ a very *sensual* man/woman ▪ Certain fragrances apparently heighten *sensual* experiences. ▪ a *sensual* mouth ▪ *sensual* delights
– **sen•su•al•i•ty** /ˌsɛnʃəˈwæləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The actress exuded *sensuality* on screen. – **sen•su•al•ly** /ˈsɛnʃəwəli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *sensually* pleasing experience

sen•su•ous /ˈsɛnʃəwəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : affecting the senses in a pleasing way : pleasant, attractive, or appealing in a way that produces or suggests feelings of physical or sexual pleasure ▪ a *sensuous* voice/mouth ▪ her *sensuous* lips ▪ The *sensuous* sounds of soul music created a warm atmosphere. ▪ A gentle, *sensuous* breeze caressed our faces.
– **sen•su•ous•ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *sensuously* smooth finish – **sen•su•ous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

sent *past tense and past participle of* SEND

[1]sen•tence /ˈsɛntn̩s/ *noun, pl* **-tenc•es**
1 [*count*] : a group of words that expresses a statement, question, command, or wish ✧ Sentences usually contain a subject and verb. In written English, the first word of a sentence is capitalized and the sentence ends with a period, question mark, or exclamation point. ▪ write/construct/analyze a *sentence* ▪ complete/incomplete *sentences*
2 *law* : the punishment given by a court of law [*count*] a harsh/lenient *sentence* ▪ a prison/jail *sentence* ▪ He is serving a 10-year *sentence* for armed robbery. [*noncount*] The judge ***passed/pronounced sentence on*** him. [=announced what his punishment would be] — see also DEATH SENTENCE, LIFE SENTENCE, SUSPENDED SENTENCE

[2]sentence *verb* **-tences**; **-tenced**; **-tenc•ing** [+ *obj*] *law* : to officially state the punishment given to (someone) by a court of law ▪ The defendant was *sentenced* and fined. — usually + *to* ▪ The judge *sentenced* him *to* prison.
– **sentencing** /ˈsɛntn̩sɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He will return to the court on Wednesday for *sentencing*. — often used before another noun ▪ *sentencing* laws/guidelines

sentence adverb *noun, pl* ~ **-verbs** [*count*] *grammar* : an adverb that limits or describes the meaning of an entire statement rather than just a single word or phrase ▪ "Similarly" and "hopefully" often function as *sentence adverbs*.

sentence fragment *noun, pl* ~ **-ments** [*count*] *grammar* : a group of words that is written out as a sentence but that lacks a subject or verb

sen•ten•tious /sɛnˈtɛnʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* + *disapproving* : having or expessing strong opinions about what people should and should not do ▪ a smug and *sententious* writer ▪ a *sententious* speech
– **sen•ten•tious•ly** *adv* ▪ He spoke *sententiously*.

sen•tient /ˈsɛnʃijənt/ *adj, technical* + *formal* : able to feel, see, hear, smell, or taste ▪ *sentient* beings

sen•ti•ment /ˈsɛntəmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**
1 : an attitude or opinion [*count*] His criticism of the court's

decision expresses a *sentiment* that is shared by many people. ▪ an expression of antiwar *sentiments* ▪ a noble *sentiment* ▪ "The lecture was interesting, but it was much too long." "***My sentiments exactly!***" [=I agree with you completely] [*noncount*] A good politician understands public *sentiment*. [=understands the opinions held by many or most people]

2 [*noncount*] : feelings of love, sympathy, kindness, etc. ▪ She likes warmth and *sentiment* in a movie. ▪ You have to be tough to succeed in the business world. There's no room for *sentiment*.

sen·ti·men·tal /ˌsɛntəˈmɛntl̩/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : based on, showing, or resulting from feelings or emotions rather than reason or thought ▪ He has a *sentimental* attachment to his old high school. ▪ She saved her wedding gown for *sentimental* reasons. ▪ He has *sentimental* ideas about the past. ✧ A ***sentimental journey*** is a visit to a place that was once very familiar and that brings back memories of the past. ▪ They took a *sentimental journey* to England, the country where they had met. ✧ Something that has ***sentimental value*** is important to someone because of its connection with a happy time of life, a special person, etc. ▪ I keep this picture because it has *sentimental value* for me.

2 a : appealing to the emotions especially in an excessive way ▪ a *sentimental* melodrama **b** : having or expressing strong feelings of love, sadness, etc., in a way that may seem foolish or excessive ▪ a *sentimental* person ▪ I tend to get very *sentimental* when I think about my childhood.

– **sen·ti·men·tal·ly** *adv*

sen·ti·men·tal·ism /ˌsɛntəˈmɛntəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a tendency to have or express feelings of love, sadness, etc., especially in a way that seems foolish or excessive : a sentimental quality ▪ the *sentimentalism* of 19th-century art

– **sen·ti·men·tal·ist** /ˌsɛntəˈmɛntəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

sen·ti·men·tal·i·ty /ˌsɛntəˌmɛnˈtæləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality of being sentimental especially in an excessive way ▪ the *sentimentality* of Romantic poetry

sen·ti·men·tal·ize *also Brit* **sen·ti·men·tal·ise** /ˌsɛntəˈmɛntəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es**; **-ized**; **-iz·ing** : to describe or show (something) in an emotional way that makes it seem more attractive or interesting than it really is : to describe or show (something) in a sentimental way [+ *obj*] The movie *sentimentalizes* the past. ▪ *sentimentalized* stories of childhood [*no obj*] He does not *sentimentalize* in his biography.

sen·ti·nel /ˈsɛntənəl/ *noun, pl* **-nels** [*count*] : SENTRY ▪ armed *sentinels* — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The trees ***stand sentinel*** [=stand in a row like soldiers] on the cliffs.

sen·try /ˈsɛntri/ *noun, pl* **-tries** [*count*] : a soldier who guards a door, gate, etc. ▪ The general placed/posted an armed *sentry* at the bridge. ▪ The company hired a policeman to ***stand sentry*** [=be a guard] by the door.

Sep. *abbr* September

sep·a·ra·ble /ˈsɛpərəbəl/ *adj* : capable of being separated ▪ The top and bottom sections are easily *separable* (from each other). ▪ His religious and political beliefs are not always *separable* from each other. — opposite INSEPARABLE

– **sep·a·ra·bil·i·ty** /ˌsɛpərəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sep·a·rate /ˈsɛpərət/ *adj*

1 : not joined, connected, or combined : placed or kept apart ▪ two *separate* building ▪ There are *separate* restrooms for men and women. ▪ The boys/girls have *separate* rooms. ▪ They slept in *separate* beds. ▪ We use the same Internet service provider but have *separate* accounts. ▪ The company broke up into three *separate* [=*independent*] entities. ▪ Each state has a *separate* set of laws [=has its own set of laws] concerning marriage. ▪ He tries to keep his private life and public life *separate* (from each other). = He tries to keep his private life *separate* from his public life.

2 : different from something else ▪ I met him on four *separate* [=*different*] occasions. : not related ▪ That's an entirely *separate* issue.

go your separate ways **1** : to end a relationship with someone ▪ After 20 years of marriage, they decided to *go their separate ways*. **2** : to go in different directions after being together ▪ After dinner we *went our separate ways*.

under separate cover see [2]COVER

– **sep·a·rate·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]sep·a·rate /ˈsɛpəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-rates**; **-rat·ed**; **-rat·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to cause (two or more people or things) to stop being together, joined, or connected : to make (people or things) separate ▪ He *separated* the fighters (from each other). ▪ They described the process used to *separate* cream from milk. ▪ (*US*) He fell and *separated* [=*dislocated*] his shoulder. [=caused the bone in his shoulder to move out of its proper position]

2 [+ *obj*] : to be between (two things or people) ▪ A river *separates* the two towns. = The two towns are *separated* by a river. [=there is a river between the two towns] ▪ A great distance *separated* the sisters from each other.

3 [*no obj*] : to stop being together, joined, or connected : to become separate ▪ They walked together to the corner, but then they *separated* and went their separate ways. ▪ The main group *separated* into several smaller groups. ▪ Oil and water *separate* when combined together. ▪ The oil *separated* from the water. ▪ The salt crystals *separated* out of the liquid.

4 [*no obj*] : to stop living with a husband, wife, or partner ▪ They *separated* six months after their wedding. ▪ She *separated* from her boyfriend last week.

5 [+ *obj*] : to see or describe the differences between (two things) ▪ We need to *separate* [=*distinguish*] fact and/from fiction.

6 [+ *obj*] : to be the quality that makes (people or things) different : DIFFERENTIATE ▪ Their personalities and political beliefs *separate* them. ▪ Our ability to reason is what *separates* us from animals.

7 [+ *obj*] — used to describe how much difference there is in the scores or positions of people or teams in a race, game, etc. ▪ One goal *separated* the teams at the beginning of the third period. ▪ Polls show that the candidates are *separated* by only a narrow margin as the election approaches.

separate off [*phrasal verb*] ***separate (someone or something) off*** *or* ***separate off (someone or something)*** : to cause (someone or something) to be separate from other people or things ▪ He *separated* himself *off* from the crowd in the subway.

separate out [*phrasal verb*] ***separate out (someone or something)*** *or* ***separate (someone or something) out*** : to remove (someone or something) from a group ▪ Before you put out the trash, you have to *separate out* the bottles and cans. ▪ Most schools *separate out* children with learning problems.

separate the men from the boys : to show which people are really strong, brave, etc., and which are not ▪ The competition has been easy to this point, but now it gets tough and we'll really begin to *separate the men from the boys*.

separate the sheep from the goats *or* ***separate the wheat from the chaff*** *chiefly Brit* : to judge which people or things in a group are bad and which ones are good ▪ The magazine describes many different products and then *separates the sheep from the goats*.

separated *adj*

1 : not living with a husband, wife, or partner ▪ My sister is *separated* from her husband. = My sister and her husband are *separated*.

2 *US, medical* : not attached because of an injury : DISLOCATED ▪ He suffered a *separated* shoulder.

3 : located far apart from each other ▪ The birds live on two widely *separated* islands.

sep·a·rate·ly /ˈsɛpərətli/ *adv* : not together with someone or something else ▪ The two vegetables should be cooked *separately*. ▪ The software is sold *separately* from the hardware. ▪ The professor met with each student *separately*.

sep·a·rates /ˈsɛpərəts/ *noun* [*plural*] : pieces of women's clothing that can be worn with other pieces in different combinations to form different outfits

sep·a·ra·tion /ˌsɛpəˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : the act of separating people or things or the state of being separated [*count*] After a *separation* of 30 years, she visited her family in Cuba. [*noncount*] Moving away meant *separation* from his family. ▪ The U.S. Constitution calls for the ***separation of church and state*** [=calls for government and religion to be kept separate from each other]

2 [*count*] : a situation in which a husband and wife live apart from each other — usually singular ▪ She wanted a *separation* from her husband.

separation anxiety *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling of strong fear and anxiety that is experienced by a young child when the child is separated from a parent

sep·a·rat·ist /ˈsɛpərətɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a member of a group of people who want to form a new country, religion, etc., that is separate from the one they are in now

– **sep·a·rat·ism** /ˈsɛpərəˌtɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ religious *separatism* – **separatist** *adj* ▪ a *separatist* movement/group/leader

sep·a·ra·tor /ˈsɛpəˌreɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : someone

S

or something that separates two or more things from each other

se•pia /'si:pijə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a reddish-brown color — **sepia** *adj* ▪ *sepia* photographs/prints

sep•sis /'sɛpsəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : illness caused by an infection in a part of the body ▪ She was treated for *sepsis* of the urinary tract.

Sept. *abbr* September

Sep•tem•ber /sɛp'tɛmbɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bers** : the ninth month of the year [*noncount*] early/mid-/late *September* ▪ early/late in *September* ▪ School begins on *September* the fifth. = (*US*) School begins on *September* fifth. = School begins on the fifth of *September*. [*count*] The weather has been very mild during the past two *Septembers*.

sep•tet /sɛp'tɛt/ *noun, pl* **-tets** [*count*]
1 : a group of seven singers or musicians who perform together
2 : a piece of music that is meant to be performed by seven people

sep•tic /'sɛptɪk/ *adj, chiefly Brit, medical* : infected with bacteria ▪ a *septic* leg ▪ The cut ***went septic***. [=the cut became infected]

sep•ti•ce•mia (*US*) *or Brit* **sep•ti•cae•mia** /ˌsɛptə'si:mijə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a dangerous infection of the blood : BLOOD POISONING

septic tank *noun, pl* ~ **tanks** [*count*] : a tank under the ground that holds human waste from toilets

sep•tu•a•ge•nar•i•an /sɛpˌtu:wəʤə'nerijən, *Brit* ˌsɛpˌtjuəʤə'nɛəriən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] : a person who is between 70 and 79 years old

se•pul•chral /sə'pʌlkrəl/ *adj*
1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *literary* : very sad and serious : very dismal or gloomy ▪ *sepulchral* silence/darkness
2 *always used before a noun* : of or relating to a sepulchre ▪ *sepulchral* walls ▪ a *sepulchral* inscription

sep•ul•chre *or US* **sep•ul•cher** /'sɛpəlkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-chres** *or US* **-chers** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a place of burial : TOMB

se•quel /'si:kwəl/ *noun, pl* **-quels** [*count*]
1 : a book, movie, etc., that continues a story begun in another book, movie, etc. ▪ The new film is a *sequel* to the very successful comedy that came out five years ago. ▪ He is busy writing the book's *sequel*. — compare PREQUEL
2 : something that happens after and usually as a result of a previous event ▪ There is an interesting *sequel* to my date with her that I'll share with you later.

se•quence /'si:kwəns/ *noun, pl* **-quenc•es**
1 : the order in which things happen or should happen [*count*] a *sequence* of events [*noncount*] He listened to the telephone messages ***in sequence***. ▪ After she dropped the photographs, they were ***out of sequence***. [=not in order, out of order]
2 [*count*] : a group of things that come one after the other : SERIES ▪ a *sequence* of numbers/thoughts/poems/photographs
3 [*count*] : a part of a movie, television show, etc., that deals with one subject, action, or idea ▪ a chase *sequence* in a spy movie ▪ I enjoyed the movie's opening *sequence*.

se•quen•tial /sɪ'kwɛnʃəl/ *adj, formal*
1 : of, relating to, or arranged in a particular order or sequence ▪ *sequential* filing systems ▪ Put the cards in *sequential* order.
2 : happening in a series or sequence ▪ *sequential* actions/events
— **se•quen•tial•ly** *adv* ▪ I arranged the photos *sequentially*.

se•ques•ter /sɪ'kwɛstɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *formal* : to keep (a person or group) apart from other people ▪ The jury was *sequestered* until a verdict was reached. ▪ He was *sequestered* in his room.
2 *law* : to take (property) until a debt has been paid ▪ Their property was *sequestered*.

sequestered *adj, literary* : located in a quiet and private place : SECLUDED ▪ a *sequestered* house/village

se•ques•trate /'si:kwəˌstreɪt/ *verb* **-trates**; **trat•ed**; **-trating** [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit, law* : SEQUESTER 2

se•ques•tra•tion /ˌsi:kwə'streɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *US* : the act of keeping a person or group apart from other people or the state of being kept apart from other people ▪ the *sequestration* of a jury ▪ During their *sequestration*, jurors were not allowed to speak to reporters.
2 *chiefly Brit, law* : the act of taking someone's property until a debt has been paid ▪ the *sequestration* of property

se•quin /'si:kwən/ *noun, pl* **-quins** [*count*] : a small piece of shiny metal or plastic that is sewn onto clothes as a decoration — **se•quined** *or* **se•quinned** /'si:kwənd/ *adj* ▪ a *sequined* dress/gown

se•quoia /sɪ'kwojə/ *noun, pl* **-quoi•as** [*count*] : a very tall evergreen tree that grows in California

sera *plural of* SERUM

ser•aph /'sɛrəf/ *noun, pl* **ser•a•phim** /'sɛrəˌfɪm/ *or* **ser•aphs** [*count*] : a type of angel that is described in the Bible : an angel of the highest rank

se•raph•ic /sə'ræfɪk/ *adj, literary* : very beautiful or pure like that of an angel ▪ a *seraphic* smile ▪ her *seraphic* face

[1]ser•e•nade /ˌserə'neɪd/ *noun, pl* **-nades** [*count*] : a love song that is sung or played outdoors at night for a woman

[2]serenade *verb* **-nades**; **-nad•ed**; **-nad•ing** [+ *obj*] : to sing or play a serenade for (someone) ▪ He *serenaded* her from the garden below her window. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The crickets *seranaded* us all night long.

ser•en•dip•i•ty /ˌserən'dɪpəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *literary* : luck that takes the form of finding valuable or pleasant things that are not looked for ▪ They found each other by pure *serendipity*.
— **ser•en•dip•i•tous** /ˌserən'dɪpətəs/ *adj* ▪ a *serendipitous* discovery

se•rene /sə'ri:n/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : calm and peaceful ▪ a *serene* face ▪ *serene* music/skies
— **se•rene•ly** *adv* ▪ She smiled *serenely*. ▪ The sunset was *serenely* beautiful. — **se•ren•i•ty** /sə'rɛnəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a feeling of peace and *serenity*

serf /'sɚf/ *noun, pl* **serfs** [*count*] : a person in the past who belonged to a low social class and who lived and worked on land owned by another person ▪ medieval *serfs*

serf•dom /'sɚfdəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of being a serf

serge /'sɚʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a strong cloth that is used to make clothes ▪ a coat made of *serge* ▪ a blue *serge* suit

ser•geant /'sɑɚʤənt/ *noun, pl* **-geants** [*count*]
1 : an officer of low rank in the army or marines — see also STAFF SERGEANT
2 : an officer in a police force with a rank below captain or lieutenant — abbr. *Sgt.*

sergeant major *noun, pl* **sergeants major** *or* **sergeant majors** [*count*] : an officer of low rank in the U.S. Army or Marines Corps

[1]se•ri•al /'sirijəl/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : arranged or happening in a series ▪ The pictures are numbered and arranged in *serial* order. ▪ Scientists made *serial* observations over a period of two weeks.
2 a *of a crime* : committed many times usually in the same way ▪ *serial* murders/rapes **b** *of a criminal* : committing a series of crimes ▪ a *serial* killer/rapist
3 : broadcast or published in separate parts over a period of time ▪ a *serial* story/novel/publication
4 *computers* : designed for a computer system in which very small pieces of information are sent one at a time over a single wire ▪ a *serial* cable/connection/port/printer — compare [1]PARALLEL 3
— **se•ri•al•ly** *adv* ▪ *serially* numbered items ▪ *serially* connected printers ▪ The story was published *serially*.

[2]serial *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] : a story that is broadcast on television or radio or that is published in a magazine in separate parts over a period of time ▪ a daytime television *serial*

se•ri•al•ize *also Brit* **se•ri•al•ise** /'sirijəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to broadcast or publish (something, such as a story) in separate parts over a period of time ▪ Her story was *serialized* in the magazine.
— **se•ri•al•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **se•ri•al•i•sa•tion** /ˌsirijələ'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌsɪəriəˌlaɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

serial number *noun, pl* ~ **-bers** [*count*] : a number that is put on a product and that is used to identify it ▪ the *serial number* of a computer

se•ries /'siriz/ *noun, pl* **series** [*count*]
1 : a number of things or events that are arranged or happen one after the other — usually singular ▪ the summer concert *series* at the park — often + *of* ▪ a *series of* experiments/explosions ▪ We've had a *series of* problems with our computer network. ▪ an unusual *series of* events
2 a : a set of regularly presented television shows involving

the same group of characters or the same subject ▪ a popular television *series* ▪ a five-part *series* on/about the history of baseball **b** : a set of books, articles, etc., that involve the same group of characters or the same subject ▪ a comic book *series* ▪ a *series* of articles on global warming

3 *sports* : a set of games that are played between two teams one after the other on different days ▪ The Yankees played a three-game *series* against the Red Sox last week. ▪ The ***play-off series*** between the two teams begins next week. — see also WORLD SERIES

in series : one after the other in a particular order ▪ She placed the items *in series*.

ser•if /'serəf/ *noun, pl* **-ifs** [*count*] *technical* : one of the short lines near the top and bottom of the long parts of some printed letters — see picture at FONT; see also SANS SERIF

se•ri•ous /'sirijəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : having an important or dangerous possible result ▪ a *serious* injury/illness/condition ▪ "You sound terrible." "It's just a bad cold. Nothing *serious*." ▪ *serious* risks ▪ For my brother, not going to college was a *serious* mistake. ▪ Crime is a *serious* problem in this neighborhood.

2 : involving or deserving a lot of thought, attention, or work ▪ a *serious* study ▪ The team is a *serious* contender for the championship. ▪ If you want to quit smoking, you have to make a *serious* effort. ▪ They had a *serious* conversation about their relationship. ▪ a *serious* novel about modern life ▪ The story raises *serious* questions about our system of justice. ▪ Dog shows are a *serious* business.

3 : giving a lot of attention or energy to something ▪ *serious* musicians ▪ She is a *serious* cyclist who rides 200 miles each week. ▪ *Serious* journalists do not pry into the personal lives of famous people. ▪ When it comes to fishing, he's very *serious*. = He's very *serious* about fishing. ▪ My sister is *serious* about her grades.

4 : not joking or funny ▪ a *serious* story/opera ▪ Don't laugh. I'm *serious*! ▪ Can you be *serious* just this once? This is important. ▪ He is *serious* about moving down South. [=he truly wants/intends to move down South] ▪ "He says he won't do it." "***Are you serious***?" ▪ "I'm joining the army." "***You can't be serious***." [=you have to be joking; I can't believe that you're really joining the army]

5 *always used before a noun, informal* : large or impressive in quality or amount ▪ After business school, he started making some *serious* money. [=he started making a large amount of money] ▪ These are *serious* shoes! ▪ They did some *serious* drinking at the bar. [=they drank a lot]

6 : having or involving strong romantic feelings ▪ Their romance is quite *serious*. They're even talking about marriage. ▪ We've dated a few times, but it's nothing *serious*. ▪ They are a *serious* couple. ▪ He's never really had a *serious* relationship with a woman. — often + *about* ▪ She and her boyfriend are *serious about* each other.

7 : thoughtful or quiet in appearance or manner ▪ He looks like a *serious* person. ▪ You look *serious*. What's the matter?

se•ri•ous•ly /'sirijəsli/ *adv* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : in a serious way ▪ No one was *seriously* injured in the accident. ▪ I thought *seriously* about death while I was in the hospital. ▪ You should *seriously* consider buying a new car. ▪ You don't mean that *seriously*, do you? ▪ If you like arguing so much, you should be a lawyer! *Seriously*, you would be good at it. [=I was joking when I said you should be a lawyer, but I actually think you would be good at it] ▪ It was so hot that we nearly melted. But *seriously*, it was hotter than I've ever experienced. ▪ (*informal*) "I'll pay for dinner." "*Seriously*?" [=are you being serious when you say that you'll pay for dinner?]

2 : to a large or great degree or extent ▪ I think you are *seriously* mistaken. ▪ During her first year in the United States, she was *seriously* [=*very, extremely*] unhappy. ▪ She's a *seriously* beautiful woman. [=a very beautiful woman]

take (someone or something) seriously : to treat (someone or something) as being very important and deserving attention or respect ▪ He *takes* his religious faith *seriously*. ▪ She's well qualified for the job, so she hopes the company will *take* her *seriously*. ▪ His parents threatened to punish him, but he didn't *take* them *seriously*. [=he didn't believe that they would actually punish him] ▪ Police are *taking* the matter very *seriously*. ▪ Don't *take* him *seriously*—he loves to say crazy things. ▪ Most politicians ***take themselves too seriously***. [=think of themselves as being more important than they really are]

se•ri•ous•ness /'sirijəsnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being serious ▪ We were shocked by the *seriousness* of her illness. ▪ The child's *seriousness* was surprising. ▪ You have to consider the *seriousness* of the charges against you. ▪ She spoke with great *seriousness*.

in all seriousness : in a serious way — used to stress that a statement, question, etc., is not a joke ▪ "I was the queen of England in a previous life," she said *in all seriousness*. ▪ *In all seriousness*, if he does propose, what will you say?

ser•mon /'səmən/ *noun, pl* **-mons** [*count*]

1 : a speech about a moral or religious subject that is usually given by a religious leader ▪ He preached/delivered/gave a *sermon* on the importance of kindness.

2 *informal + usually disapproving* : a serious talk about how someone should behave ▪ Dad gave me a *sermon* yesterday about doing my homework.

ser•mon•ize *also Brit* **ser•mon•ise** /'səmə,naɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [*no obj*] : to give a sermon to someone; *especially, disapproving* : to give someone unwanted advice about good moral behavior ▪ She's a teacher who can talk to her students about serious subjects without *sermonizing*.

ser•pent /'səpənt/ *noun, pl* **-pents** [*count*] *literary* : a usually large snake

ser•pen•tine /'səpən,ti:n, *Brit* 'sə:pən,taɪn/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having many bends and turns ▪ a *serpentine* [=*twisting*] path through the woods

ser•rat•ed /'seə,reɪtəd, sə'reɪtəd/ *adj* : having a row of small points or teeth along the side like a saw ▪ a knife with a *serrated* blade/edge

ser•ried /'serid/ *adj, always used before a noun, literary* : crowded or pressed together ▪ Flowers came up every spring in their *serried* ranks.

se•rum /'sirəm/ *noun, pl* **se•rums** *or* **se•ra** /'sirə/

1 [*noncount*] *medical* : the part of blood that is like water and that contains substances (called antibodies) that fight disease ▪ blood *serum*

2 *medical* : serum from an animal's blood that can be added to a person's blood to prevent or cure disease [*noncount*] The patient was administered *serum*. [*count*] mouse *sera*

3 [*noncount*] *biology* : the watery part of a fluid found in a plant

ser•vant /'səvənt/ *noun, pl* **-vants** [*count*]

1 : a person who is hired to do household or personal duties such as cleaning and cooking ▪ domestic/household *servants* — see also CIVIL SERVANT, PUBLIC SERVANT

2 : a person who is devoted to or guided by something — often + *of* ▪ a *servant of* the truth ▪ She is a *servant of* her religion.

[1]serve /'səv/ *verb* **serves**; **served**; **serv•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to give (food or drink) to someone at a meal, in a restaurant, etc. ▪ Soup was *served* as the first course. ▪ The waiter *served* our meals quickly. ▪ The restaurant *serves* excellent Italian food. ▪ Dinner is *served*. [=dinner is on the table and ready to be eaten] — see also SERVE UP (below) **b** : to give food or drink to (someone) [+ *obj*] The waiter who *served* us was very nice. ▪ Feel free to *serve* yourself at the salad bar. [*no obj*] You carve the turkey, and I'll *serve*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to be enough food for (a particular number of people) ▪ We need to make enough soup to *serve* [=*feed*] eight people. ▪ The roast should *serve* six.

3 [+ *obj*] : to provide service to (a customer) : to help (a customer) make purchases ▪ I'm afraid all of our salespeople are *serving* other customers right now. ▪ What can we do to *serve* our customers better?

4 [*no obj*] **a** : to be used or seen in a particular way — + *as* ▪ The trees can *serve as* shelter from the rain. ▪ The organization *serves as* a model of social responsibility. ▪ The accident *serves as* [=*is*] a reminder of the dangers of drunk driving. ▪ Let that *serve as* [=*be*] a lesson to you. **b** : to have a particular result or effect — often + *as* ▪ Babysitting his nieces *served as* a test of his patience. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ She tried hard but her efforts only *served to bring* more attention to her lack of experience.

5 a [+ *obj*] : to be useful or helpful to (someone) ▪ Her quick wit has *served* her well on many occasions. **b** : to provide what is needed by or for (someone or something) [+ *obj*] The library *serves* the community. = The library ***serves the needs*** of the community. [=provides things that the community needs] ▪ He argued that government too often ***serves the interests*** of big business. [=does things to help big business instead of ordinary people] ▪ Arguing with him ***serves no purpose***. [=is not useful or helpful in any way] ▪ ***If (my) memory serves me (right/correctly)*** [=if I remember correctly], she is from Los Angeles. [*no obj*] ***If memory serves***, she is

S

from Los Angeles. ▪ Many people do not believe that ***justice has been served*** in his case. [=that he has been given proper punishment or fair treatment by the legal system] — see also SELF-SERVING **c** [+ *obj*] : to provide (an area or group of people) with a particular service ▪ This neighborhood is not *served* with/by garbage collection. ▪ Two elementary schools *serve* the town.

6 : to hold a particular office, position, etc. : to perform a duty or job [*no obj*] They *served* on the jury. ▪ She *served* on the city council for years. ▪ He *served* as the club's adviser. ▪ He *served* for five years in the army. = He *served* in the army for five years. ▪ She was elected to *serve* for a second term. [+ *obj*] We honor those who *serve* our country. ▪ She *served* a two-year apprenticeship.

7 [+ *obj*] : to be in prison for or during (a period of time) ▪ He's *serving* two years for robbery. ▪ She is *serving* a life/10-year sentence. ▪ He has ***served time*** [=spent time in prison] for drug possession.

8 [+ *obj*] *law* : to send or give (someone) official legal papers ▪ He *served* her with divorce papers. ▪ The police officer *served* a summons/writ on him.

9 [+ *obj*] : to give respect and service to (someone or something) ▪ She dedicated her whole life to *serving* God.

10 *sports* : to throw a ball into the air and hit it over a net to start play in tennis, volleyball, etc. [*no obj*] It's your turn to *serve*. [+ *obj*] They flipped a coin to decide who would *serve* the ball first.

first come, first served see ²FIRST

serve out [*phrasal verb*] ***serve (something) out*** *or* ***serve out (something)*** : to complete (a term in office, a prison sentence, etc.) ▪ He vowed that he would *serve out* his five-year term as chairperson. ▪ She *served out* her sentence in a prison in New York.

serve (someone) right — used to say that someone who has behaved badly deserves a particular punishment, problem, etc. ▪ "I hear his wife is divorcing him." " ***It serves him right*** after the way he's treated her." ▪ "He won't even talk to me." "(*It*) *Serves you right* for lying to him."

serve two masters : to give equal support to two different causes, groups, etc. ▪ You cannot *serve two masters*.

serve up [*phrasal verb*] ***serve up (something) or serve (something) up*** : to give (food) to someone at a meal, in a restaurant, etc. ▪ That little restaurant *serves up* some of the best Indian food in the city. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The movie *serves up* a ton of laughs. [=the movie is very funny]

²serve *noun, pl* **serves** [*count*] *sports* : the act or action of throwing a ball into the air and hitting it over a net to start play in tennis, volleyball, etc. ▪ She started the game with a powerful *serve*. ▪ It's your *serve*. [=it's your turn to serve the ball]

serv•er /ˈsəːvəː/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 *US* : a person who brings your food and drinks at a restaurant : a waiter or waitress ▪ She asked our *server* for another glass of wine.

2 : the main computer in a network which provides files and services that are used by the other computers ▪ the file/mail/Web *server*

3 : the player who begins play in tennis, volleyball, etc., by serving the ball

4 : something (such as a tray or spoon) that is used to serve food

serv•ery /ˈsəːvəri/ *noun, pl* **-er•ies** [*count*] *Brit* : a counter in a restaurant where customers pick up their food and bring it back to their tables

¹ser•vice /ˈsəːvəs/ *noun, pl* **-vic•es**

1 [*count*] : an organization, company, or system that provides something to the public ▪ the National Park *Service* ▪ the National Weather *Service* [=a government agency that provides information about the weather] ▪ Students go to health *services* for medical attention. ▪ He runs a landscaping *service*. ▪ Their housing is provided through government *services*. — see also ANSWERING SERVICE, CIVIL SERVICE, DATING SERVICE, FOREIGN SERVICE, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, POSTAL SERVICE, PUBLIC SERVICE, SECRET SERVICE, SOCIAL SERVICES, WIRE SERVICE

2 : work done by an organization or person that does not involve producing goods [*count*] Take advantage of their free delivery *service*. ▪ bus/Internet/telephone *service* — often plural ▪ He offered his *services* as a babysitter [=he offered to be a babysitter] during the party. ▪ The lawyers offer their *services* for free to those who cannot afford to pay. ▪ We received a bill for *services* rendered. [=for work that had been done] ▪ the consumption of ***goods and services*** [*noncount*] We guarantee excellent *service*. ▪ They have jobs in the ***service industries*** [=jobs that involve providing services to customers and not producing a product]

3 [*noncount*] **a** : work done for a business or organization : EMPLOYMENT ▪ She retired from the company after 34 years of *service*. ▪ Pay is determined by length of *service*. **b** : work done for your country, government, etc. ▪ a family tradition of public *service* ▪ Reporters began investigating his record of ***military service*** [=time spent serving in the army, navy, air force, etc.] — see also COMMUNITY SERVICE **c** *old-fashioned* : employment as a servant ▪ He entered the queen's *service*. ▪ In those days it wasn't unusual for a person to ***go into service*** [=become a servant] as a child. ▪ He was ***in service*** all his life.

4 [*noncount*] : the act of helping or serving customers at a restaurant, hotel, store, etc. ▪ The food was good but the *service* was terribly slow. ▪ The company is known for its excellent customer *service*. — see also FULL-SERVICE, LIP SERVICE, ROOM SERVICE

5 [*noncount*] : use of a machine or vehicle ▪ Our car has given us great *service* over the years. [=has served us very well over the years] : the state of being available for use ▪ The copier is currently ***out of service*** [=*out of order*] ▪ The new planes will be ***put into service*** [=will begin being used] next year.

6 : work that is done to repair something (such as a vehicle) or to keep it in good condition [*noncount*] He brought his car in for *service*. ▪ The store provides television sales and *service*. [*count*] (*Brit*) He brought his car in for a *service*.

7 : a regularly scheduled trip on a bus, airplane, boat, etc. [*count*] The 10:30 bus *service* to Boston is canceled today. [*noncount*] There is ferry *service* to the island four times a day. [=the ferry goes to the island four times a day]

8 [*count*] : a religious ceremony ▪ a funeral/memorial/burial *service* ▪ She goes to the synagogue for *services* on Friday nights.

9 *US* ***the service*** *or Brit* ***the services*** : a country's military forces : a country's army, navy, air force, etc. ▪ He entered/joined *the service* when he was 19. ▪ She was in *the service* for 20 years.

10 [*count*] : a set of dishes, cups, etc., that match each other ▪ a tea *service* ▪ I have a china/dinner *service* for 12 people.

11 [*count*] *sports* : the act of serving the ball in tennis, volleyball, etc. : SERVE ▪ a first/second *service*

12 [*noncount*] *law* : the act of giving legal papers to someone ▪ the *service* of a subpoena

13 ***services*** *Brit* : a place along a highway for drivers to get food, gasoline, etc. — used both as a singular noun and as a plural noun ▪ We stopped at a *services*.

at someone's service : ready or available for someone's use ▪ I am happy to be *at your service* if you have any questions. ▪ They made sure there was a car *at her service* when she got there.

be of service : to be helpful or useful to someone ▪ I am glad to *be of service*. ▪ May I *be of service* to you?

do (someone) a service : to do something that helps (someone) ▪ The journalists *did* the public *a service* by exposing the corruption. ▪ You are *doing us no service* by criticizing everything.

²service *verb* **-vices**; **-viced**; **-vic•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to do the work that is needed to keep (a machine or vehicle) in good condition ▪ I need to get my car *serviced*. ▪ The shop *services* sewing machines and old typewriters.

2 *technical* : to pay interest on (a loan or debt) ▪ The company was unable to *service* the loan.

3 : to provide (someone) with something that is needed or wanted ▪ The bookstore primarily *services* people looking for out-of-print books.

ser•vice•able /ˈsəːvəsəbəl/ *adj* : ready to use or able to be used ▪ I bought an old but still *serviceable* bicycle.

service area *noun, pl* ~ **areas** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : REST AREA

service charge *noun, pl* ~ **charges** [*count*]

1 : an amount of money that is charged for a particular service in addition to a basic fee ▪ Tickets are $25 each plus a $3 *service charge* per ticket. — called also (*US*) *service fee*

2 *Brit* : an amount of money that is paid to the owner of an apartment building for services (such as garbage collection)

3 *Brit* : a charge added to a bill in a restaurant to pay for the work of the waitress or waiter

service club *noun, pl* ~ **clubs** [*count*] *US* : a national organization that is made up of groups of local people who work to improve their communities

ser•vice•man /ˈsəːvəsˌmæn/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-ˌmɛn/ [*count*] : a man who is a member of the military

service mark *noun, pl* ~ **marks** [*count*] : a name, word, symbol, etc., that an organization uses to identify its services — compare TRADEMARK

service road *noun, pl* ~ **roads** [*count*] : a road that is near and parallel to a major road and that allows people to go to local stores, houses, etc.

service station *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] : GAS STATION

ser•vice•wom•an /ˈsəːvəsˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom•en** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who is a member of the military

servicing *noun* [*noncount*] : work done to repair a machine or vehicle or to keep it in good condition ▪ The photocopier needs *servicing*.

ser•vi•ette /ˌsəːviˈɛt/ *noun, pl* **-ettes** [*count*] *Brit* : NAPKIN

ser•vile /ˈsəːvəl, *Brit* ˈsəːˌvaɪl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* + *disapproving* : very obedient and trying too hard to please someone ▪ In the presence of an authority, he immediately adopted a *servile* [=*submissive*] attitude. ▪ a *servile* assistant — **ser•vil•i•ty** /səˈvɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]serving *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : an amount of food or drink that is enough for one person ▪ This recipe makes four *servings* [=*helpings*] of rice and beans. ▪ This is my third *serving* of mashed potatoes. ▪ According to the package, one ***serving size*** is 6 ounces.

[2]serving *adj, always used before a noun* : used to serve or give out food ▪ a *serving* bowl ▪ *serving* utensils

ser•vi•tude /ˈsəːvəˌtuːd, *Brit* ˈsəːvəˌtjuːd/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the condition of being a slave or of having to obey another person ▪ indentured/involuntary *servitude*

ses•a•me /ˈsɛsəmi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a plant that is grown in warm regions and that produces small flat seeds that are used in cooking and as a source of oil — often used before another noun ▪ *sesame* seeds ▪ *sesame* oil — see also OPEN SESAME

ses•sion /ˈsɛʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 [*count*] : a period of time that is used to do a particular activity ▪ a practice *session* ▪ Her health insurance will cover 12 one-hour *sessions* of therapy per year. ▪ a recording/photo *session* ▪ After the speech there will be a ***question and answer session***. [=a period of time when people can have their questions answered] — see also BULL SESSION, JAM SESSION, RAP SESSION

2 : a formal meeting or series of meetings of a group of people (such as a court of law or legislature) [*count*] the U.N. Special *Session* on Disarmament [*noncount*] The board met in ***closed session*** [=with no one else present] for four hours to discuss the issue. ▪ Congress is ***in session*** [=is meeting] right now.

3 *US* : a period of time during the year in which a school, college, or university has classes [*count*] I'm going to take classes during the summer *session*. [*noncount*] School will be back ***in session*** at the beginning of September. [=school will start again at the beginning of September]

[1]set /ˈsɛt/ *verb* **sets; set; set•ting**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] **a** : to put (something) in a place or position ▪ *Set* your books (down) on the table. ▪ We need to *set* some extra chairs around the table. ▪ He *set* the ladder against the wall and walked away. ▪ I remember *setting* my bag right here. **b** : to put (something) into the surface of something ▪ They *set* the bricks along the walkway. — often used as *(be) set* ▪ The posts *are set* firmly in the ground. ▪ The tiles *are set* into the wall. **c** : to attach (something, such as a jewel) to a piece of jewelry or other decoration ▪ The jeweler can *set* the stone several different ways. — often used as *(be) set* ▪ Her wedding ring *is set* [=*inlaid*] with seven diamonds. ▪ a diamond *set* in a simple gold band

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to cause the action of (a film, story, etc.) to happen in a certain place or during a certain time — often used as *(be) set* ▪ The play *is set* in Verona, Italy. [=the action of the play takes place in Verona] ▪ The novel *is set* in 1943. ▪ a novel *set* during World War II ▪ The story ***is set against*** (the backdrop of) the Second World War. [=the story takes place during the Second World War]

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to make (something) ready to be used : to put (something) in a position to be used ▪ He turned off the car and *set* the parking brake. ▪ Rangers will *set* a trap to catch the bear. **b** : to put plates, forks, spoons, knives, etc., on a table before serving a meal ▪ Would you please *set* [=(*Brit*) *lay*] the table? ▪ We *set* an extra place at the table for our guest. ▪ The table was *set* for two. [=it had two place settings]

4 [+ *obj*] : to cause (a clock) to show a particular time ▪ We *set* the clocks ahead one hour for daylight saving time. : to cause the controls of (a clock or other device) to be in a particular position ▪ The alarm was *set* for 7:00 a.m. = The alarm was *set* to go off at 7:00 a.m. ▪ I *set* the timer for/to twenty minutes. ▪ *Set* the oven to 350 degrees. ▪ In the winter, she *sets* the thermostat at/to 68 degrees.

5 [+ *obj*] : to decide on or choose (something) ▪ I *set* a goal (for myself) to lose 15 pounds by the end of the year. ▪ The company must meet certain conditions *set* by the government in order to stay in business. ▪ She will be *setting* the agenda for this afternoon's meeting. ▪ *setting* boundaries/limits/rules ▪ NASA has not yet *set* [=*named*] the date for the shuttle launch. ▪ He has ***set his sights on*** becoming [=he has decided to try to become] the next president. ▪ We don't have enough time to do everything. We have to ***set priorities***. [=to decide which things are most important to do]

6 [+ *obj*] **a** : to give (a particular price or value) to something ▪ An antiques appraiser *set* the value of the chair at $500. ▪ If you *set* your prices too high, no one will buy your products. ▪ Her bail was *set* at $10,000. = The judge *set* (her) bail at $10,000. [=the judge decided that she will have to pay $10,000 or stay in jail until her trial] **b** : to give (a high value or importance) to something ▪ They *set* a high value on their privacy. [=they value their privacy very highly] ▪ Our family ***sets great store by/on*** tradition. [=our family believes that tradition is very important]

7 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cause (something) to be accepted as an example, rule, etc. : to establish (a standard, trend, etc.) for others to follow or try to copy ▪ They are improving the safety of their vehicles and *setting* a higher standard for other companies (to follow). ▪ His style of directing has *set* a new trend in moviemaking. [=other directors are copying his way of making movies] ▪ His behavior ***sets a good/bad example*** for the rest of the children. ▪ The ruling is likely to ***set a precedent*** for how future cases are decided. [=future cases will be decided based on this case] ▪ Her lighthearted question ***set the tone*** for the rest of the interview. [=it gave the rest of the interview a light and easy feeling] **b** : to establish (a record) as the performance or achievement that is the best of its kind ▪ She *set* a record for the most sales in the company's history. [=she made more sales for the company than anyone else ever had] ▪ He *set* the world record for/in the 100-meter dash.

8 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to be in a specified condition ▪ The slaves were *set* free. ▪ He made a raft and *set* it afloat in the river. ▪ They ***set*** the house ***on fire***. = They ***set fire to*** the house. = (more formally) They *set* the house afire/aflame/ablaze. [=they caused the house to begin burning] ▪ I wish I knew how to ***set your mind at ease***. [=to help you stop worrying] ▪ She ***set him right/straight*** about what happened. [=she told him that he was wrong and explained what really happened] ▪ We should ***set our own house in order*** [=correct the way we do things] before we criticize them.

9 : to cause (someone or something) to start doing something [+ *obj*] We have no idea what *set* [=*got*] her crying. — often + *to* ▪ Her question *set* me *to* wondering if I had made the right decision. ▪ They are ready to ***set*** the plan ***in motion***. [=they are ready to cause the plan to start happening] ▪ The plan has been *set in motion*. ▪ Sources say that the governor has ***set the wheels in motion*** for a run for the presidency. [=the governor has started to run for president] [*no obj*] He immediately ***set to work*** [=started working] on the project.

10 [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to give (someone) a particular job : to require someone to do (a task) ▪ My boss *set* me to organizing the files. ▪ She *set* [=*assigned*] her students the task of writing a three-page report. ▪ *setting* homework for the children

11 [*no obj*] *of the sun or moon* : to move down in the sky and go below the horizon ▪ We sat on the beach and watched the sun *set*. — opposite [1]RISE 5

12 [+ *obj*] : to put and hold (your jaw, mouth, etc.) firmly into a certain position ▪ She crossed her arms, *set* her jaw, and refused to answer any questions. ▪ He *set* his lips firmly.

13 a [*no obj*] *of a liquid* : to become thick or hard ▪ The gelatin needs a few hours to *set*. ▪ My nail polish is still *setting*. ▪ a quick-*setting* cement **b** : to become permanent [*no obj*] If you don't wash your shirt right away, the stain will *set*. [=you will not be able to remove the stain] [+ *obj*] Hot water will *set* the stain.

14 : to put (a broken bone) into its normal position so it can

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heal [+ *obj*] Doctors *set* her broken leg last week. [*no obj*] The bones will take several weeks to *set*. [=grow together]

15 [+ *obj*] : to give a particular style to (someone's hair) by wetting it, putting it in curlers or clips, and drying it ▪ She gets her hair *set* and styled twice a week.

16 [+ *obj*] : to type or print (a word, sentence, etc.) in a particular form or style ▪ a word *set* in italics

17 [+ *obj*] : to add music to (words) : to create (music) to accompany words — usually + *to* ▪ She wrote the lyrics, and he *set* them *to* music.

set about [*phrasal verb*] ***set about (something)*** : to begin to do (something) ▪ They *set about* (the task of) creating a new Web site. — sometimes followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ They *set about to create* a new Web site.

set against [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***set (something) against (something)*** **a** : to compare (something) to (something else) ▪ Let's *set* the advantages *against* the disadvantages. — often used as *(be) set against* ▪ The challenges of fixing the problem now must *be set against* the dangers of waiting until later to act. ▪ The fines were small when *set against* the company's huge annual profits. — see also ¹SET 2 (above) **b** *Brit* : to list (something) as an expense in order to reduce (income for which you must pay tax) ▪ You can *set* your mortgage payments *against* your rental income. **2** ***set (yourself) against (someone or something)*** : to decide that you do not support (something or someone) : to be or become opposed to (something or someone) ▪ She *set herself against* the prevailing beliefs of the time. ▪ He has *set himself against* (joining) them. **3** ***set (someone) against (someone)*** : to cause (someone) to disagree with or oppose (someone) ▪ The incident *set* brother *against* sister.

set apart [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***set (someone or something) apart*** : to be a quality that makes (someone or something) better than or different from other people or things — usually + *from* ▪ What *sets* her *apart* (*from* the other teachers) is her great passion for her work. ▪ His great height *set* him *apart from* the other men in his family. **2** ***set (something) apart*** : to keep or save (something) for a particular purpose — often used as *(be) set apart*; usually + *for* ▪ A few acres of the city *were set apart for* a park.

set aside [*phrasal verb*] ***set (something) aside*** *or* ***set aside (something)*** **1** : to move (something) to the side because you are not working on it, dealing with it, etc. ▪ Mix the dry ingredients in a small bowl and *set* the mixture *aside*. : to wait until later to use or deal with (something) ▪ I've *set* your memo *aside* for now but I'll read it this afternoon. ▪ The committee *set aside* discussion of the proposal until their next meeting. **2** : to keep or save (something) for a particular purpose ▪ The hotel *set aside* [=*set apart*] 20 rooms for the guests of the bride and groom. ▪ We need to *set* some money *aside* for our vacation. **3** : to stop thinking about, talking about, or being affected by (something) ▪ They decided to *set aside* their differences and work together. ▪ *Setting aside* the fact that the meal was extremely expensive, dinner was very enjoyable. **4** *law* : to change or reverse (a legal decision, conviction, etc.) ▪ The verdict was *set aside* [=*overturned*] by the court.

set back [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***set (something or someone) back*** *or* ***set back (something or someone)*** : to make the progress of (something or someone) slower or more difficult : to cause (something or someone) to go back to an earlier or worse condition ▪ A recent lack of funding has *set back* research on the disease. ▪ If the law is reversed, it will *set* us *back* 20 years. [=it will undo 20 years of progress] ▪ *setting back* progress **2** ***set (someone) back*** *informal* : ²COST ▪ A new suit will *set* you *back* at least $200.

set down [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***set down (something)*** : to create or establish (a rule, requirement, etc.) ▪ All participants must follow the guidelines *set down* [=*established*] by the organization. ▪ Once she *sets down* the rules, there's no changing her mind. **2** ***set (something) down*** *or* ***set down (something)*** **a** : to record (something) by writing it down ▪ She took out her notebook and started *setting down* her thoughts. ▪ When an idea for a song comes to me, I *set* it *down* on paper. ▪ *setting* an agreement *down* in writing **b** : to land (an airplane) on the ground or water ▪ We had to *set* the plane *down* in a field. **3** ***set (someone) down*** : to allow (someone) to get off a bus, airplane, etc. ▪ I asked the taxi driver to *set* me *down* [=*drop me off*, (*US*) *let me off*] in front of the library.

set eyes on see ¹EYE

set foot in/on see ¹FOOT

set forth [*phrasal verb*] **1** *literary* : to begin a journey ▪ We will *set forth* [=*set out*] at dawn. **2** ***set forth (something)*** *or* ***set (something) forth*** *formal* : to explain or describe (something) in an organized way ▪ The author *sets forth* [=*states*] the book's premise in its first two pages.

set forward [*phrasal verb*] ***set (something) forward*** *or* ***set forward (something)*** : to explain or describe (something) so that it can be considered ▪ She has *set forward* [=*presented*] an ambitious plan to fix the nation's health-care system.

set in [*phrasal verb*] : to begin to be present, seen, etc. — used of something unpleasant or unwanted that often lasts for a long time ▪ The kids should go outside and play before the rain *sets in* again. ▪ An infection *set in* after the surgery. ▪ Reality was starting to *set in*. [=become obvious] We were not going to win.

set in stone see ¹STONE

set loose see *let loose* at ²LOOSE

set off [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to begin traveling in a particular direction ▪ We *set off* for home. ▪ They *set off* in a different direction. ▪ In the first chapter, the hero *sets off* on a long voyage across the ocean. **2** ***set off (something)*** *also* ***set (something) off*** : to cause (something) to start or happen ▪ *set off* an explosion ▪ Her comments *set off* [=*touched off*] a chain of events that led to two people losing their jobs. ▪ The incident *set off* a debate about how public land should be used. **3** ***set off (something)*** *or* ***set (something) off*** **a** : to cause (something) to begin making noise ▪ The thick smoke *set off* the school's fire alarms. ▪ Your watch will probably *set* the metal detectors *off*. **b** : to cause (fireworks, a bomb, etc.) to explode ▪ They were accused of *setting off* the bomb that destroyed the building. ▪ It was *set off* by remote control. **c** : to make (something) easy to see or notice ▪ The blue in your sweater *sets off* [=*accents*] your eyes. ▪ Bright yellow police tape *set off* the area where the crime occurred. ▪ a quote *set off* by quotation marks **4** ***set (someone) off*** : to cause (someone) to suddenly start yelling, crying, laughing, etc. ▪ I wonder what *set* her *off*.

set on [*phrasal verb*] ***set (someone or something) on (someone)*** : to make (a person or animal) suddenly attack (someone) ▪ Police dogs were *set on* the protesters. ▪ She *set* her friends *on* him.

set out [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to begin traveling in a particular direction ▪ We got out of the car and *set out* for the nearest gas station. ▪ They *set out* toward the east. **b** : to start doing something : to begin an activity or effort with a particular plan or purpose ▪ She *set out* with the goal of going to the Olympics. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ She accomplishes whatever she *sets out* [=*intends*] *to do*. ▪ I never *set out to hurt* you. [=I was not trying to hurt you] ▪ He *set out to become* a lawyer but ended up teaching history instead. **2** ***set (something) out*** *or* ***set out (something)*** **a** : to explain or describe (something) ▪ In the article, the group *sets out* the role of parents in a child's education. ▪ He *set out* the basic argument between the two groups. **b** : to move and organize (a group of things) so that they can be seen or used ▪ We'll need to *set* a few extra chairs *out* for our guests. ▪ They *set out* maps and travel brochures for the tourists to take.

set pen to paper see ¹PEN

set sail see ²SAIL

set the pace see ¹PACE

set the record straight see ¹RECORD

set the scene see SCENE

set the stage see ¹STAGE

set to [*phrasal verb*] *Brit, literary* : to begin doing something in an active and serious way ▪ We *set to* and soon finished the work.

set up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to prepare for something by putting things where they need to be ▪ We have one hour left to *set up* for the party. ▪ We had better start *setting up*. **2** ***set up (something)*** *or* ***set (something) up*** **a** : to create or establish (something) for a particular purpose ▪ A panel needs to be *set up* to investigate the issue. ▪ She hopes that in a few years she can *set up* a private practice of her own. ▪ A foundation was *set up* for people with the disease. ▪ The church *set up* a school for the city's homeless children. ▪ The hikers ***set up camp*** [=they prepared an area where they could sleep outside] just before sunset. **b** : to arrange and plan (an event or activity) ▪ I'll ask my secretary to *set up* a meeting with our clients. ▪ Let's *set up* a time to get together. ▪ He was the one who *set up* the bank robbery. **c** : to put (something) in an upright position ▪ They *set up* flags along the street for the parade. ▪ Help me *set* the tent *up*. **d** : to make (a machine, system, etc.) ready to be

used ▪ They *set up* the movie camera next to the door. ▪ This computer wasn't *set up* to run so many programs at one time. **3** ***set (someone) up* or *set up (someone)*** **a** : to cause (someone) to be in a bad situation or to appear guilty ▪ Those aren't his drugs. Someone must have *set* him *up*! [=framed him; made it look like the drugs were his] ▪ He claimed he was *set up* by the police. **b** *Brit* : to help (someone) feel healthy and full of energy ▪ She says that daily exercise has *set* her *up* to face the challenges of getting old. **c** : to give (someone) a job, a place to live, etc. ▪ She *set* me *up* in a great apartment in the city. ▪ He *set* his son *up* with a job at his company. **d** : to do something that makes it likely or possible for (someone) to do, get, or experience something ▪ The team's excellent defense *set* them *up* to score the winning touchdown. — usually + *for* ▪ I think you're just *setting* yourself *up for* a big disappointment. [=you're expecting something that won't happen and you will be disappointed when it doesn't] **e** : to cause (someone) to meet someone in order to start a romantic relationship ▪ "How did you first meet your husband?" "My best friend *set* us *up*." — often + *with* ▪ She wants to *set* him *up with* her sister. **4** ***set (yourself) up as (something)*** **a** : to try to make people believe that you are (something) ▪ She has *set herself up as* the best alternative to the current administration. ▪ He *sets himself up as* a defender of the people, but he's really only interested in getting more power. **b** *also* ***set up as (something)*** *or* ***set up in (something)*** : to start your own business ▪ She *set (herself) up as* a wedding planner. [=she began working as a wedding planner] ▪ He ***set up in business*** after finishing college. — see also SETUP

set up house see ¹HOUSE

set upon [*phrasal verb*] ***set (someone or something) upon (someone)*** : to attack (someone or something) — often used as *(be) set upon* ▪ The protesters *were set upon* by police dogs.

set up shop see ¹SHOP

set your heart on see HEART

set your mind to see ¹MIND

set your teeth on edge see TOOTH

²set *noun, pl* sets

1 [*count*] **a** : a group of similar things that belong together — often + *of* ▪ an extra *set of* keys ▪ There were two *sets of* footprints leading to the door. ▪ Her parents bought her a complete *set of* Shakespeare. [=all of the poems and plays written by Shakespeare] ▪ a *set of* instructions ▪ a complex *set of* emotions/ideas **b** : a group of things that are used together ▪ I need to buy a new *set* of golf clubs. ▪ a *set* of dishes ▪ a chess *set* ▪ an electric train *set* ▪ a dining (room) *set* [=a group of furniture for a dining room] — see also TEA SET

2 [*count*] : a piece of electronic equipment ▪ a radio/stereo *set* ▪ a television *set* = (*US*) a TV *set* ▪ The kids are allowed to watch two hours of television. After that, I turn off the *set*. — see also HEADSET

3 [*count*] **a** : a place where a movie or television program is filmed or a play is performed ▪ We met on the *set* of *Hamlet*. ▪ The actors got along well both on and off the *set*. [=while they were performing and while they were not] ▪ Quiet on the *set*! **b** : the rooms, painted backgrounds, furniture, etc., that are used for a scene in a movie, television program, or play ▪ elaborate stage *sets* ▪ a *set* designer — called also (*US*) *setting*

4 [*count*] : one of the parts into which a tennis or volleyball match is divided : a group of tennis or volleyball games ▪ He won a five-*set* match by three *sets* to two. — see also SET POINT

5 [*count*] : a group of songs or pieces that a musician or band performs at a concert ▪ Her band opened the show with a 30-minute *set*.

6 [*singular*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : a group of people who have similar interests or characteristics ▪ His music has become especially popular with the college *set*. [=with college students] ▪ the younger *set* ▪ the town's wealthy ***horsey set*** [=people who are interested in riding horses] — see also JET SET

7 [*count*] *Brit* : a group of students who perform at the same level in a particular subject ▪ She's in the ***top set*** for science.

8 [*count*] *mathematics* : a group of numbers, points, etc. ▪ the *set* of positive integers ▪ a finite *set* of points

9 [*count*] : the number of times that you perform a group of repeated movements when you exercise ▪ He did 3 *sets* of 12 push-ups.

10 [*singular*] : the way you move or hold your body, shoulders, etc. ▪ The *set* of her shoulders suggested confidence and strength. ▪ the firm *set* of his jaw — see also MIND-SET

11 [*count*] : a small bulb that you use to grow a new plant ▪ onion *sets*

³set *adj*

1 : having a particular position or location ▪ Her college is *set* in the countryside. ▪ Their house is *set* back from the road. ▪ a man with deep-*set* eyes — see also CLOSE-SET

2 : particular and not changing — used to describe something that has been decided by someone with authority ▪ All the cars on our lot have a *set* [=*fixed*] price. ▪ All contestants must write a 200-word essay on a *set* subject. ▪ Schools must be in session a *set* number of days each year. ▪ The office is open at *set* hours during the week. ▪ (*Brit*) The book is now a ***set book/text*** [=a book that students must read] in schools. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) The restaurant has a very good ***set menu***. [=a menu with items that cannot be changed]

3 [*more ~; most ~*] : not likely to change ▪ She has very *set* ideas about how children should behave. ▪ We're both getting older and more ***set in our ways***. [=more unwilling to change the way we do or think about things]

4 *of a person's face or expression* : in a firm position that does not move or change ▪ He stared at me with angry eyes and a *set* jaw. ▪ a *set* smile ▪ a crowd of *set* faces

5 *not used before a noun, informal* : ready or prepared for something ▪ Is everyone *set* to go? ▪ We're ***all set***. ▪ She's *all set* for an early-morning start. ▪ If we win the lottery, we'll be ***set for life***. [=we will have everything we need for the rest of our lives]

6 *not used before a noun* : scheduled or supposed to happen at a certain time — often + *for* ▪ Your package is *set* [=*slated*] *for* delivery on the 11th. ▪ Her trial is *set for* October. ▪ The album is *set for* an early March release. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ The album is *set to be* released in early March. ▪ The game is *set to begin* at 6:00.

be set against : to feel strongly that you do not want (something) or will not do (something) ▪ Everyone was *set against* going. ▪ He was ***dead set against*** the deal. [=he was very strongly opposed to the deal]

be set on : to feel strongly that you want (something) or will do (something) ▪ She has *been set on* becoming a doctor since she was a child. ▪ I'm not completely *set on* red for this room.

(get) ready, (get) set, go see ¹READY

have your heart set on see HEART

have your mind set on see ¹MIND

set in stone see ¹STONE

set–aside /ˈsɛtəˌsaɪd/ *noun, pl* -asides

1 [*count*] : something that is saved and used for a particular purpose; *especially, US* : a program that requires jobs, money, etc., to be saved for people who have not been given as much as others in the past ▪ minority *set-asides*

2 *Brit* **a** [*noncount*] : a plan in the European Union in which farmers are paid not to grow a certain crop on a piece of land so that the price for that crop will not decrease too much **b** [*count*] : a piece of land on which the crop is not grown

set•back /ˈsɛtˌbæk/ *noun, pl* -backs [*count*] : a problem that makes progress more difficult or success less likely ▪ Despite some early *setbacks*, they eventually became a successful company. ▪ a serious/minor/temporary *setback*

set piece *noun, pl* ~ pieces [*count*]

1 : a scene in a movie or play, an image in a painting, a piece of music, etc., that has a familiar style or pattern and that creates a particular and usually dramatic effect ▪ a movie with some lovely *set pieces*

2 *chiefly Brit* : a carefully planned and performed group of movements in sports ▪ She scored with a *set piece*.

set point *noun, pl* ~ points *tennis* : a situation in which one player or team can win the set by winning the next point [*count*] He won with an ace on his second *set point*. [*noncount*] He won with an ace on/at *set point*.; *also* [*count*] : the point that must be won to win a set

set square *noun, pl* ~ squares [*count*] *Brit* : TRIANGLE 5

sett /ˈsɛt/ *noun, pl* setts [*count*] *Brit* : a hole in the ground in which a badger lives

set•tee /sɛˈtiː/ *noun, pl* -tees [*count*]

1 : a long seat that has a back and arms and that two or more people can sit on

2 *Brit* : SOFA

set•ter /ˈsɛtɚ/ *noun, pl* -ters [*count*]

1 : a person or thing that determines or establishes some-

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thing ▪ As a teenager, she was a style *setter* for her younger sister. [=her younger sister copied her style] ▪ world record *setters* [=people who set world records] — often used in combination ▪ I like to use the joke as a ***tone-setter*** for my speeches. [=use the joke to set the tone for my speeches] — see also PACESETTER, TRENDSETTER

2 : a large dog that has long ears and long, smooth hair ▪ English/Irish *setters*

set·ting /ˈsɛtɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-tings** [*count*]

1 : the place and conditions in which something happens or exists ▪ This would be a beautiful/perfect/ideal *setting* for a picnic. ▪ You will have the opportunity to view the animals in their natural *setting*. [=*environment*] ▪ He tends to be shy in social *settings*. ▪ dining in a casual/formal *setting* ▪ urban versus rural *settings*

2 a : the time, place, and conditions in which the action of a book, movie, etc., takes place ▪ The movie changes the play's *setting* from the late 18th century to the year 2000. ▪ She uses modern-day Los Angeles as the *setting* for her book. **b** *US* **:** the rooms, painted backgrounds, furniture, etc., that are used for a scene in a movie or play : SET ▪ stage *settings*

3 : a particular way of positioning the controls of a machine, system, etc., in order to produce a desired result ▪ Save money by turning the temperature *settings* up in the summer and down in the winter. ▪ She just learned how to change the *settings* on her camera.

4 : the metal that attaches a stone or jewel to a piece of jewelry ▪ The ring has a single diamond in a gold *setting*.

5 : PLACE SETTING

6 : the music that is written to go with a piece of writing ▪ the musician's *settings* of poems by W. B. Yeats

[1]set·tle /ˈsɛtl/ *verb* **set·tles; set·tled; set·tling**

1 : to end (something, such as an argument) by reaching an agreement [+ *obj*] They were determined to *settle* the dispute/argument before going home for the day. ▪ *settle* a case/lawsuit ▪ The two sides have ***settled their differences***. [*no obj*] He agreed to *settle* out of court. [=to reach an agreement about a legal case without going to court]

2 [+ *obj*] **:** to make a final decision about (something) : DECIDE ▪ We need to *settle* this question once and for all. ▪ ***That settles it.*** I can't take the day off from work, so I'm not going. — often used as *(be) settled* ▪ It's *settled* then: you pay for dinner and I'll pay for the movie.

3 : to move to a place and make it your home [*no obj*] His grandparents were immigrants from Germany who *settled* in Pennsylvania. ▪ He always thought he'd leave the city and *settle* in the country. [+ *obj*] the people who *settled* the West — often used as *(be) settled* ▪ The region *was settled* by German immigrants. ▪ The area *was settled* in the 18th century.

4 a *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **:** to put or place (someone) in a comfortable position [+ *obj*] He *settled* the baby into its crib. ▪ She ***settled herself*** behind the wheel and pulled the car out of the driveway. [*no obj*] He *settled* back into his chair. **b** [*no obj*] **:** to begin to feel comfortable in a new place, job, position, etc. — + *in* or *into* ▪ I'm glad to finally be *settling in* at my new job. ▪ The children are *settling into* their new school just fine.

5 a [+ *obj*] **:** to make (someone or something) quiet or calm ▪ Rocking *settled* the baby. ▪ She had a drink to *settle* her nerves. **b** [*no obj*] **:** to become quiet or calm ▪ I'm still waiting for my nerves to *settle*. [=*settle down*]

6 [+ *obj*] **:** to relieve pain and discomfort in (the stomach) ▪ Ginger and peppermint tea are good for *settling* the/your stomach.

7 [*no obj*] **a :** to move slowly downward : to sink gradually ▪ The foundation of the house has *settled* a little. ▪ an area where the ground has *settled* **b :** to go or fall down to a surface ▪ Dust *settled* on the shelves. ▪ The cocoa *settled* to the bottom of the mug. ▪ Some of the contents (of the package) may have *settled* during shipping. ▪ Fog *settles* [=*collects*] in the valley. — see also *the dust settles* at [1]DUST **c :** to stop flying, moving, etc., and rest on something — often + *on* ▪ The birds *settled on* a branch. ▪ His eyes *settled on* the woman in the red dress. [=his eyes stopped moving and he looked at the woman in the red dress] — often used figuratively ▪ A hush *settled on* the crowd. = A hush *settled* over the room. [=everyone in the crowd/room became quiet] ▪ Boredom *settled on* the faces of the students. [=the students began to look bored]

8 : to pay money that is owed [*no obj*] — often + *with* or *up* ▪ Before moving he *settled with* the utility company. ▪ We can *settle up* later. [+ *obj*] We *settled* the bill. ▪ When do you intend to ***settle your account***? [=pay what you owe]

9 [+ *obj*] **a :** to arrange who will be given control or ownership of (a property, business, etc.) ▪ She had to *settle* her aunt's estate after her death. **b :** to put (something) in order so that nothing else needs to be done ▪ He *settled* his affairs before entering the army.

settle a/the score see [1]SCORE

settle down [*phrasal verb*] **1 a :** to become quiet, calm, or orderly ▪ *Settle down*, children. ▪ When things *settle down* here, I'll come for a visit. **b *settle (someone or something) down* or *settle down (someone or something)* :** to make (someone or something) quiet, calm, or orderly ▪ He managed to *settle* the dog *down* long enough to give her the medicine. **2 :** to begin to live a quiet and steady life by getting a regular job, getting married, etc. ▪ They swore they would never *settle down* and get married. **3 :** to put yourself into a comfortable position ▪ She *settled down* on the bed. ▪ He *settled down* for the night. **4 :** to become quiet and begin giving your attention to something ▪ They quickly *settled down* to their work.

settle for [*phrasal verb*] ***settle for (something)*** **:** to be happy or satisfied with (something) : to accept (something) ▪ Neither team would *settle for* a tie score. ▪ He asked his parents if he could borrow $20 but *settled for* $10. [=he accepted $10 because that was all they would give him] ▪ I'm determined to win the championship and I won't *settle for* less.

settle on/upon [*phrasal verb*] **1 *settle on/upon (something or someone)*** **:** to choose (something or someone) after thinking about other possible choices ▪ We weren't sure what color we'd paint the kitchen, but we finally *settled on* a soft yellow. ▪ Hours later, they *settled on* a plan. **2 *settle (something) on (someone)*** *chiefly Brit* **:** to arrange to give (money or property) to (someone) ▪ She *settled* her whole fortune *on* her grandchildren.

[2]settle *noun, pl* **settles** [*count*] **:** a long wooden bench with arms, a high solid back, and often with space under the seat which can be used to store things

settled *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : not likely to move or change ▪ *settled* peoples ▪ She had to adjust to the *settled* habits of her new coworkers. ▪ He hated moving so often and longed for a more *settled* life.

2 : comfortable or happy with your home, job, etc. ▪ You'll feel more *settled* once you make some new friends.

3 : having people living in it ▪ *settled* areas of the country ▪ a densely/sparsely *settled* neighborhood [=a neighborhood where many/few people live]

set·tle·ment /ˈsɛtl̩mənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 a [*count*] **:** a formal agreement or decision that ends an argument or dispute ▪ I got the house in the divorce *settlement*. ▪ The parties have not been able to reach/negotiate a *settlement* in the case. ▪ an ***out-of-court settlement*** [=an agreement made to avoid a court case]; *also* **:** an amount of money that someone receives as part of such an agreement ▪ a cash *settlement* ▪ a *settlement* of two million dollars = a two-million-dollar *settlement* **b** [*singular*] **:** the act or process of settling an argument or disagreement ▪ We were hoping for a quick *settlement* of the dispute between the neighbors.

2 [*noncount*] **:** the act of paying back money that is owed — often + *of* ▪ the *settlement of* our debts ▪ He paid $20,000 in *settlement of* a loan.

3 a [*count*] **:** a place where people have come to live and where few or no people lived before ▪ English *settlements* in North America ▪ This was the island's first colonial *settlement*. **b** [*noncount*] **:** the act or process of moving to a new area or place to live there : the act or process of settling an area or place — often + *of* ▪ The rifle played a big role in the early *settlement of* North America. **c** [*count*] **:** a small village ▪ They came upon the ruins of an ancient *settlement*.

settlement house *noun, pl* **~ houses** [*count*] *US* **:** a place or organization that provides various community services to people in a crowded part of a city

set·tler /ˈsɛtl̩ɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tlers** [*count*] **:** a person who goes to live in a new place where usually there are few or no people ▪ The town was established by British *settlers* [=*colonists*] in 1769.

set–to /ˈsɛtˌtu:/ *noun, pl* **-tos** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* **:** a usually short fight or argument ▪ He left after a *set-to* with his girlfriend. — see also *set to* at [1]SET

set–top box *noun, pl* **~ boxes** [*count*] **:** a device that is connected to a television so that the television can receive digital signals

set·up /ˈsɛtˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups**

1 : the process of making something (such as a machine or

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computer program) ready to be used [*count*] an online account *setup* [*noncount*] The tent is designed for quick and easy *setup*. [=is designed to be set up quickly and easily] ▪ *Setup* of the new software is a breeze. — often used before another noun ▪ How much *setup* time is needed? ▪ Run the *setup* program on your computer.

2 [*count*] : the way that something is done or organized ▪ It took me a while to learn the *setup* of the office's filing system. ▪ We had a great *setup*. On my days off, my wife would work from home while I took care of the kids. ▪ The software makes it easy to create custom *setups*.

3 [*count*] *informal* : a situation in which someone is deliberately put in a bad position or made to look guilty — usually singular ▪ Those aren't my drugs. This is a *setup*! Someone is trying to frame me!

4 [*count*] : the beginning of a story, joke, etc., that explains and leads to what follows — usually singular ▪ This sounds like the *setup* to one of your jokes. ▪ the *setup* for a television crime drama — see also *set up* at [1]SET

sev•en /ˈsɛvən/ *noun, pl* **-ens**

1 [*count*] : the number 7

2 [*count*] : the seventh in a set or series ▪ the *seven* of hearts

3 [*noncount*] : seven o'clock ▪ "What time is it?" "It's *seven*." ▪ I leave each day at *seven*.

at sixes and sevens see SIX

– **seven** *adj* ▪ waiting for *seven* hours – **seven** *pronoun* ▪ *Seven* (of them) passed the test.

sev•en•fold /ˈsɛvənˌfoʊld/ *adj* : seven times as great or as many ▪ There has been a *sevenfold* increase in membership in the past year.

– **sevenfold** *adv* ▪ Membership has increased *sevenfold*.

seven seas *noun* [*plural*] : all the waters or oceans of the world ▪ He sailed the *seven seas*.

sev•en•teen /ˌsɛvənˈtiːn/ *noun, pl* **-teens** [*count*] : the number 17

– **seventeen** *adj* ▪ They lived together for *seventeen* years. – **seventeen** *pronoun* ▪ We interviewed *seventeen* (of them). – **sev•en•teenth** /ˌsɛvənˈtiːnθ/ *noun, pl* **-teenths** [*count*] ▪ I'll see you on the *seventeenth* of April. ▪ The bill is due on the *seventeenth* (of the month). ▪ one *seventeenth* of the total – **seventeenth** *adj* ▪ The paintings were made in the *seventeenth* century. ▪ He finished in *seventeenth* place. – **seventeenth** *adv* ▪ She finished *seventeenth* in the race.

[1]sev•enth /ˈsɛvənθ/ *noun, pl* **-enths**

1 [*singular*] : number seven in a series ▪ I'll be flying in on the *seventh*. [=the seventh day of the month] ▪ (*baseball*) He got a base hit in the *seventh*. [=the seventh inning]

2 [*count*] : one of seven equal parts of something ▪ Only about a *seventh* of the town voted for her.

[2]seventh *adj* : occupying the number seven position in a series ▪ on the *seventh* day ▪ the book's *seventh* edition ▪ her *seventh* goal of the season ▪ I finished in *seventh* place in the competition.

– **seventh** *adv* ▪ She finished *seventh* in the race. ▪ the nation's *seventh* largest city

seventh heaven *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : a state of extreme happiness and joy ▪ When I told her she was going to be a grandmother, she was ***in seventh heaven***. [=she was very happy]

sev•en•ty /ˈsɛvənti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*count*] : the number 70

2 *seventies* [*plural*] **a** : the numbers ranging from 70 to 79 ▪ a salary in the low *seventies* [=between $70,000 and $74,000] **b** : a set of years ending in digits ranging from 70 to 79 ▪ She grew up in the *seventies*. [=1970–1979] ▪ She is in her *seventies*.

– **sev•en•ti•eth** /ˈsɛvəntijəθ/ *noun, pl* **-eths** [*count*] ▪ one *seventieth* of the total – **seventieth** *adj* ▪ his *seventieth* birthday – **seventy** *adj* ▪ *seventy* books – **seventy** *pronoun* ▪ *Seventy* (of them) came to the performance. ▪ *seventy* of her classmates

sev•er /ˈsɛvɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cut off (something) : to remove or separate (something) by cutting ▪ He *severed* the lowest tree limbs. ▪ His finger was *severed* in the accident. ▪ a *severed* head/hand

2 : to end (a relationship, connection, etc.) completely ▪ When she went off to college, she *severed* [=*cut off*] (all) ties with her high school friends. ▪ Activists are asking the government to *sever* all diplomatic relations with the country.

[1]sev•er•al /ˈsɛvərəl/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : more than two but not very many ▪ It took *several* days/weeks for the package to arrive. ▪ He arrived *several* hours ago. ▪ *several* million people ▪ We added *several* more names to the list. ▪ The meat can be cooked *several* ways. ▪ There are *several* similar stores at the mall.

2 *formal* : different and separate ▪ a federal union of the *several* states ▪ After college, we each ***went our several ways***. [=(more commonly) *went our separate ways*; stopped being together]

– **sev•er•al•ly** /ˈsɛvərəli/ *adv, formal + law* ▪ Both spouses are ***jointly and severally*** liable for the tax. [=are liable both together and separately]

[2]several *pronoun* : more than two but not very many ▪ *Several* of the guests left early. ▪ I haven't read all of her books, but I've read *several*.

sev•er•ance /ˈsɛvərəns/ *noun* [*singular*] *formal*

1 : the act of ending someone's employment ▪ a *severance* of employment — usually used before another noun ▪ ***severance pay*** [=money given to someone who has been fired or laid off from a job] ▪ She received a good ***severance package*** [=money and other benefits given when employment is ended] when she was laid off.

2 : the act of ending a relationship, connection, etc. — usually + *of* ▪ a *severance of* diplomatic relations

se•vere /səˈvɪɚ/ *adj* **se•ver•er**; **-est** [*or more ~; most ~*]

1 a : very bad, serious, or unpleasant ▪ *severe* weather conditions ▪ The storm caused *severe* damage to the roof. ▪ a *severe* economic depression ▪ The patient is in *severe* pain. ▪ children with *severe* learning disabilities ▪ In the most *severe* cases, the disease can lead to blindness. **b** : causing a lot of physical pain or suffering ▪ He suffered a *severe* head injury. ▪ a *severe* cold/infection ▪ *severe* burns/wounds

2 : very harsh ▪ He faces *severe* penalties for his actions. ▪ The punishment was *severe*. ▪ *severe* criticism ▪ a *severe* critic

3 : requiring great effort ▪ The war was a *severe* test of his leadership. ▪ a *severe* challenge

4 : very formal, strict, and serious ▪ a *severe* young woman ▪ He's very generous despite his somewhat *severe* manner.

5 : not having much decoration : very plain ▪ a very *severe* style of architecture ▪ *severe* clothing ▪ a *severe* hairstyle

– **se•vere•ly** *adv* ▪ *severely* injured/punished ▪ The accident has *severely* limited her mobility. – **se•ver•i•ty** /səˈverəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ At first, they didn't understand the *severity* of the problem/situation. ▪ We were shocked at the *severity* of the penalty. ▪ Treatment varies according to the *severity* of the symptoms.

sew /ˈsoʊ/ *verb* **sews**; **sewed**; **sewn** /ˈsoʊn/ *or* **sewed**; **sew•ing** : to make or repair something (such as a piece of clothing) by using a needle and thread [+ *obj*] She *sews* her own dresses by hand. ▪ He *sewed* a patch onto his sleeve. ▪ I *sewed* the button back on the shirt. ▪ The surgeon *sewed* the wound shut. [*no obj*] She designs her own dresses and *sews* in her free time.

sew up [*phrasal verb*] ***sew (something) up*** *or* ***sew up (something)*** **1** : to close or repair (something) by using a needle and thread ▪ He *sewed up* the tear in his shirt. ▪ The surgeon *sewed up* the wound. **2** *informal* **a** : to do the final things that are needed to complete (something) in a successful way ▪ They're *sewing up* the details of the agreement. — often used as *(be) sewn/sewed up* ▪ The deal *was sewn up* by lunchtime. **b** : to make (something, such as a victory) certain ▪ He scored a touchdown that *sewed up* the win/game. — often used as *(be) sewn/sewed up* ▪ They felt they *had* the win/game *sewn up*. [=they felt that they were certainly going to win] ▪ It looks like he has the nomination all *sewn up*.

sew•age /ˈsuːwɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : waste material (such as human urine and feces) that is carried away from homes and other buildings in a system of pipes ▪ raw *sewage*

sewage treatment plant *noun, pl* ~ **plants** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a place where sewage is cleaned so that it is not harmful or dangerous to the environment — called also (*US*) *sewage plant*, (*Brit*) *sewage farm*, (*Brit*) *sewage treatment works*, (*Brit*) *sewage works*

[1]sew•er /ˈsuːwɚ, *Brit* ˈsjuːə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a pipe that is usually underground and that is used to carry off water and sewage ▪ a *sewer* pipe ▪ The water ran into the *sewer*. — compare [2]SEWER

[2]sew•er /ˈsowɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who sews things ▪ Both of the children were good *sewers* and cooks. — compare [1]SEWER

sew•er•age /ˈsuːwərɪʤ, *Brit* ˈsjuːərɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a system or process used for carrying away water and sewage ▪ municipal *sewerage*

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2 : SEWAGE ▪ raw *sewerage*

sewing *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the act or process of using a needle and thread to make or repair something (such as a piece of clothing) ▪ She enjoys *sewing*.
2 : things that are used for sewing or that are being sewn ▪ She left her *sewing* in the living room.

sewing machine *noun, pl* ~ **machines** [*count*] : a machine that is used for sewing things

sewn *past participle of* SEW

sex /ˈsɛks/ *noun, pl* **sexes**
1 [*noncount*] : the state of being male or female : GENDER ▪ The form asks for your name, age, and *sex*. ▪ The couple didn't know what the *sex* of their baby would be. ▪ How do you tell the *sex* of a hamster? ▪ discrimination on the basis of *sex* ▪ the female/male *sex* ▪ a ***sex change*** (operation) [=an operation in which a man's body is changed to be like a woman's body or a woman's body is changed to be like a man's]
2 [*count*] : men or male animals as a group or women or female animals as a group ▪ This movie will appeal to both *sexes*. [=will appeal to both men and women] ▪ a battle of the *sexes* [=a battle between men and women] ▪ Some feel men are the more aggressive *sex*. ▪ a single-*sex* dormitory [=a dormitory where only women or men stay] — see also OPPOSITE SEX
3 [*noncount*] : physical activity in which people touch each other's bodies, kiss each other, etc. : physical activity that is related to and often includes sexual intercourse ▪ All he ever thinks about is *sex*. ▪ Her mom talked to her about *sex*. ▪ She doesn't like all the *sex* and violence in movies. ▪ premarital *sex* ▪ He ***had sex*** with his girlfriend. — often used before another noun ▪ He has a low ***sex drive*** [=he does not have a strong desire to have sex] ▪ a ***sex shop*** [=a store that sells items relating to sex] ▪ She has an active ***sex life*** [=she has sex often] — see also PHONE SEX, SAFE SEX

sex act *noun, pl* ~ **acts** [*count*] : an action performed with another person for sexual pleasure ▪ paid to perform a *sex act* ▪ a pair of actors simulating ***the sex act*** [=*sexual intercourse*]

sex•a•ge•nar•i•an /ˌsɛksəʤəˈnerijən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] : a person who is between 60 and 69 years old

sex appeal *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality of being sexually attractive ▪ an actor with a lot of *sex appeal*

sexed /ˈsɛkst/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] — used to describe how much sexual interest or desire a person has ▪ a highly *sexed* man/woman [=a man/woman who has a strong desire for sex]

sex education *noun* [*noncount*] : education in schools about sex — called also (*informal*) *sex ed*

sex gland *noun, pl* ~ **glands** [*count*] : GONAD

sex•ism /ˈsɛkˌsɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : unfair treatment of people because of their sex; *especially* : unfair treatment of women ▪ Have you experienced *sexism*? ▪ the problem of *sexism* in language
– **sex•ist** /ˈsɛksɪst/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ He was accused of being *sexist*. ▪ Many people thought the ad was *sexist*. ▪ a *sexist* remark – **sexist** *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] ▪ He was accused of being a *sexist*.

sex•less /ˈsɛkslәs/ *adj*
1 : not having sexual activity : not including sex ▪ a *sexless* marriage
2 : not looking like either a male or female ▪ *sexless* dolls
– **sex•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

sex object *noun, pl* ~ **-jects** [*count*] : someone who is thought of only as being sexually attractive or desirable ▪ movies that portray/treat women as *sex objects*

sex offender *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a person who is guilty of a crime involving sex (such as rape)

sex symbol *noun, pl* ~ **-bols** [*count*] : a usually famous person who is very sexually attractive ▪ a Hollywood *sex symbol*

sex•tant /ˈsɛkstənt/ *noun, pl* **-tants** [*count*] : an instrument used to determine the position of a ship or airplane by measuring the positions of the stars and sun

sex•tet /sɛkˈstɛt/ *noun, pl* **-tets** [*count*]
1 : a piece of music written for six performers
2 : a group of six people or things; *especially* : a group of six singers or musicians who perform together

sex•ton /ˈsɛkstən/ *noun, pl* **-tons** [*count*] : a person who takes care of church buildings and property and often rings the church's bell during services

sex•tu•plet /sɛkˈstʌplət, *Brit* ˈsɛkstjʊplət/ *noun, pl* **-plets** [*count*] : one of six babies born at the same time to the same mother ▪ She gave birth to *sextuplets*. — compare QUADRUPLET, QUINTUPLET, TRIPLET, TWIN

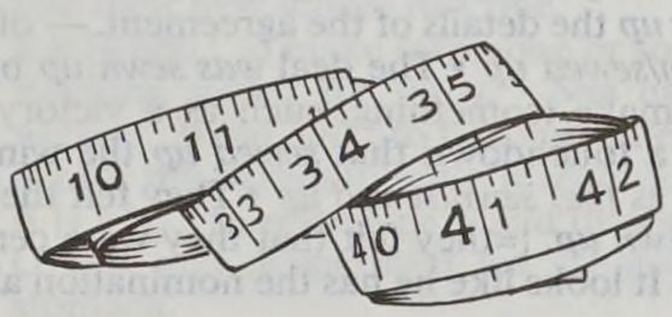
sex•u•al /ˈsɛkʃəwəl/ *adj*
1 : of, relating to, or involving sex ▪ *sexual* activity/reproduction ▪ *sexual* abuse/desire/attraction ▪ a person's *sexual* organs ▪ He denied that he had a *sexual* relationship with her. ▪ *sexual* partners [=people who have sex with each other]
2 : of or relating to males and females ▪ *sexual* differences/characteristics ▪ *sexual* roles
– **sex•u•al•ly** /ˈsɛkʃəwəli/ *adv* ▪ Some teenagers are *sexually* active. [=some teenagers have sex] ▪ The movie has some *sexually* explicit scenes. [=the movie has scenes that show sex]

sexual intercourse *noun* [*noncount*] : sexual activity between two people; *especially* : sexual activity in which a man puts his penis into the vagina of a woman ▪ a doctor who is accused of having *sexual intercourse* with one of his patients — called also *intercourse*

sex•u•al•i•ty /ˌsɛkʃəˈwæləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the sexual habits and desires of a person ▪ She is comfortable with her *sexuality*. ▪ a study of male *sexuality*

sexually transmitted disease *noun, pl* ~ **-eases** [*count*] *medical* : STD

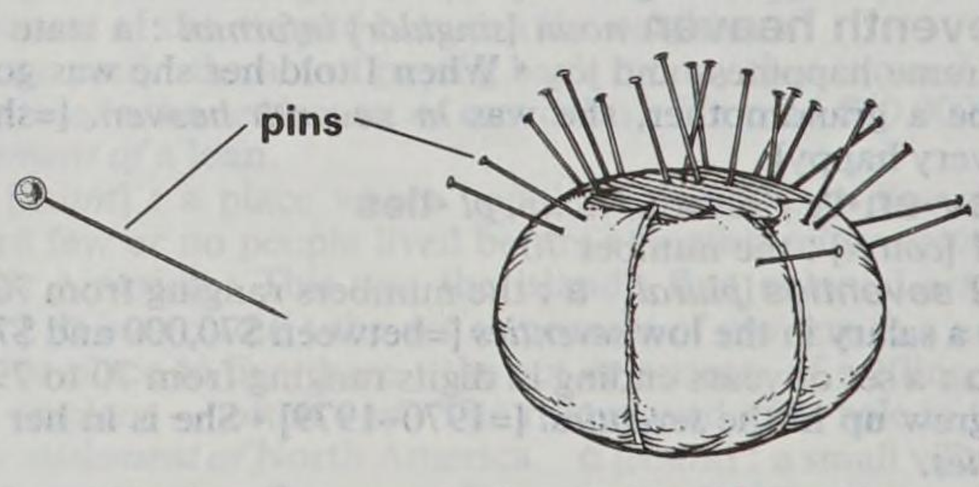
sexual orientation *noun* [*count*] : a person's sexual preference or identity as bisexual, heterosexual, or homosexual

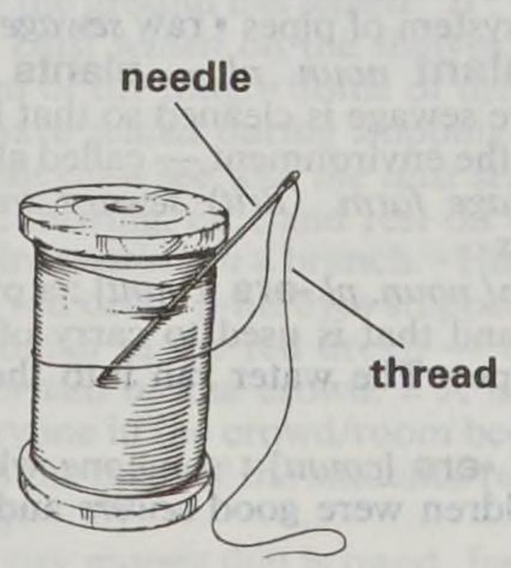


tape measure, measuring tape

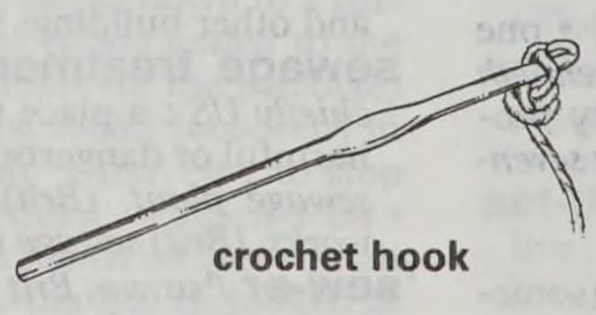

thimble

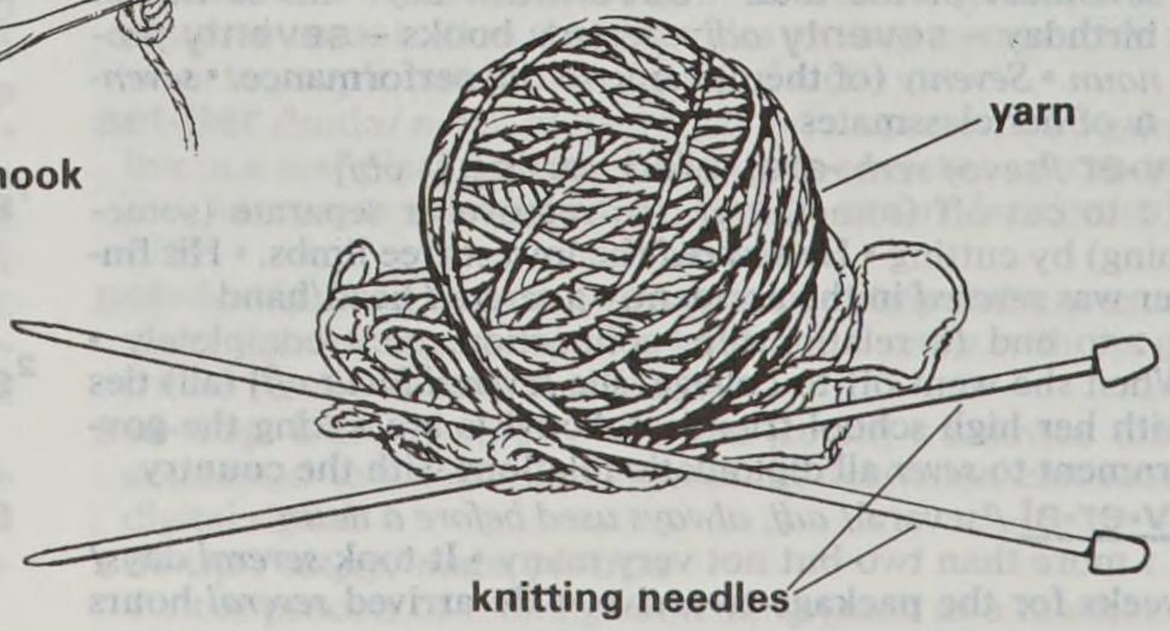
sewing





spool of thread (*US*), cotton reel (*Brit*)


crochet hook



: the state of being bisexual, heterosexual, or homosexual ▪ His *sexual orientation* has never been a problem for him at work. ▪ people of different *sexual orientations* — called also *orientation*

sexy /ˈsɛksi/ *adj* **sex•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : sexually appealing, attractive, or exciting ▪ She wore a *sexy* skirt. ▪ a *sexy* young actor ▪ Her legs are long and *sexy*. ▪ a *sexy* photograph
2 : having interesting or appealing qualities ▪ a *sexy* story ▪ *sexy* music
– **sex•i•ly** /ˈsɛksəli/ *adv* ▪ *sexily* dressed dancers – **sex•i•ness** /ˈsɛksinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

SF *abbr* science fiction

Sgt. *abbr* sergeant

sh *or* **shh** *or* **shhh** /ˈʃ *often prolonged*/ *interj* — used to tell someone to be quiet ▪ *Shh*! The baby is sleeping.

shab•by /ˈʃæbi/ *adj* **shab•bi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : in poor condition especially because of age or use ▪ The furniture was old and *shabby*. ▪ He wore a *shabby* coat. ▪ Her first apartment was pretty *shabby*.
2 : dressed in clothes that are old and worn ▪ *shabby* workmen
3 *informal* : not fair, generous, or reasonable ▪ They complained about the *shabby* treatment they received at the hotel. ▪ Backing out of the deal was a *shabby* thing to do.
not (too) shabby *informal* : fairly good or quite good ▪ He came in second in the race. That's *not too shabby* for an inexperienced runner. [=that's not bad at all for an inexperienced runner]
– **shab•bi•ly** /ˈʃæbəli/ *adv* ▪ The man was *shabbily* dressed. – **shab•bi•ness** /ˈʃæbinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]shack /ˈʃæk/ *noun, pl* **shacks** [*count*] : a small house or building that is not put together well ▪ an old *shack* in the woods

[2]shack *verb* **shacks**; **shacked**; **shacking**
shack up [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to live with someone without being married ▪ She *shacked up* with her boyfriend. ▪ young couples *shacking up*

[1]shack•le /ˈʃækəl/ *noun, pl* **shack•les**
1 [*count*] : one of two rings or bands that are placed around a person's wrists or ankles and that are connected by a chain — usually plural ▪ The prisoner was placed in *shackles*.
2 ***shackles*** [*plural*] : something that prevents people from acting freely — + *of* ▪ The country was freed from the *shackles of* tyranny.

[2]shackle *verb* **shackles**; **shack•led**; **shack•ling** [+ *obj*] : to put shackles on (someone or something) ▪ The guard *shackled* the prisoner. — often used as *(be) shackled* ▪ Their legs *were shackled* together. — often used figuratively ▪ The people *were shackled* by poverty.

[1]shade /ˈʃeɪd/ *noun, pl* **shades**
1 [*noncount*] : an area of slight darkness that is produced when something blocks the light of the sun ▪ The buildings cast *shade* on the plaza. ▪ The tree provided plenty of *shade*. ▪ These plants grow well in *shade*. ▪ It was a hot sunny day, but luckily their seats for the game were ***in the shade***. ▪ We sat ***in the shade of*** a willow tree.
2 [*count*] **a** : something that is used to block strong light ▪ He used his hand as a *shade* as he looked out into the bright sunlight. ▪ an eye *shade* **b** : LAMPSHADE ▪ a lamp with a broken *shade* **c** *US* : WINDOW SHADE ▪ She pulled down the *shades*.
3 ***shades*** [*plural*] *informal* : SUNGLASSES ▪ She was wearing a cool pair of *shades*.
4 [*noncount*] : a darkened area in a drawing, painting, etc. ▪ a painting with contrasting areas of light and *shade*
5 [*count*] : a particular type of a color that is lighter, darker, etc., than other types — usually + *of* ▪ different *shades of* brown ▪ lipstick in several *shades of* red ▪ a bright *shade of* blue
6 [*count*] : a particular form of something that is usually slightly different from other forms ▪ The word has many *shades* of meaning.
7 [*count*] : a very small amount ▪ He saw *shades* [=*traces*] of himself in his son. ▪ He is just ***a shade*** [=*a bit*, *a little*] taller than his brother. ▪ The shirt is *a shade* too large for me.
draw the shades on see [1]DRAW
have it made in the shade *US, informal* : to have a very easy life or to be in a very good situation ▪ She had to work hard for many years to achieve success, but now she *has it made in the shade*.
put (someone or something) in the shade *chiefly Brit, informal* : to be much better than (someone or something) ▪ Their performance really *put ours in the shade*.
shades of — used to say what or who you are reminded of when you look at or think about someone or something ▪ a former actor who's now a politician—*shades of* Ronald Reagan
– **shade•less** *adj* ▪ Their yard is bare and *shadeless*.

[2]shade *verb* **shades**; **shad•ed**; **shad•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to shelter (something) from strong light and especially from sunlight ▪ He *shaded* his eyes (with his hand). [=he placed his hand near his eyes to block the sun] ▪ Several large trees *shade* the house.
2 : to make an area in a drawing, on a graph, etc., darker than other areas ▪ She *shaded* the drawing to give it depth. ▪ The *shaded* part of the graph represents the amount of sales. — sometimes + *in* ▪ *Shade in* the circle that indicates the correct answer.
3 *US* : to change (something, such as the truth) slightly in order to deceive people ▪ The article *shaded* the truth by revealing only one side of the story. ▪ *shading* the facts
shade into [*phrasal verb*] ***shade into (something)*** : to slowly or gradually change into (something) or become the same as (something) ▪ as day *shades into* night

shading *noun, pl* **-ings**
1 [*noncount*] : the use of dark areas in a drawing, on a graph, etc.
2 ***shadings*** [*plural*] : small differences ▪ *shadings of* blue ▪ subtle *shadings* of meaning

[1]shad•ow /ˈʃædoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-ows**
1 [*count*] : a dark shape that appears on a surface when someone or something moves between the surface and a source of light ▪ The tree cast/threw a long *shadow* across the lawn. ▪ You can see your own *shadow* on a sunny day. — often used figuratively ▪ a town located in the *shadow* of the Rocky Mountains [=a town located very close to the Rocky Mountains] ▪ The bad news cast a *shadow* on the party. [=made the party much less enjoyable] ▪ His death left a *shadow* over her heart. ▪ For years they lived under the *shadow* of a dictator. [=they were ruled by a dictator] ▪ He couldn't escape his father's *shadow*. [=he couldn't escape the influence of his powerful/successful father] ▪ She grew up ***in the shadow of*** her very popular sister. [=people did not notice her because of all the attention that was given to her sister]
2 : an area of darkness created when a source of light is blocked [*noncount*] Part of the valley was in *shadow*. [*plural*] He saw something moving in the *shadows*.
3 [*singular*] : a very small amount of something ▪ I sensed a *shadow* of disappointment in his expression. ▪ There is not ***a shadow of (a) doubt*** [=there is no doubt] that he is lying.
4 [*count*] : someone who follows another person or who is always seen with another person ▪ He is the President's adviser and *shadow*.
5 [*count*] : a dark area of skin under a person's eyes — usually plural ▪ She woke up with dark *shadows* [=*circles*] under her eyes.
6 [*count*] : someone or something that is now much weaker, less impressive, etc., than in the past — + *of* ▪ The city today is just/only a *shadow of* what it once was. ▪ He was once a great player, but now he's just ***a shadow of his former self***.
– see also EYE SHADOW, FIVE-O'CLOCK SHADOW

[2]shadow *verb* **-ows**; **-owed**; **-ow•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to cover (something) with a shadow — usually used as *(be) shadowed* ▪ The yard *was shadowed* [=*shaded*] by trees.
2 a : to follow and watch (someone) especially in a secret way : TRAIL ▪ Police *shadowed* the suspect for several days.
b : to follow and watch (someone who is doing a job) in order to learn how to do the job yourself ▪ She spent the night *shadowing* other waiters at the restaurant.

[3]shadow *or* **Shadow** *adj, always used before a noun* — used to describe the members of the main opposition party in British politics who would be given important positions in the government if their party won a national election ▪ the *shadow* cabinet/Chancellor ▪ *Shadow* Ministers

shad•ow•box /ˈʃædoʊˌbɑːks/ *verb* **-box•es**; **-boxed**; **-box•ing** [*no obj*] : to box with an imaginary opponent as a form of training ▪ He was *shadowboxing* to stay in shape.
– **shadowboxing** *noun* [*noncount*]

shad•owy /ˈʃædowi/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : full of shade or shadows ▪ a *shadowy* lane
2 : dark and mysterious ▪ She was pursued by a *shadowy* figure.

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3 : not clearly seen or understood ▪ He had only a *shadowy* idea of what they wanted him to do.

shady /ˈʃeɪdi/ *adj* **shad•i•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 a : giving or providing shade ▪ a *shady* tree **b** : sheltered from the sun's light : having shade ▪ Their backyard is nice and *shady*. ▪ a *shady* area
2 *informal* : seeming to be dishonest ▪ a *shady* business deal ▪ I don't trust him. He seems like a pretty *shady* character.

[1]shaft /ˈʃæft, *Brit* ˈʃɑːft/ *noun, pl* **shafts**
1 [*count*] : the long, narrow part of a weapon, tool, instrument, etc. ▪ the *shaft* of a spear ▪ the *shaft* of a golf club
2 [*count*] : a bar in a machine which holds or turns other parts that move or spin ▪ a propeller *shaft* — see also DRIVESHAFT
3 [*count*] : one of two poles between which a horse is tied to pull a vehicle (such as a carriage)
4 [*count*] **a** : an opening or passage straight down through the floors of a building ▪ an air/elevator *shaft* **b** : an opening or passage in a mine ▪ a mine *shaft*
5 [*count*] *formal + literary* : a narrow beam of light ▪ They stood in a *shaft* of sunlight.
6 *the shaft* *US, informal* : harsh or unfair treatment ▪ Her boss really ***gave her the shaft*** [=treated her unfairly] when he promoted someone less experienced instead of her. ▪ He got promoted and she ***got the shaft***

[2]shaft *verb* **shafts**; **shaft•ed**; **shaft•ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US, informal* : to treat (someone) unfairly or harshly ▪ You really ***got shafted*** in that deal.

[1]shag /ˈʃæg/ *noun, pl* **shags**
1 [*noncount*] : long pieces of material (such as wool) that are twisted together to make a rug or carpet — often used before another noun ▪ a *shag* rug ▪ *shag* carpeting
2 [*noncount*] : a type of strong tobacco that is cut into very small pieces
3 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a black bird that lives near the sea : CORMORANT
– compare [4]SHAG

[2]shag *verb* **shags**; **shagged**; **shag•ging** [+ *obj*] *US* : to catch or retrieve (a ball that someone has hit) ▪ (*baseball*) They *shagged* fly balls in the outfield during batting practice.
— compare [3]SHAG

[3]shag *verb* **shags**; **shagged**; **shag•ging** *Brit, informal + impolite* : to have sexual intercourse with (someone) [+ *obj*] He *shagged* her last night. [*no obj*] They *shagged* all night.
— compare [2]SHAG

[4]shag *noun, pl* **shags** [*count*] *chiefly Brit, informal + impolite* : an act of sexual intercourse ▪ a quick *shag* — compare [1]SHAG

shag•gy /ˈʃægi/ *adj* **shag•gi•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 : long and tangled ▪ *shaggy* hair ▪ the dog's *shaggy* coat
2 : covered with hair or fur that is long and tangled ▪ a *shaggy* dog

shaggy–dog story /ˌʃægiˌdɑːg-/ *noun, pl* **~ -ries** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a long story or joke with an ending that is disappointing or that makes no sense

shah /ˈʃɑː/ *noun, pl* **shahs** [*count*] : a king of Iran in past times

[1]shake /ˈʃeɪk/ *verb* **shakes**; **shook** /ˈʃʊk/; **shak•en** /ˈʃeɪkən/; **shak•ing**
1 a : to move sometimes violently back and forth or up and down with short, quick movements [*no obj*] The ground *shook* during the earthquake. ▪ The house *shook* as the train rumbled by. [+ *obj*] The earthquake *shook* the ground. ▪ *Shake* the salad dressing well before using it. ▪ He ***shook his fist*** (in the air) and yelled at the driver who cut them off. **b** [*no obj*] : to move or have parts of your body move in short, quick movements and in a way that you are not able to control ▪ His hand *shook* [=*trembled*] as he reached for the phone. ▪ He was *shaking* [=*shivering*] with cold. ▪ She was *shaking* with laughter [=laughing very hard] as he told us the story. ▪ I could see that he was *shaking* with anger/rage. [=he was so angry that he was shaking] ▪ I was so nervous that I was ***shaking like a leaf*** ▪ She was ***shaking in her boots/shoes*** [=she was very nervous] as she waited for the doctor.
2 [+ *obj*] : to free yourself from (someone or something) : to get away from or get rid of (someone or something) ▪ The fugitive couldn't *shake* the police. ▪ It's hard to *shake* the feeling that I'm forgetting something. — sometimes + *off* ▪ He is trying to *shake off* a cold.
3 [+ *obj*] : to cause (a belief, feeling, etc.) to become weaker ▪ The news did nothing to *shake* my belief that things will be okay. ▪ Her confidence was badly *shaken* by the accident. [=she became much less confident because of the accident] ▪ Nothing could *shake* his faith in God.
4 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to feel fear, anxiety, shock, etc. ▪ The whole town was *shaken* by the news. — see also SHAKE UP 1 (below)
5 [+ *obj*] : to force (something) out of something by shaking ▪ He *shook* (out) the sand from his sandals.
6 : to grasp (someone's hand) with your hand and move it up and down when you are meeting or saying goodbye to each other or as a sign of friendship or agreement [+ *obj*] I *shook* his hand. = I ***shook hands*** with him. = (*somewhat old-fashioned*) I *shook* him by the hand. [*no obj*] They ***shook on*** the deal. = They ***shook on it*** [=they shook hands to show that they agreed]
7 [*no obj*] *of your voice* : to produce sound in an unsteady way because you are nervous, angry, sad, etc. ▪ His voice *shook* as he started his speech. ▪ Her voice *shook* with rage.

more than you can shake a stick at *chiefly US, informal* : more than you can count ▪ She has *more* cats *than you can shake a stick at*. [=she has a lot of cats]

shake a leg *informal* : to move or go quickly ▪ It's time to *shake a leg*—we're running late. — often used as a command ▪ "*Shake a leg*! We're going to be late."

shake down [*phrasal verb*] *US, informal* **1 *shake (someone) down*** *or* ***shake down (someone)*** : to get money from (someone) by using deception or threats ▪ mobsters *shaking down* store owners for protection **2 *shake (someone or something) down*** *or* ***shake down (someone or something)*** : to search (someone or something) thoroughly ▪ The police *shook* the car *down* looking for illegal drugs.

shake out [*phrasal verb*] **1** *informal* : to happen or end in a particular way ▪ We are just going to wait to see how things *shake out*. [=*turn out*] **2 *shake (something) out*** *or* ***shake out (something)*** : to shake (something) back and forth or up and down in order to remove dirt, wrinkles, etc., from it ▪ She *shook out* the clothes as she took them from the dryer. ▪ He *shook* the rug *out*.

shake up [*phrasal verb*] **1 *shake (someone) up*** *or* ***shake up (someone)*** : to upset (someone) : to shock or frighten (someone) ▪ The accident *shook up* both drivers. ▪ She was *shaken up* when she heard what happened. ▪ The layoffs *shook up* the whole department. — see also [1]SHAKE 4 (above) **2 *shake (something) up*** *or* ***shake up (something)*** : to make many changes in (something, such as a company or organization) ▪ The coach *shook* things *up* by hiring new assistants. ▪ The new CEO *shook up* the company by asking some senior managers to leave. — see also SHAKE-UP

shake your head : to turn your head from side to side as a way of answering "no" or of showing disagreement or refusal ▪ When I asked her if she wanted help, she just *shook her head*.

[2]shake *noun, pl* **shakes**
1 [*count*] : a short, quick movement back and forth or up and down ▪ He responded to the question with a *shake* of his head. ▪ Give the dice a *shake*.
2 *the shakes* *informal* : a condition in which parts of your body move in a way that you are not able to control ▪ The whole experience gave me *the shakes*. [=made me shake with fear/nervousness] ▪ He drank too much coffee and got a bad case of *the shakes*.
3 [*count*] : MILKSHAKE ▪ a chocolate *shake*

a fair shake *informal* : a fair deal : fair treatment ▪ The judge ***gave him a fair shake*** [=the judge treated him fairly] ▪ She expected to ***get a fair shake*** from her boss.

in two shakes *informal* : very quickly or soon ▪ I'll be ready to go *in two shakes*.

no great shakes *informal* : not very good or skillful at something ▪ He's *no great shakes* as a poker player. = He's *no great shakes* at playing poker.

shake•down /ˈʃeɪkˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs** [*count*] *informal*
1 *US* : the act of taking something (such as money) from someone by using threats or deception ▪ He was the victim of a *shakedown* by a street gang.
2 *US* : a thorough search of something ▪ The guards conducted a *shakedown* of the prisoners' cells to look for weapons.
3 : a thorough test of a new ship, airplane, etc., in order to make sure there are no problems or defects ▪ They're putting the system through a *shakedown*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *shakedown* cruise/flight

shak•er /ˈʃeɪkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a container that is shaken to mix something or to make something come out ▪ a cocktail *shaker* ▪ a *shaker* of salt ▪ a dice *shaker* — see also PEPPER SHAKER, SALT SHAKER

2 *Shaker* : a member of a U.S. religious group that is known for living simply in close communities ▪ a member of ***the Shakers***

movers and shakers see MOVER

– Shaker *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *Shaker* village/community ▪ *Shaker* furniture [=furniture made in the simple style used by Shakers]

Shake•spear•ean /ʃeɪk'spirijən/ *adj* : of or relating to William Shakespeare or his writings ▪ *Shakespearean* drama ▪ a *Shakespearean* actor

shake–up /'ʃeɪkˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] : an important change or series of changes in the way a company or other organization is organized or run ▪ There has been a major *shake-up* in the company. ▪ a management *shake-up* — see also *shake up* at ¹SHAKE

shaky /'ʃeɪki/ *adj* **shak•i•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : not strong or steady in movement, sound, etc. : tending to shake because of weakness, strong emotion, etc. ▪ I was so nervous that my hands were *shaky*. [=*shaking, trembling*] ▪ She took a few *shaky* steps before she collapsed. ▪ His voice was *shaky*.

2 : weak and likely to break down, collapse, or fail ▪ a *shaky* ladder ▪ The company's future is looking pretty *shaky*. [=the company's future does not look good] ▪ a *shaky* economy ▪ Her commitment to the cause seems *shaky*. ▪ His argument/theory rests ***on shaky ground***. [=his argument/theory is not supported by strong evidence] ▪ Their marriage is *on shaky ground*.

3 : not impressive or effective ▪ the pitcher's *shaky* performance ▪ The team has performed better lately after getting off to a *shaky* start. ▪ My memory of that day is a little *shaky*. [=I don't remember exactly what happened on that day]

– shak•i•ly /'ʃeɪkəli/ *adv* ▪ He stood *shakily* on the ladder. ▪ The pitcher started the game *shakily*. **– shak•i•ness** /'ʃeɪkinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *shakiness* of her voice

shale /'ʃeɪl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a soft kind of rock that splits easily into flat pieces

shall /'ʃæl, ʃəl/ *verb, past tense* **should** /'ʃʊd, ʃəd/ *present tense for both singular and plural* **shall**; *negative* **shall not or shan't** /'ʃænt, *Brit* 'ʃɑ:nt/ [*modal verb*] *formal*

1 — used to say that something is expected to happen in the future ▪ We *shall* [=*will*] arrive tomorrow evening. ▪ I *shall not* mention it again. = I *shan't* mention it again. ▪ Perhaps it will happen. We *shall* see.

2 — used to ask for someone's opinion ▪ "*Shall* [=*should*] I call a taxi?" "Please do." ▪ When *shall* we leave? [=when do you think we should leave?] ▪ *Shall* we dance? [=would you like to dance?] ▪ Let's dance, *shall* we?

3 — used to give a command or to say that you will or will not allow something to happen ▪ You *shall* leave at once! ▪ They *shall* not pass.

4 — used in laws or rules to say that something is required ▪ It *shall* be unlawful to carry firearms. ▪ The jury alone *shall* decide the verdict. ▪ There *shall* be no talking during the test. — see also SHALT

shal•lot /ʃə'lɑ:t, 'ʃælət/ *noun, pl* **-lots** [*count, noncount*] : a small type of onion that is used in cooking — see color picture on page C4

shal•low /'ʃæloʊ/ *adj* **shal•low•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 a : having a small distance to the bottom from the surface or highest point ▪ a *shallow* dish/pond/grave ▪ The *shallow* end of the pool is only three feet deep. — opposite DEEP **b** : not going far inward from the outside or the front edge of something ▪ a *shallow* closet — opposite DEEP

2 *disapproving* : not caring about or involving serious or important things ▪ Her boyfriends were all *shallow* creeps. ▪ She is only interested in *shallow* [=*superficial*] things like clothes and money.

3 : taking in a small amount of air ▪ She could only take *shallow* breaths. ▪ His breathing became very *shallow*. — opposite DEEP

4 *sports* : located near the inside edges of an area ▪ (*baseball*) He hit a fly ball to *shallow* right field. — opposite DEEP

– shal•low•ly *adv* ▪ He was breathing *shallowly*. **– shal•low•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ They measured the *shallowness* of the water. ▪ She could no longer tolerate his *shallowness*.

shal•lows /'ʃæloʊz/ *noun* [*plural*] : a shallow area in a river, lake, etc. ▪ The fish lay their eggs in the *shallows* of the river.

shalt /'ʃælt, ʃəlt/ *second person singular present tense of* SHALL, *old-fashioned* — used after *thou* ▪ *Thou shalt* not kill.

¹sham /'ʃæm/ *noun, pl* **shams**

1 [*count*] **a** : something that is not what it appears to be and that is meant to trick or deceive people ▪ He claims that the trial was a *sham*. ▪ Their marriage was a *sham*. **b** : someone who deceives people by pretending to be a particular kind of person, to have a particular skill, etc. ▪ Many people believed he could help them, but I knew he was a *sham*.

2 [*noncount*] : words or actions that are not sincere or honest ▪ She exposed their *sham* and hypocrisy.

²sham *adj, always used before a noun* : not real : FALSE, FAKE ▪ *sham* marriages ▪ *sham* pearls ▪ a *sham* doctor

³sham *verb* **shams**; **shammed**; **sham•ming** : to act in a way that is meant to trick or deceive people [*no obj*] She wasn't really hurt; she was only *shamming*. [+ *obj*] He was *shamming* illness to avoid work.

sha•man /'ʃɑ:mən, 'ʃeɪmən/ *noun, pl* **-mans** [*count*] : someone who is believed in some cultures to be able to use magic to cure people who are sick, to control future events, etc.

sham•ble /'ʃæmbəl/ *verb* **sham•bles**; **sham•bled**; **sham•bling** [*no obj*] : to walk in an awkward, unsteady way without lifting your feet very high off the ground ▪ He *shambled* into the room.

sham•bles /'ʃæmbəlz/ *noun* : a place or state in which there is great confusion, disorder, or destruction [*singular*] The city was a *shambles* after the hurricane. ▪ This room is a *shambles*. [=*mess*] ▪ His life was a *shambles* after the divorce. [*noncount*] The room was ***in shambles***.

sham•bol•ic /ʃæm'bɑ:lɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *chiefly Brit* : very messy or disorganized ▪ a *shambolic* system of public transportation

¹shame /'ʃeɪm/ *noun*

1 [*noncount*] : a feeling of guilt, regret, or sadness that you have because you know you have done something wrong ▪ He felt *shame* for his lies. ▪ The defendant ***hung his head in shame***. [=looked down because he was ashamed] ▪ ***Shame on you*** [=you should feel shame] for being so rude.

2 [*noncount*] : ability to feel guilt, regret, or embarrassment ▪ How could you be so rude? ***Have you no shame***?

3 [*noncount*] : dishonor or disgrace ▪ Her crimes brought *shame* upon her family. ▪ There is no *shame* in admitting your mistakes. [=you should not feel ashamed/embarrassed about admitting your mistakes] ▪ He had to endure the *shame* of being fired.

4 [*singular*] : something that is regretted : PITY ▪ It would be a *shame* to give up now. We're so close to the end. ▪ It's a *shame* that you'll miss the show. ▪ What a *shame* that they lost the game. ▪ I heard you lost your job. That's (such) a *shame*.

a crying shame see CRYING

put (someone or something) to shame : to be much better than (someone or something) ▪ Her art project *put mine to shame*. [=her art project was much better than mine]

²shame *verb* **shames**; **shamed**; **sham•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (someone) to feel ashamed ▪ Her crimes *shamed* [=*disgraced*] her family. ▪ He was *shamed* by his behavior at the party.

2 : to force (someone) to act in a specified way by causing feelings of shame or guilt — + *into* ▪ The suspects were *shamed into* confessing. ▪ My sister *shamed* me *into* giving the money back.

shame•faced /'ʃeɪmˌfeɪst/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : feeling or showing shame ▪ He stood there, looking *shamefaced*. ▪ a *shamefaced* apology/grin

– shame•faced•ly /'ʃeɪmˌfeɪsədli/ *adv* ▪ He *shamefacedly* apologized for breaking the window.

shame•ful /'ʃeɪmfəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : very bad : bad enough to make someone ashamed ▪ There is no excuse for such *shameful* behavior. ▪ a *shameful* scandal ▪ What a *shameful* sight.

– shame•ful•ly /'ʃeɪmfəli/ *adv* ▪ He has behaved *shamefully*. [=very badly; disgracefully] ▪ She looked away *shamefully*. [=she looked away because she was ashamed] ▪ He *shamefully* turned himself in to the police. **– shame•ful•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

shame•less /'ʃeɪmləs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having or showing no shame ▪ The actor made a *shameless* plug for his movie. ▪ a *shameless* display of poor sportsmanship

– shame•less•ly *adv* ▪ He *shamelessly* gave himself a raise. **– shame•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

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[1]sham•poo /ʃæm'pu:/ *noun, pl* **-poos**
1 [*count, noncount*] **a :** a special liquid that is used for cleaning your hair ▪ a bottle of *shampoo* **b :** a special liquid used for cleaning rugs, carpets, etc.
2 [*count*] **:** an act of cleaning hair, a carpet, etc., with shampoo — usually singular ▪ She gets a *shampoo* every morning.

[2]shampoo *verb* **-poos; -pooed; -poo•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to clean (something, such as hair, a carpet, etc.) with shampoo ▪ She *shampoos* her hair every morning. ▪ We need to *shampoo* the rug.

sham•rock /'ʃæm,rɑ:k/ *noun, pl* **-rocks** [*count*] **:** a small plant with three leaves on each stem that is the national symbol of Ireland

shandy /'ʃændi/ *noun, pl* **-dies** [*count, noncount*] *Brit* **:** a drink made of beer mixed with lemonade

shang•hai /ʃæŋ'haɪ/ *verb* **-hais; -haied; -hai•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat old-fashioned*
1 : to bring (someone) onto a ship by force ▪ a *shanghaied* sailor
2 *informal* **:** to make (someone) do something by using force or tricks — usually + *into* ▪ I somehow got *shanghaied into* babysitting for my sister's kids.

shank /'ʃæŋk/ *noun, pl* **shanks** [*count*]
1 : the straight, narrow part of a tool that connects the part that does the work with the part that you hold ▪ the *shank* of a drill bit
2 : a piece of meat cut from the upper part of the leg ▪ a lamb/beef *shank*
3 : the part of the leg between the knee and the ankle — usually plural ▪ an old man with skinny *shanks*

shan't /'ʃænt, *Brit* 'ʃɑ:nt/ *chiefly Brit* **:** shall not

[1]shan•ty /'ʃænti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*] **:** a small, simple building that is roughly made from sheets of wood, plastic, etc., and that is used as a house by poor people — compare [2]SHANTY

[2]shanty *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*] **:** a song that sailors sang in the past while they worked — compare [1]SHANTY

shan•ty•town /'ʃænti,taʊn/ *noun, pl* **-towns** [*count*] **:** a town or a part of a town where the people are poor and live in shanties

[1]shape /'ʃeɪp/ *noun, pl* **shapes**
1 : the form or outline of an object [*count*] circles, squares, triangles, and other geometric *shapes* ▪ The cake has a rectangular/circular *shape*. ▪ The pieces came in many different sizes and *shapes*. ▪ a cookie ***in the shape of*** a heart [=a cookie shaped like a heart] ▪ The cloud ***took the shape of*** a dog. [=the cloud looked like a dog] [*noncount*] The pieces were sorted by size and *shape*. ▪ The cloud kept changing *shape*. ▪ The cake was rectangular/circular ***in shape***. ▪ The bike's rim was bent ***out of shape***. [=it was bent so that it was not its usual round shape]
2 [*noncount*] **a :** the condition of something or someone — usually used with *in* ▪ The car was *in* good/bad/poor *shape*. ▪ He's *in* better/worse *shape* now. ▪ All the players are in top/exellent *shape*. ▪ She has had quite a few glasses of wine and is *in* no *shape* to drive. [=she shouldn't drive because she has drunk too much wine] ▪ Their marriage is *in* bad/good *shape*. **b :** a physically strong and healthy condition ▪ I need to start exercising and get back ***in shape***. ▪ I'm ***out of shape*** because I haven't been exercising. ▪ The players were in poor condition, but the coach quickly ***whipped/licked/knocked/got them into shape***. ▪ She ***stays/keeps in shape*** by exercising daily and eating well. — often used figuratively ▪ It will cost billions of dollars to get the company back *in shape*. [=back into good condition]
3 [*noncount*] **:** the way something is done **:** the form of something ▪ Computer technology has changed the *shape* of communication. ▪ They offered help ***in the shape of*** [=in the form of] a loan. [=the help they offered was a loan] ▪ That behavior is not acceptable ***in any way, shape, or form***. [=it is not at all acceptable] ▪ Another newspaper has stopped publication. Is this the ***shape of things to come*** in the newspaper business? [=is this what the future of the newspaper business is going to be like?]
4 [*noncount*] **:** a definite form or arrangement of something ▪ The plan is finally ***taking shape***. ▪ His discussions with fellow professors and his students ***gave shape to*** his book.
5 [*count*] **:** a person or thing that cannot be seen clearly ▪ I saw a vague *shape* [=*figure*] in the dark. ▪ dark *shapes* moving in the shadows
bent out of shape see [1]BENT

[2]shape *verb* **shapes; shaped; shap•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to give a particular form or shape to (something) **:** to work with (a material) in order to make something from it ▪ The artist *shaped* the stone with a hammer and chisel. — often + *into* ▪ *Shape* the dough *into* loaves.
2 : to influence the development of (something) **:** to help (something) become what it is ▪ Schools *shape* the minds of future leaders. ▪ Ads help *shape* public opinion.
3 : to make (something, such as a plan) by a process of careful thought ▪ They have *shaped* [=*devised*] a careful strategy for winning the election.
shape up [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1 :** to happen or develop in a particular way ▪ Our plans are *shaping up* nicely. ▪ This is *shaping up* to be an exciting year. [=it looks like this will be an exciting year] **2 a :** to start behaving in a better or more acceptable way ▪ You'd better *shape up* and start studying. ▪ If he doesn't *shape up*, he's going to be fired. ✧ In informal U.S. English, if you are told to ***shape up or ship out***, you will have to leave your job, position, etc., if you do not improve your behavior. **b *shape up (someone or something) or shape (someone or something) up* :** to cause (someone or something) to start behaving in a better or more acceptable way ▪ She has really *shaped up* the sales department. **3 :** to make your body stronger and healthier by exercising ▪ He has been *shaping up* at the gym.
– shap•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

shaped /'ʃeɪpt/ *adj*
1 : having a particular shape or form ▪ a cookie *shaped* like a heart — often used in combination ▪ an egg-*shaped* toy ▪ a shirt with a V-*shaped* collar
2 : shaped or formed in a particular way ▪ a carefully *shaped* ice sculpture

shape•less /'ʃeɪpləs/ *adj*
1 a : not having a particular or definite shape ▪ a *shapeless* blob **b :** not having the usual or normal shape ▪ an old, *shapeless* baseball cap
2 : not organized or arranged in a way that is clear and understandable ▪ a *shapeless* essay/argument
– shape•less•ly *adv* **– shape•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

shape•ly /'ʃeɪpli/ *adj* **shape•li•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] **:** having an attractive shape or form ▪ She has a *shapely* figure.
– shape•li•ness *noun* [*noncount*]

shard /'ʃɑəd/ *also* **sherd** /'ʃəd/ *noun, pl* **shards** *also* **sherds** [*count*] **:** a sharp piece of something (such as glass or pottery) — often + *of* ▪ *shards of* glass

[1]share /'ʃeə/ *verb* **shares; shared; shar•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **:** to have or use (something) with others ▪ We *share* a house/car (together). — often + *with* ▪ I *share* an office *with* two other people.
2 [+ *obj*] *of two or more people* **:** to divide (something) into parts and each take or use a part ▪ They *shared* the last cookie. ▪ We *shared* the money equally.
3 : to let someone else have or use a part of (something that belongs to you) [+ *obj*] The children need to learn to *share* their toys. — often + *with* ▪ He doesn't *share* his toys with other kids. ▪ *Share* the cookies *with* your sister. [*no obj*] The children need to learn to *share* (*with* each other).
4 : to have (something that someone or something else also has) **:** to have (something) in common [+ *obj*] We *share* an interest in baseball. [=we are both interested in baseball] ▪ The two countries *share* a border. ▪ I know you're worried about the schedule, but I don't *share* your concerns. [=I don't have the same concerns that you have; I am not worried about the schedule] — often + *with* ▪ I *share* these concerns *with* others in the group. [*no obj*] — + *in* ▪ I don't *share in* your concerns about the schedule.
5 : to tell someone about (your feelings, opinions, thoughts, etc.) [+ *obj*] Please *share* any ideas that you may have. — often + *with* ▪ Would you like to *share* your feelings *with* the group? ▪ Thanks for *sharing* that (*with* me). [*no obj*] Thanks for *sharing*.
6 : to have equal responsibility for or involvement in (something) [+ *obj*] I *share* the blame for what happened. [*no obj*] — + *in* ▪ We all *share in* the responsibility for this tragedy. ▪ The whole family *shares in* the household chores.
share out [*phrasal verb*] ***share out (something) or share (something) out*** *chiefly Brit* **:** to divide (something) into parts and give the parts to different people ▪ In her will, she *shared out* her property to her nephews and nieces. — see also SHARE-OUT
– shar•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[2]share *noun, pl* **shares**

1 [*singular*] : a part of something that has been divided into parts and given to different people ▪ I deserve a *share* in the winnings. — often + *of* ▪ I sold my *share* [=*portion*] *of* the business. ▪ I got my *share of* the profits. — see also LION'S SHARE, TIME-SHARE

2 [*count*] : any of the equal parts into which the ownership of a property or business is divided ▪ 100 *shares* of stock — see also MARKET SHARE

3 [*singular*] : the amount of something that someone owes or deserves or is responsible for — often + *of* ▪ Everybody should have to pay their *share* [=*portion*] *of* the dinner bill. ▪ Everyone must accept their *share of* the blame. ▪ I've done my (fair) *share of* the work.

a share of the pie see PIE

share•crop•per /ˈʃeɚˌkrɑːpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] : a farmer especially in the southern U.S. who raises crops for the owner of a piece of land and is paid a portion of the money from the sale of the crops

share•hold•er /ˈʃeɚˌhoʊldɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who owns shares in a company or business : STOCKHOLDER

share•hold•ing /ˈʃeɚˌhoʊldɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the amount of shares that someone owns in a company or business ▪ He has a substantial *shareholding* [=he owns a large number of shares] in the company.

share option *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] *Brit* : STOCK OPTION

share–out *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] *Brit* : an act of dividing something into parts and giving them to two or more people — usually singular ▪ There was an equal *share-out* of the money. — see also *share out* at ¹SHARE

share•ware /ˈʃeɚˌweɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : computer software that you can try for free for a certain period of time before choosing whether or not to buy it — compare FREEWARE

sha•ria /ʃəˈriːjə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the religious laws based on the Koran that Muslims follow

shark /ˈʃɑɚk/ *noun, pl* **sharks** [*count*]

1 : a large and often dangerous sea fish with very sharp teeth — see color picture on page C8

2 *informal* : a person who gets money from people by deceiving or cheating them; *especially* : a person who wins money in a game by playing well and by being dishonest ▪ a pool *shark* ▪ a card *shark* — see also LOAN SHARK

– shark•like /ˈʃɑɚkˌlaɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *sharklike* smile/appetite

¹sharp /ˈʃɑɚp/ *adj* **sharp•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having a thin edge that is able to cut things or a fine point that is able to make a hole in things ▪ a *sharp* knife/pencil ▪ *sharp* teeth/claws — opposite BLUNT, DULL; see also RAZOR-SHARP

2 a : sudden and quick ▪ a *sharp* drop/rise/decrease/increase in temperature ▪ a *sharp* break from tradition [=a sudden change from the traditional way of doing things] **b** : involving a sudden change in direction ▪ He took a *sharp* left turn. ▪ a *sharp* curve in the road

3 a : clear and easy to see ▪ a *sharp* image/picture/photograph [=an image/picture/photograph in which the small details can be clearly seen] **b** : very noticeable ▪ a *sharp* difference/distinction ▪ Her cheerful mood ***stands in sharp contrast*** to her dreary surroundings.

4 : having or showing a quick ability to notice and understand things ▪ a *sharp* student ▪ *sharp* questions ▪ You have *sharp* eyes.

5 : very sudden and severe ▪ a *sharp* pain ▪ a *sharp* disappointment

6 : critical or harsh ▪ a *sharp* reply/attack/criticism/rebuke ▪ He was very *sharp* with her. [=he spoke to her in a very harsh way] ▪ She has ***a sharp tongue***. [=she tends to say very critical things to people]

7 : loud, short, and sudden ▪ a *sharp* noise

8 *of cheese* : having a strong odor and flavor ▪ *sharp* cheddar cheese

9 : very strong and cold ▪ a *sharp*, biting wind

10 *disapproving* : clever in a bad or dishonest way ▪ *sharp* business practices

11 : ending in a point or edge ▪ a *sharp* nose ▪ *sharp* mountain peaks

12 *informal* : stylish or fashionable ▪ He's a *sharp* dresser. ▪ a *sharp* outfit ▪ You're looking very *sharp* today.

13 *music* **a** : higher than the true pitch ▪ Her singing was slightly *sharp*. **b** : higher than a specified note by a semitone ▪ F *sharp* — compare ¹FLAT 10, ¹NATURAL 8

keep a sharp eye on : to watch (someone or something) carefully ▪ *Keep a sharp eye on* the kids to make sure they don't hurt themselves.

– sharp•ness *noun* [*noncount*]

²sharp *adv*

1 : EXACTLY — used to refer to an exact time ▪ It's four o'clock *sharp*.

2 : above the correct musical pitch ▪ He sang slightly *sharp*. — compare ³FLAT 4

3 : SUDDENLY ▪ turn *sharp* [=*sharply*] left/right

look sharp *informal* : to act quickly : HURRY ▪ You'd better *look sharp* if you want to be ready on time.

³sharp *noun, pl* **sharps** [*count*] : a musical note that is one semitone higher than a specified note ▪ C *sharp*; *also* : a written symbol ♯ that is placed before a note to show that it should be played a semitone higher — compare ²FLAT 3, ²NATURAL 2

sharp•en /ˈʃɑɚpən/ *verb* **-ens; -ened; -en•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) sharp or sharper ▪ *sharpen* a knife/pencil

2 a [+ *obj*] : to make (something) clearer or more distinct ▪ Can you *sharpen* the image? ▪ The lecture *sharpened* my understanding of the topic. **b** [*no obj*] : to become clearer or more distinct ▪ The outlines of the mountains *sharpened* as we got closer.

3 [+ *obj*] : to improve (something) ▪ I took a course to *sharpen* (up) my computer skills.

4 [*no obj*] : to become more severe ▪ The pain suddenly *sharpened*.

sharpen up [*phrasal verb*] : to become better, smarter, more skillful, etc. ▪ You'd better *sharpen up* if you want to keep your job.

sharp•en•er /ˈʃɑɚpənɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a tool or machine that makes something sharp ▪ a pencil/knife *sharpener*

sharp–eyed /ˈʃɑɚpˈaɪd/ *adj*

1 : having very good eyesight ▪ a *sharp-eyed* bird

2 : having a strong ability to notice things ▪ A *sharp-eyed* [=*perceptive*] reader will notice the book's repeating themes.

sharp•ish /ˈʃɑɚpɪʃ/ *adv, Brit, informal* : QUICKLY ▪ getting the work done *sharpish*

sharp•ly /ˈʃɑɚpli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : in a harsh, critical, or angry way ▪ He spoke *sharply* to the children and made them cry. ▪ He criticized her *sharply*.

2 : suddenly and by a large amount ▪ The temperature dropped/fell/rose *sharply*. ▪ Prices are expected to increase/decline *sharply*. ▪ The car turned/veered *sharply* to the left. ▪ a *sharply* angled curve in the road

3 : clearly or distinctly ▪ a *sharply* defined image ▪ Her cheerful mood contrasts *sharply* with her dreary surroundings.

4 : loudly and suddenly ▪ She cried out *sharply*.

5 : with a very sharp edge or point ▪ The knife is *sharply* pointed.

sharp•shoot•er /ˈʃɑɚpˌʃuːtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who is skilled at shooting a target with a gun

– sharp•shoot•ing /ˈʃɑɚpˌʃuːtɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sharp–tongued /ˈʃɑɚpˈtʌŋgd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : tending to say very critical things to people : having a sharp tongue ▪ a comedy about a mild man and his *sharp-tongued* wife

sharp–wit•ted /ˈʃɑɚpˈwɪtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing an ability to think and react very quickly ▪ a *sharp-witted* young woman ▪ a *sharp-witted* reply

shat *past tense and past participle of* SHIT

shat•ter /ˈʃætɚ/ *verb* **-ters; -tered; -ter•ing**

1 : to break suddenly into many small pieces [*no obj*] The window *shattered* (into a thousand pieces) when it was hit by a rock. [+ *obj*] The rock *shattered* the window. ▪ She *shattered* her leg [=she broke her leg very badly] in a fall.

2 [+ *obj*] : to damage (something) very badly ▪ His dreams were *shattered* by their rejection. ▪ The end of his marriage *shattered* him emotionally.

shattered *adj*

1 : very shocked and upset ▪ The end of his marriage left him emotionally *shattered*.

2 *Brit, informal* : very tired ▪ I was *shattered* when I got home from work.

shattering *adj* : very shocking and upsetting ▪ The end of his marriage was an emotionally *shattering* experience.

shat•ter•proof /ˈʃætɚˌpruːf/ *adj* : made so that it does not break easily and will not form sharp, dangerous pieces if it does break ▪ *shatterproof* glass

S

[1]shave /ʃeɪv/ *verb* **shaves**; **shaved**; **shaved** *or* **shav•en** /ʃeɪvən/; **shav•ing**
1 a : to cut the hair, wool, etc., off (someone or something) very close to the skin [+ *obj*] He *shaves* himself [=cuts off the hair that grows on his face] every morning before breakfast. ▪ He *shaved* his head. ▪ She cut herself while *shaving* her legs. ▪ The sheep were all *shaved*. ▪ *shaved/shaven* heads/legs [*no obj*] He *shaves* every morning before breakfast. ▪ I cut myself *shaving* this morning. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cut off (hair, wool, a beard, etc.) very close to the skin ▪ He *shaved* his beard. ▪ She *shaves* her dog's fur in the summer. — often + *off* ▪ He *shaved off* his beard.
2 [+ *obj*] : to remove a thin layer of (something) from something ▪ He *shaved* some butter from the container. — usually + *off* ▪ *Shave* the bark *off* the tree.
3 [+ *obj*] : to reduce something by taking away (a small amount) — usually + *off* ▪ Can you *shave* a little *off* the price? [=can you reduce the price by a small amount?] ▪ She was able to *shave* a few seconds *off* the record. [=to beat the record by a few seconds]

[2]shave *noun, pl* **shaves** [*count*] : an act of shaving — usually singular ▪ He gave himself a *shave*. [=he shaved himself] — see also CLOSE SHAVE

shaven *adj* : having had the hair, wool, etc., removed : having been shaved ▪ a *shaven* head — see also CLEAN-SHAVEN

shav•er /ʃeɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a tool or device that is used to shave hair from your face, body, or head ▪ an electric *shaver* [=*razor*] — see picture at GROOMING
2 : a person who shaves ▪ a careful *shaver*
3 *old-fashioned* : a young boy ▪ when he was just a *shaver*

shaving *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : a very thin piece removed from something with a sharp tool — usually plural ▪ wood *shavings*

shaving cream *noun* [*noncount*] : a special cream or foam that is spread over your face or another part of your body before shaving — called also *shaving foam*

Sha•vu•ot /ʃəˈvuːˌoʊt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a Jewish holiday celebrated 50 days after the first day of Passover

shawl /ʃɑːl/ *noun, pl* **shawls** [*count*] : a piece of cloth that is used especially by women as a covering for the head or shoulders

[1]she /ʃiː/ *pronoun*
1 : that female — used to indicate a female person or animal that is the subject of a verb ▪ *She* is my mother. ▪ Ask your sister where *she* is going. ▪ *She* has been planning this trip since January. ▪ (*on the telephone*) "Hello, I'd like to speak with Jane." "This is *she*." [=I (the person who answered the phone) am Jane] — compare HE
2 *somewhat old-fashioned* — used to refer to something (such as a ship) that is thought of as having female qualities ▪ *She* was a fine ship.

[2]she *noun* [*singular*] : a girl, woman, or female animal ▪ "Somebody called when you were out, but I can't remember who." "Was it a he or a *she*?" — sometimes used in combination ▪ a little black *she*-cat [=a little, black female cat]

s/he /ʃiːˈhiː, ˈʃiːjɚˈhiː, ˈʃiːˌslæʃˈhiː/ *pronoun* : she or he — used in writing as a pronoun when the subject of the sentence can be either female or male ▪ Once a student has chosen a project, *s/he* should write a brief description of it.

sheaf /ʃiːf/ *noun, pl* **sheaves** /ʃiːvz/ [*count*]
1 : a bunch of stalks and ears of grain that are tied together after being cut ▪ *sheaves* of wheat
2 : a group of things fastened together ▪ a *sheaf* of arrows/papers

shear /ʃiɚ/ *verb* **shears**; **sheared**; **sheared** *or* **shorn** /ʃoɚn/; **shear•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to cut the hair, wool, etc., off (an animal) ▪ The farmers *sheared* the sheep. **b** : to cut off (an animal's hair, wool, etc.) ▪ The farmers *sheared* the wool from the sheep. — often + *off* ▪ The farmers *sheared off* the wool from the sheep.
2 : to cut off a person's hair — usually used as *(be) shorn* ▪ His long locks *were shorn*. ▪ the monk's *shorn* head
3 *literary* : to take something away from (someone) — usually used as *(be) shorn* ▪ a tyrant who has *been shorn* of power [=a tyrant whose power has been taken away]
shear off [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to become separated suddenly because of great force ▪ The excess weight caused the bolt to *shear off*. **2** ***shear (something) off*** *or* ***shear off (something)*** : to remove (something) with great force ▪ The impact of the crash *sheared off* the airplane's wing.
– **shear•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

shears /ʃiɚz/ *noun* [*plural*] : a large, heavy pair of scissors — see also PINKING SHEARS

sheath /ʃiːθ/ *noun, pl* **sheaths** /ʃiːðz/ [*count*]
1 : a cover for the blade of a knife, sword, etc. ▪ the *sheath* of a sword
2 : a protective covering ▪ a piece of wire covered with a plastic *sheath* ▪ a nerve *sheath*
3 *Brit* : CONDOM
4 : a close-fitting dress that does not usually have a belt

sheathe /ʃiːð/ *verb* **sheathes**; **sheathed**; **sheath•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *literary* : to put (something, such as a sword) into a sheath ▪ He *sheathed* his sword.
2 : to cover (something) with something that protects it — usually used as *(be) sheathed* ▪ The ship's bottom *is sheathed* with/in copper.

sheath•ing /ʃiːðɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a protective outer covering ▪ copper *sheathing*

she•bang /ʃɪˈbæŋ/ *noun*
the whole shebang *informal* : the whole thing : everything that is included in something ▪ You can buy *the whole shebang* for just $50.

[1]shed /ʃɛd/ *verb* **sheds**; **shed**; **shed•ding**
1 [+ *obj*] : to get rid of (something) ▪ I've been trying to *shed* some extra pounds. ▪ The company has had to *shed* many jobs. ▪ She hasn't been able to *shed* her image as a troublemaker. [=to make people stop thinking of her as a troublemaker]
2 : to lose (leaves, skin, fur, etc.) naturally [+ *obj*] Snakes *shed* their skin. ▪ The dog is *shedding* its fur. ▪ The trees are *shedding* their leaves. [*no obj*] The cat is *shedding*.
3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to take off (something you are wearing) ▪ He quickly *shed* his hat and coat. **b** *Brit* : to lose or drop (a load, cargo, etc.) ▪ The lorry *shed* its load.
4 [+ *obj*] : to cause (water) to flow off instead of soaking into something ▪ Raincoats *shed* water.
shed blood see BLOOD
shed light on see [1]LIGHT
shed tears see [3]TEAR

[2]shed *noun, pl* **sheds** [*count*]
1 : a small, simple building that is used especially for storing things — see also COWSHED, POTTING SHED, TOOLSHED, WOODSHED
2 *Brit* : a large industrial building ▪ a railway *shed*

she'd /ʃiːd, ʃɪd/ — used as a contraction of *she had* or *she would* ▪ *She'd* [=*she had*] already eaten by the time we arrived. ▪ *She'd* [=*she would*] prefer to wait until next week.

sheen /ʃiːn/ *noun* [*singular*] : a soft, smooth, shiny quality ▪ Her hair has a *sheen* to it. ▪ the *sheen* of satin

sheep /ʃiːp/ *noun, pl* **sheep** [*count*]
1 : an animal with a thick woolly coat that is often raised for meat or for its wool and skin ▪ a flock of *sheep*
2 : a person who does what other people say to do ▪ They followed every new fad like (a flock of) *sheep*.
a wolf in sheep's clothing see [1]WOLF
separate the sheep from the goats see [2]SEPARATE
– see also BLACK SHEEP


sheep

sheep•dog /ʃiːpˌdɑːg/ *noun, pl* **-dogs** [*count*] : a dog that is trained to control sheep

sheep•herd•er /ʃiːpˌhɝdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who controls a flock of sheep : a person who herds sheep

sheep•ish /ʃiːpɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing or feeling embarrassment especially because you have done something foolish or wrong ▪ a *sheepish* look/grin/smile ▪ He felt a little *sheepish*.
– **sheep•ish•ly** *adv* ▪ He *sheepishly* admitted his mistake. ▪ She grinned at us *sheepishly*.

sheep•skin /ʃiːpˌskɪn/ *noun, pl* **-skins**
1 [*count, noncount*] **a** : the skin of a sheep usually with the wool still on it **b** : a type of leather made from the skin of a sheep ▪ a bag/coat made of *sheepskin*
2 [*count*] *US, informal + humorous* : a diploma from a college or university ▪ jobs that don't require a *sheepskin*

[1]sheer /ʃiɚ/ *adj*
1 *always used before a noun* — used to emphasize the large

amount, size, or degree of something ▪ The *sheer* amount of work was staggering. ▪ The *sheer* number of questions overwhelmed her. ▪ The *sheer* force of the wind knocked me to the ground.

2 *always used before a noun* : complete and total ▪ *sheer* [=*utter*] nonsense ▪ *sheer* [=*pure*] luck/coincidence/joy

3 : very steep : almost straight up and down ▪ a *sheer* drop to the sea ▪ *sheer* cliffs/walls

4 : very thin ▪ *sheer* stockings/curtains

²sheer *adv* : straight up or down ▪ mountains rising *sheer* from the plains

³sheer *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **sheers**; **sheered**; **sheer•ing** [*no obj*] : to turn suddenly ▪ The boat *sheered* [=*swerved*] *away* from the rocks.

¹sheet /ʃi:t/ *noun, pl* **sheets** [*count*]

1 a : a large piece of cloth that is used to cover something ▪ We used *sheets* to protect the furniture when we painted. **b** : a large piece of thin cloth used on a bed ▪ The *sheets* are changed daily at the hotel. ▪ He slid between the *sheets* and went to sleep. — called also *bedsheet*; see picture at BED

2 : a usually rectangular piece of paper — see also BALANCE SHEET, RAP SHEET, SPREADSHEET, TIME SHEET, WORKSHEET, *clean sheet* at ¹CLEAN

3 : a thin, flat, rectangular or square piece of something ▪ a *sheet* of iron/glass — see also BAKING SHEET, COOKIE SHEET

4 : a wide, flat surface or area of something ▪ A *sheet* of ice covered the driveway. — see also ICE SHEET

5 : a large moving area of something (such as fire or water) ▪ a *sheet* of flame ▪ *sheets* of rain

– compare ²SHEET

²sheet *noun, pl* **sheets** [*count*] *technical* : a rope or chain attached to the lower corner of a sail and used to change the position of the sail

three sheets to the wind *old-fashioned + humorous* : very drunk ▪ When he staggered out of the bar, he was *three sheets to the wind.*

– compare ¹SHEET

sheet•ing /'ʃi:tɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : material (such as plastic) in the form of thin layers used to cover or protect something ▪ We covered the wall with clear plastic *sheeting.*

2 : cloth that is used to make sheets for a bed

sheet lightning *noun* [*noncount*] : lightning that appears as a wide flash of light over a large area of sky

sheet metal *noun* [*noncount*] : thin, flat pieces of metal

sheet music *noun* [*noncount*] : music printed on sheets of paper that are not bound together

Sheet•rock /'ʃi:t,rɑ:k/ *trademark* — used for drywall

sheikh *or* **sheik** /'ʃi:k/ *noun, pl* **sheikhs** *or* **sheiks** [*count*]

1 : an Arab chief, ruler, or prince

2 : a leader of a Muslim organization or group

sheikh•dom *or* **sheik•dom** /'ʃi:kdəm/ *noun, pl* **-doms** [*count*] : an area ruled by a sheikh

shei•la /'ʃi:lə/ *noun, pl* **-las** [*count*] *Australia + New Zealand, informal* : a girl or young woman

shek•el /'ʃɛkəl/ *noun, pl* **-els** [*count*] : the basic unit of money in Israel

shelf /'ʃɛlf/ *noun, pl* **shelves** /'ʃɛlvz/ [*count*]

1 : a flat board which is attached to a wall, frame, etc., and on which objects can be placed ▪ Put the vase on the *shelf.* ▪ the top/bottom *shelf* of the kitchen cabinet ▪ Will you get that book down off the *shelf*? ▪ We don't have much *shelf* space. — see also BOOKSHELF

2 *geology* : a flat area of rock, sand, etc., especially underwater ▪ a coastal *shelf* — see also CONTINENTAL SHELF

off the shelf : directly from a store without having to be specially made or ordered ▪ The dress was a perfect fit right *off the shelf.* ▪ equipment purchased *off the shelf*

on the shelf : in an inactive state : not active or being used ▪ They put their plan to remodel the house *on the shelf* for the time being. ▪ The quarterback remains *on the shelf* [=is still not playing] with a severe injury.

shelf life *noun, pl* ~ **lives** [*count*]

1 : the length of time that food may be stored and still be good to eat — usually singular ▪ Rice has a long *shelf life.*

2 : the length of time during which something or someone lasts or remains popular — usually singular ▪ a movie with a short *shelf life*

¹shell /'ʃɛl/ *noun, pl* **shells**

1 a : the hard outer covering of an animal, insect, etc., that protects it [*count*] a turtle's *shell* ▪ the *shell* of a crab ▪ We collected *shells* at the beach. [*noncount*] jewelry made of *shell* — see also SEASHELL, TORTOISESHELL **b** : the hard outer covering of an egg : EGGSHELL [*count*] broken *shells* [*noncount*] a piece of *shell* **c** : the hard outer covering of a nut, fruit, or seed [*count*] a coconut *shell* [*noncount*] pieces of walnut *shell*

2 [*count*] *US* : something (such as pasta) that is shaped like a shell ▪ We're going to have stuffed *shells* for dinner.

3 [*count*] : the hard outer structure of a building, car, airplane, etc. — usually singular ▪ the *shell* of an unfinished house ▪ the *shell* of an airplane ▪ The building was just a bombed-out *shell.*

4 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a hard or crisp piece of bread, dough, etc., that is used to hold a filling ▪ a pastry/pie *shell* ▪ taco/tortilla *shells*

5 [*count*] **a** : a metal case that is filled with an explosive and that is shot from a cannon ▪ mortar *shells* **b** *chiefly US* : a metal tube that you put into a gun and that holds an explosive and a bullet : CARTRIDGE ▪ The police found several spent *shells* at the scene of the shooting.

6 a — used in phrases that describe becoming less shy and more willing to talk to other people ▪ Making new friends helped her ***come out of her shell.*** = Making new friends ***brought her out of her shell.*** **b** — used in phrases that describe becoming quieter, less active, etc. ▪ He lost confidence in himself and ***retreated/withdrew into his shell.***

²shell *verb* **shells**; **shelled**; **shell•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to remove the shell or outer covering of (something) ▪ *shell* peanuts/peas

2 : to shoot shells at (someone or something) using large guns ▪ They *shelled* the enemy troops. ▪ The town was *shelled* during the battle.

3 *US, informal* : to score heavily against (a pitcher) in baseball — usually used as *(be) shelled* ▪ He *was shelled* in the second inning.

shell out [*phrasal verb*] ***shell out*** *or* ***shell out (money)*** *informal* : to pay a large amount of money for something — usually + *for* ▪ I'm going to have to *shell out for* these shoes. ▪ He *shelled out* $400 *for* the tickets.

she'll /'ʃi:l, ʃɪl/ — used as a contraction of *she will* ▪ *She'll* be home soon.

¹shel•lac /ʃə'læk/ *noun, pl* **-lacs** [*count, noncount*] : a clear liquid that dries into a hard coating and that is put on a surface to protect it

²shellac *verb* **-lacks**; **-lacked**; **-lack•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to coat (something) with shellac ▪ *shellac* the table

2 *US, informal* : to defeat (a person or team) easily and completely — usually used as *(be) shellacked* ▪ They *were shellacked* 14–2 in yesterday's game.

shellacking *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] *US, informal* : a very bad defeat ▪ They took a *shellacking* in yesterday's game.

shelled /'ʃɛld/ *adj*

1 : having a shell especially of a specified kind ▪ pink-*shelled* ▪ hard-*shelled*

2 : having the shell removed ▪ *shelled* nuts/oysters

shell•fire /'ʃɛl,fajɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the firing of shells from large guns ▪ The soldiers traded *shellfire.* [=the soldiers fired shells at each other] ▪ The town came under *shellfire.*

shell•fish /'ʃɛl,fɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **shellfish** : an animal (such as a crab or an oyster) that has a hard outer shell and that lives in water [*count*] lobsters, crabs, and other *shellfish* [*noncount*] a serving of *shellfish* — see color picture on page C8

shell game *noun, pl* ~ **games** [*count*] *US* : a dishonest betting game in which someone hides a ball under one of three cups or shells, moves the cups or shells around quickly, and asks an observer to guess which one the ball is under — often used figuratively to describe dishonest actions that are done to trick people ▪ The company was playing an elaborate *shell game.*

shelling *noun* [*noncount*] : the firing of shells from large guns ▪ The town sustained weeks of heavy *shelling.*

shell shock *noun* [*noncount*] *old-fashioned* : BATTLE FATIGUE

shell–shocked *adj*

1 *old-fashioned* : affected with battle fatigue ▪ a *shell-shocked* veteran

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very confused, upset, or exhausted because of something that has happened : very shocked ▪ She was *shell-shocked* when she heard the news.

shell suit *noun, pl* ~ **suits** [*count*] *Brit* : a pair of usually brightly colored light, nylon pants and a matching jacket

¹shel•ter /'ʃɛltɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters**

S

1 a [*count*] : a structure that covers or protects people or things ▪ a bomb/fallout *shelter* ▪ We made a *shelter* from branches. **b** [*count*] : a place that provides food and protection for people or animals that need assistance ▪ a *shelter* for battered women ▪ an animal *shelter* ▪ homeless *shelters* **c** [*noncount*] : a place to live ▪ The organization provides food and *shelter* for homeless people.

2 [*noncount*] : the state of being covered and protected from danger, bad weather, etc. ▪ The crowd ran for *shelter* when the rain started. ▪ They sought *shelter* from the storm. ▪ They ***found/took shelter*** in a cave during the storm. [=they went into a cave to get out of the storm]

– see also TAX SHELTER

²shelter *verb* **-ters; -tered; -ter•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to protect (someone) from danger, bad weather, etc. : to provide shelter for (someone) ▪ A cave *sheltered* the climbers during the storm. ▪ They were accused of *sheltering* a criminal. [=giving a criminal a place to hide] — often + *from* ▪ They *sheltered* themselves *from* the sudden rain. — often used figuratively ▪ Most parents want to *shelter* their children *from* pain and sadness. [=to prevent their children from experiencing pain and sadness] ▪ Investors are trying to *shelter* themselves *from* rising interest rates.

2 [*no obj*] : to be in a place that provides protection from danger, bad weather, etc. : to take shelter ▪ They *sheltered* in a cave while they waited for the storm to pass.

sheltered *adj*

1 : providing protection from bad weather ▪ *sheltered* bays/harbors ▪ The flowers were planted in a *sheltered* location.

2 [*more ~; most ~*] *sometimes disapproving* : protected from dangerous or unpleasant experiences in the world ▪ She has lived a very *sheltered* life.

3 *always used before a noun, Brit* : providing care for people (such as old or disabled people) who need help with daily activities ▪ They are moving to *sheltered* accommodation/housing. ▪ *sheltered* employment

shel•tie *or* **shel•ty** /ˈʃɛlti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*] : SHETLAND SHEEPDOG

shelve /ˈʃɛlv/ *verb* **shelves; shelved; shelv•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to put (something) on a shelf ▪ He *shelved* the books/products. ▪ The books were *shelved* according to category.

2 : to stop doing or thinking about (something) for a period of time ▪ The idea/plan/project was *shelved*.

3 *US* : to make (someone) unable to play or perform — usually used as *(be) shelved* ▪ He *was shelved* by injury last year. [=he was unable to play because he was injured]

shelves *plural of* SHELF

shelving *noun* [*noncount*] : shelves or the materials that are used to make shelves ▪ a laundry room with *shelving* ▪ We need more *shelving* to finish the bookcase.

she•nan•i•gans /ʃəˈnænɪgənz/ *noun* [*plural*] *informal* : activity or behavior that is not honest or proper ▪ They were engaging in some political/financial *shenanigans*.

¹shep•herd /ˈʃɛpəd/ *noun, pl* **-herds** [*count*] : a person whose job is to take care of sheep — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He was a good *shepherd* to new students. — see also GERMAN SHEPHERD

²shepherd *verb* **-herds; -herd•ed; -herd•ing** [+ *obj*] : to guide (someone or something) ▪ She carefully *shepherded* the children across the street. ▪ They *shepherded* the bill through Congress.

shep•herd•ess /ˈʃɛpədəs/ *noun, pl* **-ess•es** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a woman whose job is to take care of sheep

shepherd's pie *noun, pl* **~ pies** [*count, noncount*] : a dish of meat and sometimes vegetables covered with a crust of mashed potatoes

sher•bet /ˈʃəbət/ *also US* **sher•bert** /ˈʃəbət/ *noun, pl* **-bets** *also* **-berts**

1 [*count, noncount*] *US* : a frozen sweet dessert made from fruit or fruit juices ▪ a lemon *sherbet*

2 [*noncount*] *Brit* : a sweet powder used to make a bubbly drink or eaten by itself

sherd *variant spelling of* SHARD

sher•iff /ˈʃerəf/ *noun, pl* **-iffs** [*count*]

1 : an elected official who is in charge of enforcing the law in a county or town of the U.S.

2 *Brit* : the highest official in a county or shire in England or Wales who represents the king or queen and who attends ceremonies and has legal duties — called also *High Sheriff*

3 : the most important judge in a county or district in Scotland

Sher•pa *or* **sher•pa** /ˈʃərpə/ *noun, pl* **-pas** [*count*] : a member of a people who live in the Himalayas and who are often hired to help guide mountain climbers and carry their equipment

sher•ry /ˈʃeri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count, noncount*] : a type of strong wine with a nutty flavor that is made especially in Spain

she's /ˈʃiːz, ʃɪz/ — used as a contraction of *she is* or *she has* ▪ *She's* [=*she is*] quite right! ▪ *She's* [=*she has*] been teaching for several years.

Shet•land pony /ˈʃɛtlənd-/ *noun, pl* **~ pon•ies** [*count*] : a type of small, strong horse

Shetland sheepdog *noun, pl* **~ -dogs** [*count*] : a type of small dog that has a long, thick coat — called also *sheltie*

Shia *or* **Shi•'a** /ˈʃiːˌɑː/ *noun, pl* **Shia** *or* **Shi'a** *also* **Shi•as** *also* **Shi•'as**

1 [*noncount*] : one of the two main branches of Islam — often used before a noun ▪ the *Shia* faith/tradition — compare SUNNI

2 [*count*] : a Muslim who is a member of the Shia branch of Islam : SHIITE

Shi•at•su /ʃiˈɑːtsu/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a Japanese method of relieving pain or curing illness by pressing on particular points on a person's body with the fingertips or thumbs

shib•bo•leth /ˈʃɪbələθ/ *noun, pl* **-leths** [*count*]

1 : an old idea, opinion, or saying that is commonly believed and repeated but that may be seen as old-fashioned or untrue ▪ She repeated the old *shibboleth* that time heals all wounds.

2 : a word or way of speaking or behaving which shows that a person belongs to a particular group

shied *past tense and past participle of* SHY

¹shield /ˈʃiːld/ *noun, pl* **shields** [*count*]

1 : a large piece of metal, wood, etc., carried by someone (such as a soldier or police officer) for protection

2 : something that defends or protects someone or something ▪ the heat *shield* on a space shuttle ▪ The thief tried to use a hostage as a ***human shield*** [=the thief hid behind the hostage so the police would not shoot] ▪ Exercise and good nutrition are a ***shield against*** disease. [=exercise and good nutrition protect you from disease] — see also WINDSHIELD

3 *US* : a police officer's badge

4 : a picture shaped like a soldier's shield that has a coat of arms on it

5 *Brit* : an award for winning a competition or game

²shield *verb* **shields; shield•ed; shield•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cover and protect (someone or something) ▪ She *shielded* her eyes. — often + *from* ▪ She lifted her hand to *shield* her eyes *from* the glare. ▪ He was *shielded from* the rain. — often used figuratively ▪ I think she's *shielded* her child *from* the real world for too long. ▪ His friends tried to *shield* him *from* the press.

2 : to prevent (someone or something) from being seen — usually + *from* ▪ A line of trees *shields* the house *from* view.

¹shift /ˈʃɪft/ *verb* **shifts; shift•ed; shift•ing**

1 : to move or to cause (something or someone) to move to a different place, position, etc. [+ *obj*] I *shifted* the bag to my other shoulder. ▪ She *shifted* her position slightly so she could see the stage better. ▪ I *shifted* [=*turned*] my gaze toward the horizon. ▪ They *shifted* him to a different department. [*no obj*] The wind *shifted*. ▪ He nervously *shifted* from foot to foot. ▪ She *shifted* in her seat. ▪ The population is *shifting* [=*moving*] away from the city.

2 : to change or to cause (something) to change to a different opinion, belief, etc. [*no obj*] Public opinion has *shifted* dramatically in recent months. [+ *obj*] Their efforts to *shift* public opinion have failed. ▪ She refused to ***shift her ground*** [=she refused to change her opinion]

3 : to go or to cause (something) to go from one person or thing to another [+ *obj*] I wanted to *shift* the discussion back to the main point. ▪ They tried to *shift* the blame onto/to us. ▪ Their attempts at *shifting* attention away from the controversy seemed to be working. ▪ The mayor plans to *shift* some resources to the development project. [*no obj*] The focus of the debate quickly *shifted* to more controversial topics. ▪ *shifting* alliances/demands/patterns

4 *US* : to change the gear you are using in a vehicle [*no obj*] She *shifted* into first gear. ▪ I hear a loud noise when the car *shifts*. [+ *obj*] She *shifted* the car into low gear. — see also DOWNSHIFT, UPSHIFT, *shift gears* at ¹GEAR

5 [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : to get rid of (something) ▪ I can't seem to *shift* this cold. ▪ This detergent will *shift* even the most stubborn stains.

S

shift for yourself : to do things without help from others ▪ She left them to *shift for themselves*. [=*fend for themselves*]
shifting sands see [1]SAND
shift the goalposts see GOALPOST
shift yourself *Brit, informal* : to move quickly : HURRY ▪ We need to *shift ourselves* [=*get moving*] if we're going to make it home before dark.

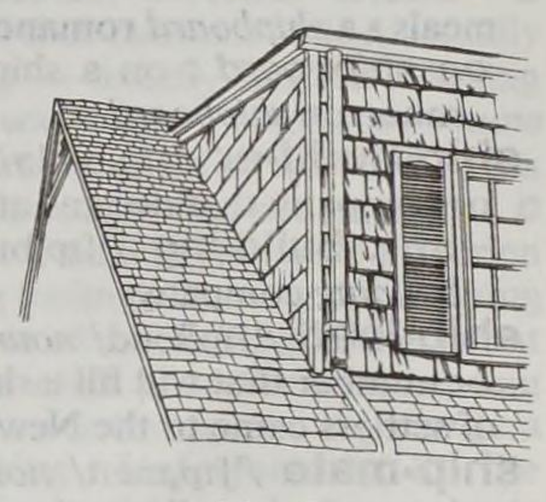
[2]shift *noun, pl* **shifts** [*count*]
1 a : a change in position or direction ▪ There will be a *shift* of responsibility when she takes the new position. — often + *in* ▪ a *shift in* the wind ▪ unpredictable *shifts in* weather ▪ The *shift in* leadership will take place at the end of the year. **b** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : a change in how something is done or how people think about something ▪ a *shift* away from tradition ▪ a gradual *shift* toward more liberal policies ▪ a *shift* in voter opinion
2 a : a group of people who work together during a scheduled period of time ▪ The day/night *shift* worked overtime. ▪ The restaurant needed only one *shift* for lunch. **b** : the scheduled period of time during which a person works ▪ He works the day/night *shift*. ▪ waiters working long *shifts* — see also GRAVEYARD SHIFT, SWING SHIFT
3 : SHIFT KEY
4 : a woman's loose, straight dress

shift•er /ˈʃɪftɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : GEARSHIFT
shift key *noun, pl* ~ **keys** [*count*] : a key on a computer keyboard or a typewriter that you press to type capital letters — called also *shift*
shift•less /ˈʃɪftləs/ *adj, disapproving* : lacking ambition and energy ▪ a lazy, *shiftless* person
– **shift•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]
shifty /ˈʃɪfti/ *adj* **shift•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal*
1 : having an appearance or way of behaving that seems dishonest ▪ a *shifty* salesman ▪ *shifty* eyes
2 *US* : difficult to catch : able to move and change directions quickly ▪ a *shifty* runner
– **shift•i•ly** /ˈʃɪftəli/ *adv* ▪ He eyed them *shiftily*. – **shift•i•ness** /ˈʃɪftinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]
shii•ta•ke /ʃiˈtɑːki/ *noun, pl* **-kes** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a type of Asian mushroom used in cooking
Shi•ite *or* **Shi•'ite** /ˈʃiːˌaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-ites** *or* **-'ites** [*count*] : a Muslim who is a member of the Shia branch of Islam — compare SUNNI
– **Shiite** *or* **Shi'ite** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *Shiite* Muslim ▪ the *Shiite* community
shill /ˈʃɪl/ *verb* **shills**; **shilled**; **shill•ing** [*no obj*] *US, informal* + *disapproving* : to talk about or describe someone or something in a favorable way because you are being paid to do it — often + *for* ▪ celebrities *shilling for* politicians
– **shill** *noun, pl* **shills** [*count*] ▪ He's just a political *shill*.
shil•ling /ˈʃɪlɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-lings** [*count*]
1 : a British coin used before 1971 that was equal to 1/20 of a British pound
2 : the basic unit of money in Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, and Uganda
shilly–shally /ˈʃɪliˌʃæli/ *verb* **-shal•lies**; **-shal•lied**; **-shal•ly•ing** [*no obj*] *informal* + *disapproving* : to hesitate and take a long time to do or decide something ▪ They continue to *shilly-shally* about what to do.
– **shilly–shallying** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ Congress should stop all the *shilly-shallying* and just vote.
shim•mer /ˈʃɪmɚ/ *verb* **-mers**; **-mered**; **-mer•ing** [*no obj*] : to shine with a light that seems to move slightly ▪ The road *shimmered* in the heat. ▪ The landscape *shimmers* [=*glimmers*] with light. ▪ *shimmering* colors/light
– **shimmer** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ the *shimmer* of the jewels – **shim•mery** /ˈʃɪməri/ *adj* ▪ a *shimmery* glow/luster
shim•my /ˈʃɪmi/ *verb* **-mies**; **-mied**; **-my•ing**
1 : to move or shake your body from side to side [*no obj*] They were *shimmying* on the dance floor. ▪ I *shimmied* into my jacket. [+ *obj*] She *shimmied* her hips.
2 [*no obj*] *US* : to vibrate or move very quickly from side to side ▪ One of the car's wheels was *shimmying*.
– **shimmy** *noun, pl* **-mies** [*count*] ▪ She gave her hips a *shimmy*.
[1]shin /ˈʃɪn/ *noun, pl* **shins** [*count*] : the front part of the leg below the knee ▪ She kicked him in the *shin*. ▪ a *shin* pad/guard — see picture at HUMAN
[2]shin *verb* **shins**; **shinned**; **shin•ning** [*no obj*] *Brit* : SHINNY — + *up* or *down* ▪ The sailor *shinned up* the mast. ▪ He *shinned down* the drainpipe.

shin•bone /ˈʃɪnˌboʊn/ *noun, pl* **-bones** [*count*] : the large bone at the front of the leg between the knee and the ankle : TIBIA
shin•dig /ˈʃɪnˌdɪg/ *noun, pl* **-digs** [*count*] *informal* : a big party ▪ an informal *shindig*
[1]shine /ˈʃaɪn/ *verb* **shines**; **shone** /ˈʃoʊn, *Brit* ˈʃɒn/ *or chiefly US* **shined**; **shin•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to give off light ▪ The moon/stars *shined* brightly. ▪ The sun was *shining* through the clouds. ▪ lamps *shining* from the windows
2 [*no obj*] : to have a smooth surface that reflects light ▪ He polished the silver until it *shone*. [=*gleamed*]
3 *not used in progressive tenses* [*no obj*] : to be very good or successful at an activity ▪ She found a sport where she can really *shine*.
4 [*no obj*] : to have a bright, glowing appearance ▪ Her face was *shining* with joy/excitement. ▪ His eyes were *shining*.
5 [+ *obj*] : to point (something that produces light) in a particular direction ▪ Please *shine* the flashlight over here.
6 *past tense and past participle* **shined** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) bright and shiny by polishing ▪ I *shined* my shoes. ▪ He had his shoes *shined*.
make hay while the sun shines see HAY
rise and shine *informal* — used to tell someone to wake up and get out of bed ▪ C'mon, kids! *Rise and shine*!
shine through [*phrasal verb*] : to be seen, expressed, or shown clearly ▪ Once she relaxed, her talent really began to *shine through*.

[2]shine *noun* [*singular*]
1 : the brightness that results when light is reflected from a surface ▪ the *shine* of polished silver ▪ He had a nice *shine* on his shoes. — see also SUNSHINE
2 : the act of polishing a pair of shoes ▪ Would you like a *shine*? — see also SHOESHINE
rain or shine see [1]RAIN
take a shine to *informal* : to begin to like (someone or something) ▪ She really *took a shine to* [=*took a liking to*] her new neighbor.

shin•er /ˈʃaɪnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US, informal* : BLACK EYE ▪ He got a *shiner* during a fight at school.
[1]shin•gle /ˈʃɪŋgəl/ *noun, pl* **shin•gles** [*count*] : a small, thin piece of building material that is used to cover the roof or sides of a building
hang out your shingle *US, informal* : to start your own business especially as a doctor or lawyer ▪ She graduated from law school and *hung out her shingle*.
– compare [3]SHINGLE


shingles

[2]shingle *verb* **shin•gles**; **shin•gled**; **shin•gling** [+ *obj*] : to cover (something) with shingles ▪ *shingle* a house/roof ▪ a house *shingled* with cedar
[3]shingle *noun* [*noncount*] : small stones that form a beach ▪ She walked along the *shingle*. ▪ a *shingle* beach — compare [1]SHINGLE
– **shin•gly** /ˈʃɪŋgəli/ *adj* ▪ a strip of *shingly* beach
shin•gles /ˈʃɪŋgəlz/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a disease that causes pain and red marks on your skin along the path of a nerve
shining *adj*
1 : producing or reflecting a bright, steady light ▪ a *shining* star
2 : excellent or perfect ▪ Her latest movie is a *shining* example of what a film can be. ▪ a *shining* success
shin•ny /ˈʃɪni/ *verb* **-nies**; **-nied**; **-ny•ing** [*no obj*] *US* : to climb up or down something (such as a pole) by grasping it with your arms and legs — + *up* or *down* ▪ He *shinnied up* [=(*Brit*) *shinned up*] the tree to get a better look. ▪ She *shinnied down* the drainpipe.
Shin•to /ˈʃɪnˌtoʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the traditional religion of Japan — called also *Shin•to•ism* /ˈʃɪnˌtoʊˌɪzəm/
shiny /ˈʃaɪni/ *adj* **shin•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : having a smooth, shining, bright appearance ▪ *shiny* black shoes ▪ a *shiny* new car
– **shin•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]
[1]ship /ˈʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **ships**
1 : a large boat used for traveling long distances over the sea [*count*] a sailing/cruise/merchant *ship* ▪ the captain of the

S

ship [*noncount*] He will travel by *ship*. — see also FLAGSHIP, STEAMSHIP, TALL SHIP, TROOPSHIP, WARSHIP

2 [*count*] : a large airplane or spacecraft — see also AIRSHIP, ROCKET SHIP, SPACESHIP

abandon ship see [1]ABANDON

jump ship **1** : to leave a ship without the captain's permission ▪ He planned to *jump ship* at the next port. **2** : to suddenly or unexpectedly leave a group, team, etc. ▪ She *jumped ship* when the competition offered her a better job.

run a tight ship : to manage or handle a group of people in a strict and effective way ▪ The boss *runs a tight ship*.

ship comes in ✧ When ***your ship comes in***, you become very successful or wealthy. ▪ She's still waiting for *her ship to come in*.

[2]ship *verb* **ships; shipped; ship•ping**

1 a : to send (something) to a customer [+ *obj*] The goods were *shipped* from a foreign port. ▪ We *shipped* the items to you last week. = We *shipped* you the items last week. [*no obj*] Your order is expected to *ship* soon. **b** : to send (a new product) to stores so that it can be bought by customers [+ *obj*] The company will *ship* its new software next month. [*no obj*] The software will *ship* next month.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to send (someone) to a place that is usually far away ▪ The soldiers were *shipped* overseas for duty. ▪ Her parents are *shipping* her (off) to boarding school.

3 [+ *obj*] *of a ship or boat* : to take in (water) over the side ▪ When the waves increased, the boat began *shipping* water.

ship out [*phrasal verb*] : to leave one place and go to another for military duties ▪ The troops will be *shipping out* next month. — see also *shape up or ship out* at [2]SHAPE

-ship /ˌʃɪp/ *noun suffix*

1 : the state or condition of being something ▪ friend*ship* ▪ apprentice*ship*

2 : the position, status, or duties of something ▪ professor*ship*

3 : skill or ability as someone or something ▪ horseman*ship* ▪ penman*ship*

ship•board /ˈʃɪpˌboɚd/ *adj, always used before a noun* : happening or existing on a ship ▪ *shipboard* entertainment/meals ▪ a *shipboard* romance

on shipboard : on a ship ▪ They celebrated their honeymoon *on shipboard*.

ship•build•er /ˈʃɪpˌbɪldɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or company that designs and builds ships

– **ship•build•ing** /ˈʃɪpˌbɪldɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a *shipbuilding* company

ship•load /ˈʃɪpˈloʊd/ *noun, pl* **-loads** [*count*] : an amount or number that will fill a ship ▪ a *shipload* of corn ▪ *Shiploads* of settlers came to the New World.

ship•mate /ˈʃɪpˌmeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-mates** [*count*] : a sailor who works or sails on the same ship as another sailor

ship•ment /ˈʃɪpmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 [*count*] : a load of goods that are being sent to a customer, store, etc. ▪ We sent out another *shipment* of books. ▪ arms/grain/oil *shipments* ▪ My order was delivered in two *shipments*.

2 [*noncount*] : the act of sending something to a customer, store, etc. ▪ This box is ready for *shipment*.

ship•per /ˈʃɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] : a person or company that ships goods or products ▪ fruit/oil/wine *shippers*

ship•ping /ˈʃɪpɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the act or business of sending goods to people, stores, etc. ▪ The fruit was ready for *shipping*. ▪ a ***shipping clerk*** [=a person whose job involves shipping things] ▪ What do you charge for ***shipping and handling***? [=for packaging and sending something to a customer]

2 *formal* : a group of ships ▪ They protected our *shipping* from submarines during wartime. ▪ international *shipping* lanes [=paths through the sea that commercial ships can take]

ship•shape /ˌʃɪpˈʃeɪp/ *adj, not used before a noun* : clean, neat, and tidy : organized and in good condition ▪ I like to keep my car *shipshape*. ▪ Everything had to be *shipshape* before we could sell the house.

ship•wreck /ˈʃɪpˌrɛk/ *noun, pl* **-wrecks**

1 : the destruction or sinking of a ship at sea [*count*] Only a few sailors survived the *shipwreck*. [*noncount*] The crew narrowly avoided *shipwreck*.

2 [*count*] : a ruined or destroyed ship ▪ Divers searched the sunken *shipwreck*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ His marriage was a *shipwreck*.

– **shipwreck** *verb* **-wrecks**; **-wrecked**; **-wreck•ing** [+ *obj*] — usually used as *(be) shipwrecked* ▪ The boat *was shipwrecked* on the reef. ▪ *shipwrecked* sailors ▪ a *shipwrecked* boat

ship•yard /ˈʃɪpˌjɑɚd/ *noun, pl* **-yards** [*count*] : a place where ships are built or repaired

shire /ˈʃajɚ/ *noun, pl* **shires** [*count*]

1 *Brit* : a county in England — used in the names of British counties ▪ Northampton*shire*

2 *or* ***Shire*** : a type of tall, strong horse used for pulling heavy loads — called also *shire horse*

shirk /ˈʃɚk/ *verb* **shirks**; **shirked**; **shirk•ing** : to avoid doing something that you are supposed to do [+ *obj*] He's too conscientious to *shirk* his duty/responsibility. [*no obj*] He never *shirked* from doing his duty. ▪ They did their duty without *shirking* or complaining.

– **shirk•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ She's no *shirker*.

shirt /ˈʃɚt/ *noun, pl* **shirts** [*count*] : a piece of clothing for the upper body that has sleeves and usually a collar and buttons down the front — see also NIGHTSHIRT, POLO SHIRT, STUFFED SHIRT, SWEATSHIRT, T-SHIRT, UNDERSHIRT

keep your shirt on *informal* — used to tell someone to calm down or be more patient ▪ "Aren't you ready yet?" "*Keep your shirt on*! I'll be ready in a minute."

lose your shirt *chiefly US, informal* : to lose a lot of money because of a bad bet or investment ▪ He *lost his shirt* betting on football games. ▪ Many investors *lost their shirts* when the market crashed.

put your shirt on *chiefly Brit, informal* : to bet a lot of money on (someone or something) ▪ I *put my shirt on* a horse in the second race.

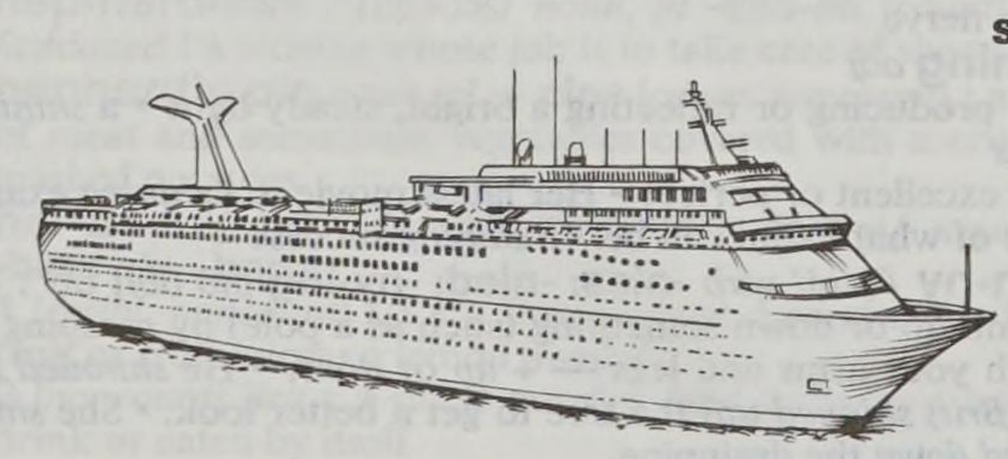
the shirt off your back *informal* ✧ People who would ***give you the shirt off their back*** would do anything to help you. ▪ She'd *give me the shirt off her back* if I ever needed help.

[1]shirt•sleeve /ˈʃɚtˌsliːv/ *noun, pl* **-sleeves** [*count*] : the sleeve of a shirt

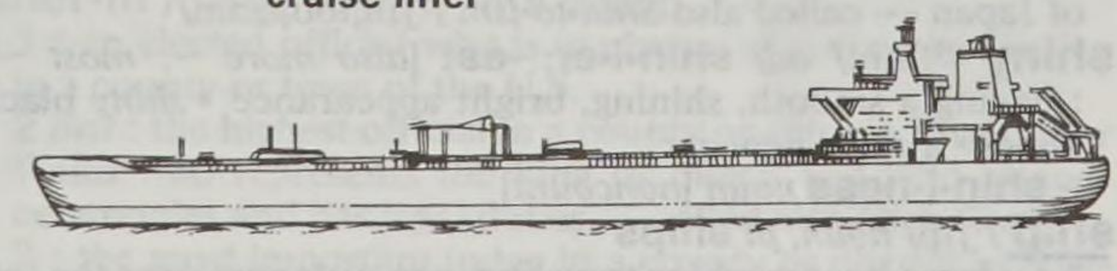
in (your) shirtsleeves : wearing a shirt but no coat or jacket ▪ a man *in his shirtsleeves* ▪ It was hot and most of the crowd was *in shirtsleeves*.

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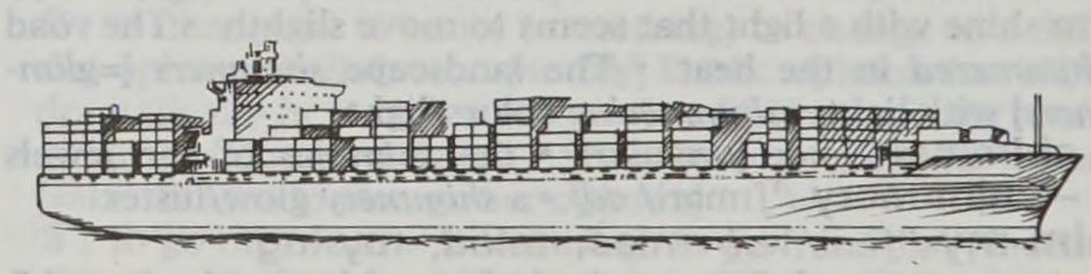
ship



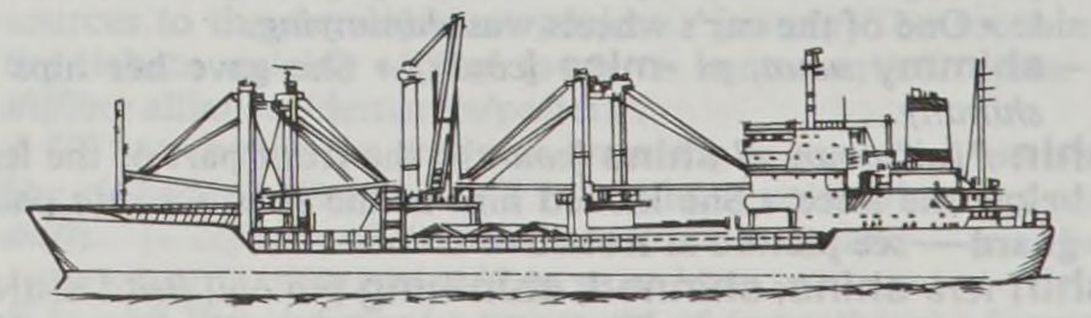
cruise ship, cruise liner



tanker



container ship



freighter, cargo ship

[2]shirtsleeve *also* **shirt•sleeves** /ˈʃɚtˌsliːvz/ *adj, always used before a noun, US*
1 : not wearing a coat or jacket ▪ a *shirtsleeve* crowd
2 : warm enough so that you do not need a coat or jacket ▪ *shirtsleeves* weather
3 : informal and direct ▪ *shirtsleeve* diplomacy

shirt•tail /ˈʃɚtˌteɪl/ *noun, pl* **-tails** [*count*] : the part of a shirt that hangs below the waist especially in the back — usually plural ▪ His *shirttails* were untucked.

shirty /ˈʃɚti/ *adj* **shirt•i•er; -est** *Brit, informal* : angry or irritated ▪ *shirty* letters of complaint ▪ He was/got *shirty* with the people who arrived late.

shish ke•bab /ˈʃɪʃkəˌbɑːb, *Brit* ˈʃɪʃkəˌbæb/ *noun, pl* ~ **-babs** [*count*] : KEBAB

[1]shit /ˈʃɪt/ *noun, pl* **shits** *informal*
1 *offensive* **a** [*noncount*] : solid waste that is passed out of the body **b** [*singular*] : the act of passing solid waste from the body — used in the phrases ***take a shit*** and (*Brit*) ***have a shit*** **c *the shits*** : DIARRHEA
2 [*noncount*] *offensive* : foolish or untrue words or ideas : NONSENSE ▪ Don't give me that *shit*! ▪ Why are you telling me this *shit*? ▪ Just ***cut the shit*** [=stop saying meaningless things] and get to the point. ▪ He's ***full of shit***. [=he is lying]
3 [*noncount*] *offensive* : something that is worthless, unimportant, etc. ▪ That movie was total *shit*. ▪ We need to get rid of all that *shit* [=*junk*] in the basement. ▪ There's always some *shit* going on.
4 [*noncount*] *offensive* : bad or unfair behavior or treatment ▪ Do what I say, and don't ***give me any shit***. ▪ He's a tough teacher who won't ***take shit*** from anyone.
5 [*count*] *offensive* : a very bad or annoying person ▪ He's been acting like a total *shit*.
6 *offensive* **a *the shit*** — used for emphasis after words like *beat, scare, surprise*, etc. ▪ I'm going to *beat/kick the* (living) *shit* out of you! ▪ She *surprised the shit* out of me. **b** — used as an interjection ▪ *Shit*! I dropped my coffee! ▪ Oh, *shit*. Here she comes.
get/pull your shit together *US, offensive* : to begin to live in a good and sensible way : to stop being confused, foolish, etc. ▪ I really need to *get my shit together* and start looking for a job. ▪ He can never seem to *pull his shit together* enough to keep a job.
give a shit *offensive* : to care at all about someone or something — usually used in negative statements ▪ I *don't give a shit* what happens.
in deep shit *also Brit* ***in the shit*** *offensive* : in a lot of trouble ▪ If his parents find out, he'll be *in deep shit*.
like shit *offensive* : very bad ▪ The food tasted *like shit*. : very badly ▪ She treats him *like shit*. ✧ If you ***feel like shit***, you feel very sick, unhappy, etc. ▪ I got drunk at the party, and the next morning I *felt like shit*. [=I felt sick] ▪ When I saw how badly I had hurt his feelings, I *felt like shit*.
no shit *offensive* — used to show that you are surprised or impressed by what has been said ▪ "They got married." "*No shit*!" — often used in an ironic way when someone makes an obvious statement ▪ "It's cold out there." "*No shit*." [=*no kidding*]
shit happens *offensive* — used to say that bad things happen as part of life and cannot be prevented
the shit hits the fan *offensive* — used to describe what happens when people find out about something that makes them very angry ▪ I told him I was dropping out of school and *the shit hit the fan*.

[2]shit *verb* **shits; shit** *or* **shat** /ˈʃæt/; **shit•ting** *informal*
1 [*no obj*] *offensive* : to pass solid waste from the body : DEFECATE
2 [+ *obj*] *US, offensive* : to try to deceive or trick (someone) ▪ Are you *shitting* me?!
shit yourself *or US* ***shit your pants*** *offensive* : to become so afraid, surprised, worried, etc., that you defecate ▪ He jumped out from behind a tree and I nearly *shit my pants*.

shit–faced *adj, US, informal + offensive* : very drunk ▪ He went out last night and got *shit-faced*.

shit•head /ˈʃɪtˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] *informal + offensive* : a very annoying, stupid, or unpleasant person ▪ He's acting like a complete *shithead*.

shit•less /ˈʃɪtləs/ *adv, informal + offensive* : very much : to a very high degree — used for emphasis ▪ I was bored/scared *shitless*.

shit•load /ˈʃɪtˌloʊd/ *noun, pl* **-loads** [*count*] *informal + offensive* : a very large amount of something ▪ You're in a *shitload* of trouble. ▪ They have *shitloads* of money.

shit•ty /ˈʃɪti/ *adj* **shit•ti•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal + offensive*
1 : very bad or unpleasant ▪ What *shitty* weather!
2 : cruel or unkind ▪ He's been pretty *shitty* to her lately.

[1]shiv•er /ˈʃɪvɚ/ *verb* **-ers; -ered; -er•ing** [*no obj*] : to shake slightly because you are cold, afraid, etc. ▪ It was so cold that I was *shivering*. ▪ She was *shivering* [=*trembling*] with fear/excitement.

[2]shiver *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a small shaking movement caused by cold or strong emotion ▪ She felt a *shiver* of delight/pleasure when she opened the gift. ▪ Her performance was so brilliant that it ***sent shivers up (and down) my spine***. [=it thrilled or excited me] ▪ The look in his eyes ***gave me the shivers***. [=made me very afraid]

shiv•ery /ˈʃɪvəri/ *adj*
1 : shaking because of cold, fear, illness, etc. ▪ He woke up feeling sweaty and *shivery*.
2 *always used before a noun, US, informal* : causing shivers ▪ *shivery* [=*cold*] weather ▪ a *shivery* [=*scary*] horror story

shmooze *variant spelling of* SCHMOOZE

[1]shoal /ˈʃoʊl/ *noun, pl* **shoals** [*count*]
1 : an area where the water in a sea, lake, or river is not deep ▪ fish lurking in the *shoals*
2 : a small, raised area of sand just below the surface of the water ▪ The boat ran aground on the *shoal*.
– compare [2]SHOAL

[2]shoal *noun, pl* **shoals** [*count*] : a large group or number — often + *of* ▪ a *shoal* [=(more commonly) *school*] *of* fish ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) a *shoal of* letters from angry readers — compare [1]SHOAL

[1]shock /ˈʃɑːk/ *noun, pl* **shocks**
1 a [*count*] : a sudden usually unpleasant or upsetting feeling caused by something unexpected — usually singular ▪ If you haven't been there for a while, prepare yourself for a *shock*: the place has changed a lot. ▪ a terrible/nasty *shock* ▪ You're ***in for a big/rude shock*** if you think this job will be easy. — often + *of* ▪ the *shock of* discovering that someone you love has betrayed you ▪ He got the ***shock of his life*** [=he was very unpleasantly surprised] when he saw his own name on the list. — see also CULTURE SHOCK, STICKER SHOCK **b** [*count*] : something unexpected that causes a sudden usually unpleasant or upsetting feeling — usually singular ▪ Seeing his parents at the rock concert was a *shock*. ▪ Her death ***came as a shock*** to the family. ▪ It *came as* quite *a shock*. ▪ It is ***something of a shock*** to learn/discover that she is guilty. **c** [*noncount*] : a state in which you are experiencing a sudden usually unpleasant or upsetting feeling because of something unexpected ▪ She stood there ***in shock*** as he told her what had happened. ▪ They were ***in a state of shock*** after hearing the news. = They were *in shock* over the news. **d** [*count*] : a sudden bad change in something ▪ Unfortunately, it's the poor who are most vulnerable to this kind of economic *shock*. ▪ oil/energy price *shocks*
2 [*noncount*] *medical* : a serious condition in which the body is not able to get enough blood to all the parts of the body ✧ Shock is caused by a severe injury, a large loss of blood, etc. ▪ She was treated/hospitalized for *shock* after the accident. ▪ He was ***in (a state of) shock***. = He was ***suffering from shock***. — see also SHELL SHOCK, TOXIC SHOCK SYNDROME
3 [*count*] : the effect of a strong charge of electricity passing through the body of a person or animal — usually singular ▪ When the wires touched, I got a *shock*. ▪ an electric *shock* ▪ I walked across the carpet and then got a *shock* when I touched the metal doorknob.
4 [*count*] : SHOCK ABSORBER — usually plural ▪ The car needs new *shocks*.
5 : a violent shake [*count*] an earthquake *shock* ▪ The building is made to withstand large *shocks*. — often + *of* ▪ the *shock of* the explosion [*noncount*] The car's bumper absorbs *shock* on impact.
a shock to the/your system : something that has a sudden and usually unpleasant effect on you ▪ The cold weather was *a shock to my system* after being in the tropics. ▪ For freshmen, college life can be *a* real *shock to the system*.
– compare [4]SHOCK

[2]shock *verb* **shocks; shocked; shock•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to surprise and usually upset (someone) ▪ The attack *shocked* the world. ▪ His anger *shocked* us. — often used as *(be) shocked* ▪ They *were shocked* to discover/learn that their son was taking drugs. — often + *at* or *by* ▪ I *am shocked at/by* how easy it was to do. ▪ Everyone *was* deeply *shocked at/by* her behavior. ▪ We *were shocked by* the news of her

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death. — often + *into* ▪ We *were shocked into* silence by what we saw. [=we were so surprised and upset by what we saw that we could not say anything] ▪ The news was so upsetting that people *were* finally *shocked into* (taking) action.

2 : to cause (someone) to feel horror or disgust [+ *obj*] He enjoys *shocking* his readers. ▪ I was *shocked* by their bad language. [*no obj*] The art exhibit is meant to *shock*.

– **shocked** *adj* ▪ She had a *shocked* look on her face. ▪ He stood in *shocked* silence after hearing the news.

[3]shock *adj, always used before a noun* — used to describe something that surprises and usually upsets people ▪ Bikinis have lost their *shock* effect. [=bikinis no longer shock people] ▪ It was a *shock* [=very surprising] defeat/victory for the team. ▪ He dresses as a woman for ***shock value***. [=in order to shock people] ▪ I don't think there's anything wrong with using ***shock tactics*** [=actions, images, stories, etc., that surprise and upset people] to discourage people from driving while drunk. ▪ ***shock radio/TV*** [=radio/television programs that are meant to shock and usually offend people]

shock horror *Brit, informal* — used to say that you are surprised by something unpleasant or upsetting when you really are not ▪ Teenagers are—*shock horror*—having sex.

[4]shock *noun, pl* **shocks** [*count*] : a thick and full mass of hair — usually singular ▪ a *shock of* hair — compare [1]SHOCK

shock absorber *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a device that is connected to the wheel of a vehicle in order to reduce the effects of traveling on a rough surface ▪ The car needs new *shock absorbers*.

shock•er /'ʃɑ:kɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal* : something that shocks people ▪ The ending of the movie is a real *shocker*. ▪ Their divorce was a *shocker*.

shock•ing /'ʃɑ:kɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : very surprising and upsetting or causing a sudden feeling of horror or disgust ▪ a *shocking* crime ▪ The fact that he was married to another woman was a *shocking* discovery. = It was *shocking* to discover that he was married to another woman. ▪ *shocking* news ▪ The number of young teenagers who smoke is *shocking*.

2 *chiefly Brit, informal* : very bad ▪ a *shocking* waste of money/time ▪ The building is in a *shocking* state.

– **shock•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ The movie was *shockingly* violent.

shocking pink *noun* [*noncount*] : a very bright pink color

– **shocking–pink** *adj* ▪ a *shocking-pink* dress

shock jock *noun, pl* ~ **jocks** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a person who talks on the radio and says things that are offensive to many people : a radio disc jockey who says shocking things

shock•proof /'ʃɑ:kˌpru:f/ *adj* : not damaged if dropped, hit, etc. : resistant to shock ▪ The watch is supposed to be waterproof and *shockproof*.

shock therapy *noun* [*noncount*] : a treatment for mental illness in which the patient is given electric shocks — called also *ECT, electroconvulsive therapy, shock treatment*

shock troops *noun* [*plural*]

1 : troops who are specially trained for sudden attacks against an enemy ▪ *Shock troops* were sent in for a surprise attack.

2 : a group of people who are very active in fighting for a cause ▪ the *shock troops* of the civil rights movement

shock wave *noun, pl* ~ **waves** [*count*]

1 : a movement of extremely high air pressure that is caused by an explosion, an earthquake, etc.

2 : a usually negative response or reaction that many people have to a particular thing ▪ The decision created a *shock wave* of criticism. — usually plural ▪ The court's ruling sent *shock waves* throughout the nation.

shod /'ʃɑ:d/ *adj, literary* : wearing shoes — often + *in* ▪ His feet were *shod in* slippers. = He was *shod in* slippers. [=he was wearing slippers]

shod•dy /'ʃɑ:di/ *adj* **shod•di•er**; **-est** : poorly done or made ▪ *shoddy* work/workmanship/furniture/goods ▪ They gave a *shoddy* performance. ▪ *shoddy* journalism

– **shod•di•ly** /'ʃɑ:dəli/ *adv* ▪ a *shoddily* built barn ▪ a *shoddily* managed business – **shod•di•ness** /'ʃɑ:dinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]shoe /'ʃu:/ *noun, pl* **shoes**

1 [*count*] : an outer covering for your foot that usually has a stiff bottom part called a sole with a thicker part called a heel attached to it and an upper part that covers part or all of the top of your foot ▪ She bought a pair of *shoes*. ▪ He took off his *shoes* and socks. ▪ high-heeled *shoes* ▪ dress *shoes* [=shoes for formal events or times] ▪ athletic/running *shoes* ▪ *shoe* polish ▪ a *shoe* store/shop

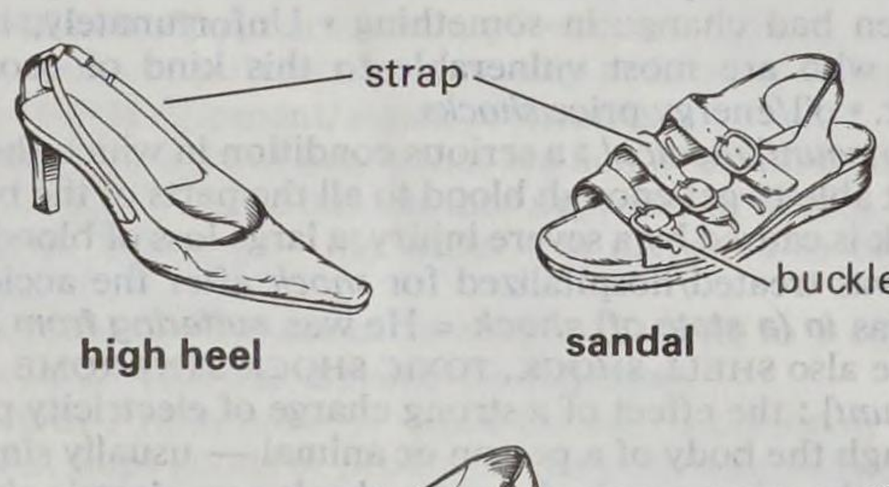
2 *shoes* [*plural*] : another person's situation or position ▪ I wouldn't want to be ***in his shoes*** right now. ▪ Anyone *in her shoes* would have done the same thing. ▪ Try to ***put yourself in their shoes*** [=try to imagine yourself in their situation] and think of how you would want to be treated. ▪ I don't think anyone will be able to ***fill her shoes*** [=do what she does as well as she does it] after she retires. ▪ He ***stepped into the shoes*** [=took the role] of president with ease.

3 [*count*] : a flat U-shaped piece of iron that is nailed to the bottom of a horse's hoof : HORSESHOE

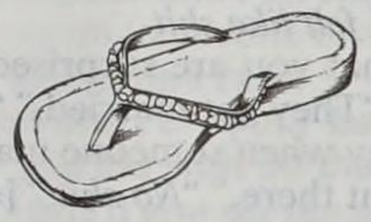
4 [*count*] : the part of a brake that presses on the wheel of a vehicle — usually plural ▪ The brake *shoes* are worn out.

if the shoe fits *or* ***if the shoe fits, wear it*** *US* — used to say that something said or suggested about a person is true and that the person should accept it as true ▪ "Are you calling me a cheater?" "Well, *if the shoe fits, wear it*." [=(*Brit*) *if the cap fits, wear it*]

shoe



high heel **sandal**



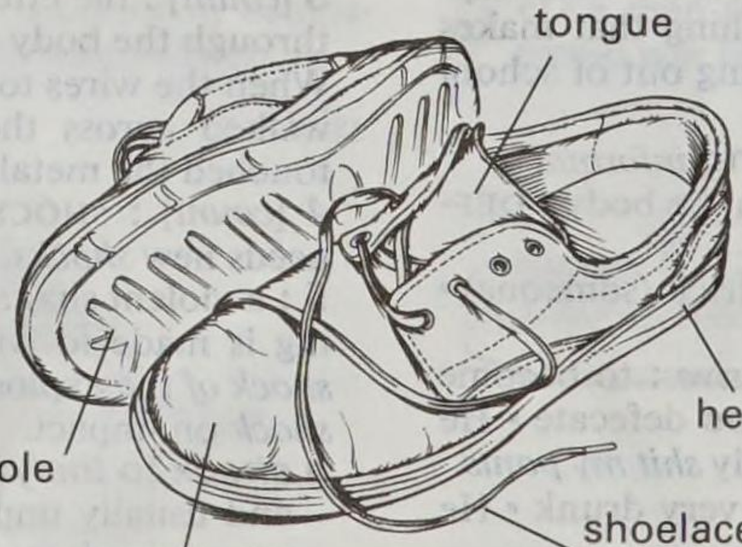
flip-flop, thong (*US*)



sneaker (*US*), trainer (*Brit*)



pump (*US*), court shoe (*Brit*)





clog



slipper



cowboy boot



loafer



moccasin



wingtip (*US*)



work boot

S

the shoe is on the other foot see ¹FOOT

²shoe *verb* **shoes**; **shod** /ˈʃɑːd/ *also chiefly US* **shoed** /ˈʃuːd/; **shoe•ing** /ˈʃuːwɪŋ/ [+ *obj*] : to put a horseshoe on (a horse) ▪ The blacksmith *shod* the horse. ▪ The horse was taken to be *shod*.

shoe•box /ˈʃuːˌbɑːks/ *noun, pl* **-box•es** [*count*]
1 : a box that shoes are sold in
2 : a very small home, apartment, room, etc. ▪ Their apartment was just a *shoebox*.

¹shoe•horn /ˈʃuːˌhoɚn/ *noun, pl* **-horns** [*count*] : a curved device that you use to slide the heel of your foot into a shoe

²shoehorn *verb* **-horns**; **-horned**; **-horn•ing** [+ *obj*] : to force (something or someone) into a small space, a short period of time, etc. ▪ A parking garage has been *shoehorned* between the buildings. ▪ She's trying to *shoehorn* a year's worth of classes into a single semester. ▪ I don't know how they managed to *shoehorn* everyone into that little room.

shoe•lace /ˈʃuːˌleɪs/ *noun, pl* **-lac•es** [*count*] : a long, thin material like a string that is used for fastening a shoe ▪ Tie your *shoelaces*. ▪ Your *shoelace* is undone/untied. — called also *lace*, (*US*) *shoestring*; see picture at SHOE

shoe•mak•er /ˈʃuːˌmeɪkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who makes or repairs shoes
– **shoe•mak•ing** /ˈʃuːˌmeɪkɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

shoe•shine /ˈʃuːˌʃaɪn/ *noun, pl* **-shines** [*count*] : the act of polishing someone's shoes in exchange for money — usually singular ▪ Mister, would you like a *shoeshine*? — often used before another noun ▪ a *shoeshine* boy/man [=a boy/man who earns money by polishing/shining shoes] ▪ a *shoeshine* stand

shoe•string /ˈʃuːˌstrɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-strings**
1 [*count*] *US* : SHOELACE
2 [*singular*] *informal* : a small amount of money — usually used in the phrase ***on a shoestring*** ▪ She started/began the business *on a shoestring*. [=using very little money] ▪ The newspaper operates/runs *on a shoestring*. ▪ The movie was made *on a shoestring*. — often used before another noun ▪ The business is operating on a *shoestring* budget. ▪ The store is a *shoestring* operation right now.

shoestring catch *noun, pl* ~ **catches** [*count*] *baseball* : a catch made when the ball is just above the ground ▪ The left fielder made a *shoestring catch*.

shoestring potatoes *noun* [*plural*] *US* : potatoes cut into very thin long pieces and fried in deep fat : very thin french fries

shoe tree *noun, pl* ~ **trees** [*count*] : a device shaped like a foot that is placed inside a shoe when it is not being worn to keep it the right shape

sho•gun /ˈʃoʊgən/ *noun, pl* **-guns** [*count*] : any one of the military leaders who ruled Japan until the revolution of 1867–68

shone *past tense and past participle of* ¹SHINE

¹shoo /ˈʃuː/ *interj* — used when repeatedly moving your hand away from you in a short motion with your fingers down to tell an animal or person to leave ▪ *Shoo*! Get out of here!

²shoo *verb* **shoos**; **shooed**; **shoo•ing** [+ *obj*] : to tell (an animal or person) to leave ▪ We tried to help her, but she *shooed* us away. ▪ He *shooed* the cat out of the house.

shoo–in /ˈʃuːˌɪn/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : someone or something that will win easily or is certain to win ▪ The horse is a *shoo-in* to win the race. — often + *for* ▪ a *shoo-in for* the tournament/job/award

shook *past tense of* ¹SHAKE

¹shoot /ˈʃuːt/ *verb* **shoots**; **shot** /ˈʃɑːt/; **shoot•ing**
1 a : to cause a bullet, arrow, etc., to move forward with great force from a weapon [*no obj*] Does this gun *shoot* accurately? ▪ Don't *shoot*. I surrender. ▪ He *shot* at the deer. ▪ The enemy was *shooting* at the rescue helicopter. ▪ The sniper was ***shooting to kill***. [=shooting with the purpose of killing someone] [+ *obj*] She *shot* the arrow into the air. ▪ I tried *shooting* a gun for the first time. ▪ He *shot* a spitball into the girl's hair. ▪ a stunt in which she was *shot* from a cannon **b** [+ *obj*] : to wound or kill (a person or animal) with a bullet, arrow, etc., that is shot from a weapon ▪ He *shot* two deer this hunting season. ▪ The police *shot* the suspect in the leg. ▪ She accidentally *shot* herself in the foot. ▪ Two people were ***shot dead*** [=killed with bullets] during the robbery. ▪ The guards were ordered to ***shoot on sight*** anyone who tried to escape. [=to immediately shoot anyone they saw trying to escape] **c** [+ *obj*] : to remove or destroy (something) with a bullet, rocket, etc., that is shot from a weapon — often + *off* ▪ He *shot* the lock *off* the door. — often + *out* ▪ She *shot out* the lights.
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** : to go, move, or pass quickly and suddenly in a particular direction or to a particular place [*no obj*] They *shot* past us on skis. ▪ A cat *shot* [=*darted*] across the street. ▪ Sparks from the fire were *shooting* all over. ▪ A sharp pain *shot* through her chest. ▪ The album *shot* straight to number one on the charts. [+ *obj*] The frog *shot* out its tongue at a fly. ▪ The album *shot* the band straight to the top of the charts. **b** : to flow forcefully or to cause (something) to flow forcefully in a particular direction or to a particular place [*no obj*] Blood was *shooting* [=*spurting*] from her neck. [+ *obj*] The snake *shot* venom into his eyes.
3 a *sports* : to kick, hit, or throw (a basketball, hockey puck, etc.) toward or into a goal [+ *obj*] She *shot* the ball from midfield. ▪ He *shot* the eight ball into the side pocket. [*no obj*] He *shoots*; he scores! ▪ You can't really play hockey if you don't have a goal to *shoot* at. **b** [+ *obj*] *basketball* : to score (a goal) by shooting ▪ He *shot* 10 field goals during the game. ▪ She is outside ***shooting baskets***. [=practicing basketball] **c** [+ *obj*] *golf* : to achieve (a particular score) ▪ She *shot* an 81. ▪ He *shot* a hole in one. **d** [+ *obj*] : to play (a sport or game) ▪ They are in the back *shooting* craps/dice. ✧ This sense is usually used with sports or games that involve shooting a ball. ▪ They *shot* a round of golf. ▪ Let's *shoot* some pool. ▪ (*US, informal*) Let's *shoot* some hoops. [=let's play basketball]
4 : to film or photograph (something) [+ *obj*] The movie was *shot* in Australia. ▪ The scene was *shot* in slow motion. ▪ Where did you *shoot* [=*take*] this photo? [*no obj*] The director says we'll begin *shooting* [=*filming*] next week.
5 [+ *obj*] : to direct (a look, comment, etc.) at (someone) quickly and suddenly ▪ She *shot* her sister a disapproving glance/look. — usually + *at* ▪ She *shot* a disapproving glance/look *at* her sister. ▪ He *shot* some angry words *at* me when the others left the room.
6 [*no obj*] *US, informal* — used to tell someone to begin to speak ▪ You wanted to tell me something? OK, *shoot*. ▪ "Can I ask you a few questions?" "*Shoot*."
7 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to inject (an illegal drug) into a vein ▪ She began *shooting* heroin when she was 20.
have shot your bolt see ¹BOLT
shoot daggers at see DAGGER
shoot down [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***shoot down (something) or shoot (something) down*** **a** : to cause (something) to fall to the ground by hitting it with a bullet, rocket, etc., that is shot from a weapon ▪ The helicopter was *shot down*. **b** : to end or defeat (something) ▪ The bill was *shot down* in the Senate. ▪ Her hopes were *shot down*. **c** : to reject (something) completely ▪ My idea was immediately *shot down*. = My idea was ***shot down in flames***. **2** ***shoot down (someone) or shoot (someone) down*** **a** : to kill (someone) with a bullet shot from a gun ▪ He was *shot down* in cold blood. ▪ Someone *shot* him *down*. **b** *informal* : to refuse to accept the offer made by (someone) ▪ I asked her on a date, but she *shot* me *down*. [=she said no to me]
shoot for [*phrasal verb*] ***shoot for (something)*** *chiefly US, informal* : to have (something) as a goal ▪ "When would you like to have this completed by?" "Let's *shoot for* [=*aim for*] Friday."
shoot for the moon see ¹MOON
shoot from the hip : to act or speak quickly without thinking about the possible results ▪ I admit I'm *shooting from the hip* here, but I think it's a decent idea.
shoot it out : to shoot guns at someone during a fight until one side is killed or defeated ▪ The two gangs *shot it out* in the street. — often + *with* ▪ The escaped convict *shot it out with* the police. — see also SHOOT-OUT
shoot off [*phrasal verb*] *Brit, informal* : to leave a place quickly and suddenly ▪ I have to *shoot off* to my next appointment.
shoot the breeze *also* ***shoot the bull*** *US, informal* : to talk informally about unimportant things ▪ I enjoy *shooting the breeze* with my neighbors.
shoot the messenger see MESSENGER
shoot the rapids : to move quickly in a river where the water flows very fast usually over rocks ▪ whitewater rafters *shooting the rapids*
shoot the shit *US, informal + offensive* : to talk informally about unimportant things : to shoot the breeze
shoot up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to grow or increase quickly and

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suddenly ▪ He *shot up* to six feet tall over the summer. ▪ Sales have *shot up* this month. **2 *shoot up or shoot up (something)*** *informal* : to inject an illegal drug into a vein ▪ They *shot up* before the party. ▪ *shooting up* heroin **3 *shoot up (something) or shoot (something) up*** : to shoot many bullets at or inside (something) ▪ He walked in and just started *shooting up* the place. ▪ He *shot* the place *up*.

shoot your mouth off *also* ***shoot off at the mouth*** *informal* : to talk foolishly, carelessly, or too much about something ▪ She tends to *shoot her mouth off*. ▪ Try not to *shoot your mouth off* about this to anyone.

shoot yourself in the foot *informal* : to do or say something that causes trouble for yourself ▪ By complaining about this you're only bringing attention to your mistakes. You're *shooting yourself in the foot*.

[2]shoot *noun, pl* **shoots** [*count*]

1 a : the part of a new plant that is just beginning to grow above the ground **b** : a new branch and its leaves on an established plant ▪ Small green *shoots* grew from the base of the tree.

2 a : an occasion when a movie, television show, etc., is being filmed ▪ She is currently on a ***movie shoot*** in London. **b** : PHOTO SHOOT

3 *chiefly Brit* **a** : an occasion when people hunt and kill wild animals ▪ They went on a duck *shoot*. [=*hunt*] **b** : a piece of usually privately owned land that is used for hunting ▪ a 5,000-acre *shoot*

[3]shoot *interj, US* — used to show that you are annoyed or surprised ▪ "We've missed the train!" "Oh, *shoot*!"

shoot•around /'ʃu:tə,raʊnd/ *noun, pl* **-arounds** [*count*] *US* : a usually informal basketball practice

shoot–'em–up /'ʃu:təm,ʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *informal* : a movie, television show, or video game that has a lot of killing with guns, bombs, etc.

shoot•er /'ʃu:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 a : a person who shoots a weapon ▪ The police are looking for the *shooter*. — see also SHARPSHOOTER **b** : a person who throws, kicks, or hits a ball or puck

2 : a small amount (called a shot) of liquor (such as whiskey or tequila) often mixed with another liquid ▪ a whiskey *shooter*

– see also SIX-SHOOTER, TROUBLESHOOTER

[1]shooting *adj, always used before a noun*

1 a : relating to the act of shooting a gun ▪ a *shooting* range **b** : relating to an occurrence in which a person is shot with a gun ▪ The *shooting* victims [=the people who were shot] remain hospitalized. ▪ a *shooting* death [=a death caused by being shot]

2 : relating to the action of photographing or filming someone or something ▪ the movie's *shooting* schedule

3 : moving through part of your body in sudden painful bursts ▪ I've been having *shooting* pains in my leg.

[2]shooting *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*count*] : an occurrence in which a person is shot with a gun ▪ There was a *shooting* last night.

2 [*noncount*] : the activity or sport of killing wild animals with a gun ▪ They are ***going shooting*** [=(more commonly) *going hunting*] this weekend.

3 [*noncount*] : the action of photographing or filming someone or something ▪ *Shooting* of the movie begins next week.

shooting gallery *noun, pl* ~ **-ler•ies** [*count*] : a place where people shoot guns at objects for practice or to win prizes

shooting guard *noun, pl* ~ **guards** [*count*] *basketball* : a player who is one of the two guards on a team and whose main role is to score points

shooting match *noun*

the whole shooting match *informal* : the entire thing : EVERYTHING ▪ They said that they would pay for the food, music, decorations—*the whole shooting match*.

shooting star *noun, pl* ~ **stars** [*count*] : a streak of light in the night sky that looks like a star falling but that is actually a piece of rock or metal (called a meteor) falling from outer space into the Earth's atmosphere

shoot–out /'ʃu:t,aʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*]

1 : a fight in which people shoot guns at each other until one side is killed or defeated

2 *soccer or hockey* : a competition that is used to decide the winner at the end of a tie game by giving each team a particular number of chances to shoot the ball or puck into the goal

3 : a competition between two people or groups that remains very close until the end ▪ The two studios are in a *shoot-out* for the movie rights to the novel.

[1]shop /'ʃɑ:p/ *noun, pl* **shops**

1 [*count*] **a** : a building or room where goods and services are sold — see also BARBERSHOP, BOOKSHOP, COFFEE SHOP, PAWNSHOP, PRO SHOP, SPECIALTY SHOP, THRIFT SHOP

> ***usage*** In U.S. English, *store* is more common than *shop*. When *shop* is used, it is usually for particular types of small businesses that sell one kind of product or service. *Store* is used for both small and large businesses, especially ones that sell many kinds of goods and services. In British English *store* is only used for large businesses that sell many kinds of goods and services and for a few types of smaller business that sell equipment. ▪ (*US + Brit*) a gift/sandwich/doughnut/flower *shop* ▪ (*US + Brit*) an antique *shop* [=(*US*) *store*] ▪ (*US + Brit*) a pet/card *shop* [=(*US*, more commonly) *store*] ▪ (*Brit*) a computer *shop* [=(*US + Brit*) *store*] ▪ (*Brit*) a hardware *shop* [=(*US + Brit*) *store*] ▪ (*Brit*) The *shops* [=(*US*) *stores*] are always crowded around the holiday season. ▪ (*Brit*) I'm going to ***the shops*** this afternoon. [=(*US*) I'm going shopping this afternoon; I'm going to stores to look at and buy things]

b : the place where a specified kind of worker works : a worker's place of business ▪ (*US*) the butcher *shop* = (*Brit*) the butcher's *shop* ▪ (*Brit*) a ***chemist's shop*** [=(*US*) *drugstore*]

2 [*count*] : a place for making or repairing goods, machinery, vehicles, etc. ▪ a repair *shop* ▪ I took the car to the *shop* to get new brakes. — see also BODY SHOP, MACHINE SHOP, SWEATSHOP, WORKSHOP

3 [*noncount*] *US* : a class in school in which students are taught to work with tools and machinery ▪ I am taking *shop* this semester. ▪ I made a table in *shop*.; *also* [*count*] : a room in which a shop class is taught ▪ The wood/metal *shop* is down the hall.

4 [*noncount*] *informal* : talk that is related to or about your work or special interests : SHOPTALK ▪ They are always ***talking shop***.

5 [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : the activity of shopping for food or other things that are needed regularly ▪ I did my weekly *shop*. [=(*US*) (*grocery/food*) *shopping*]

a bull in a china shop see [1]BULL

all over the shop *Brit* : all over the place : EVERYWHERE

close up shop see [1]CLOSE

mind the shop see [2]MIND

set up shop : to start a business or activity in a particular place ▪ The restaurant *set up shop* three blocks from here. ▪ He moved to France, where he *set up shop* as a writer. ▪ I *set up shop* in the living room and made phone calls all afternoon.

[2]shop *verb* **shops; shopped; shop•ping**

1 : to visit places where goods are sold in order to look at and buy things [*no obj*] Where do you like to *shop*? ▪ I like to *shop* at locally owned stores. ▪ They *shopped* all day. = They spent the day *shopping*. ▪ She is *shopping* for a new car. ▪ He is out *shopping*. ▪ Many people now *shop* online. [+ *obj*] (*US*) They ***shopped the store(s)*** in search of gift ideas. [=looked throughout the store(s) for a gift to buy] — see also COMPARISON SHOP, WINDOW-SHOP

2 [+ *obj*] *US* : to try to get a company to publish or produce (something) ▪ She's *shopping* her idea for a film. — often + *around* ▪ He *shopped* his manuscript *around*, but no publishers were interested.

3 [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : to give information about the secret or criminal activity of (someone) to an authority (such as the police) ▪ His own mother *shopped* him to the police.

shop around [*phrasal verb*] : to visit several different places where a thing is sold in order to find the most suitable item or service for the lowest price ▪ She is *shopping around* for a new car. ▪ *Shop around* first before you buy a car. ▪ She is *shopping around* for a bank with low fees. — see also [2]SHOP 2 (above)

– **shop•per** /'ʃɑ:pɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] ▪ The stores were crowded with *shoppers*. ▪ Christmas *shoppers* [=people who are shopping for Christmas gifts]

shop•a•hol•ic /,ʃɑ:pə'hɑ:lɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] *informal* : a person who likes to shop very much

shop–bought *adj, Brit* : STORE-BOUGHT

shop floor *noun* [*singular*] *Brit* : the area where products are made in a factory ▪ proper safety procedures for the *shop floor* ▪ managerial control of the *shop floor* [=of the workers in a factory]

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shop front *noun, pl* ~ **fronts** [*count*] : STOREFRONT

shop•keep•er /ˈʃɑːpˌkiːpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who owns or manages a shop or store : STOREKEEPER

shop•lift /ˈʃɑːpˌlɪft/ *verb* **-lifts; -lift•ed; -lift•ing** : to steal things from a shop or store [*no obj*] The manager saw the kids *shoplift* and called the police. • He was caught *shoplifting*. [+ *obj*] The kids *shoplifted* candy from the store. – **shop•lift•er** /ˈʃɑːpˌlɪftɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] • Police watched for *shoplifters*. – **shoplifting** *noun* [*noncount*] • She was arrested for *shoplifting*.

shoppe /ˈʃɑːp/ *noun, pl* **shoppes** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : [1]SHOP 1a — used in the names of small businesses that sell one type of product or service • Amy's Toy *Shoppe* • a new mall called "The *Shoppes* at Woodford Hills"

shopping *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the activity of visiting places where goods are sold in order to look at and buy things (such as food, clothing, etc.) • We ***do*** (our) grocery ***shopping*** once a week. = We ***go*** grocery ***shopping*** once a week. [=we shop for groceries once a week] • I can *do* your *shopping* for you. • When are you going to *do* the *shopping*? • I'm *going shopping*. [=(*Brit*) *going to the shops*] • We *went shopping* for a gift at the mall. — often used before another noun • a *shopping* area/basket/cart • We're going on a *shopping* trip in New York City. • a ***shopping bag*** [=(*Brit*) *carrier bag*; a bag that a store gives you to carry any items you have bought there] • We went on a ***shopping spree***. [=we bought a lot of things in a short period of time]

2 *Brit* : the things that are bought at a shop or store • Put the *shopping* in the car.

shopping cart *noun, pl* ~ **carts** [*count*] : [1]CART 2

shopping center (*US*) *or Brit* **shopping centre** *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count*] : a group of shops or stores in one area — called also *shopping plaza*

shopping list *noun, pl* ~ **lists** [*count*]

1 : a list of things to be bought at a shop or store

2 : a long list of related things • a *shopping list* [=*laundry list*] of things to be fixed around the house

shopping mall *noun, pl* ~ **malls** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a large building or group of buildings containing many different stores : MALL

shop–soiled /ˈʃɑːpˌsojəld/ *adj, Brit* : SHOPWORN

shop steward *noun, pl* ~ **-ards** [*count*] : a member of a labor union in a factory or company who is elected by the other members to meet with the managers

shop•talk /ˈʃɑːpˌtɑːk/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : talk that is related to your work or special interests • There was a lot of *shoptalk* at the office party.

shop•worn /ˈʃɑːpˌwoɚn/ *adj, US*

1 : faded or damaged from being in a shop or store for too long • *shopworn* [=(*Brit*) *shop-soiled*] books/goods

2 : not interesting because of being used too often • *shopworn* [=(*Brit*) *shop-soiled*] stories/sayings/clichés

[1]shore /ˈʃoɚ/ *noun, pl* **shores**

1 : the land along the edge of an area of water (such as an ocean, lake, etc.) [*count*] a rocky/sandy *shore* [=*coast*] • Houses were built on the *shores* of the lake. • The boat ***hugged the shore***. [=stayed close to the shore] [*noncount*] We swam to *shore*. • The boat was about a mile from *shore*. • The boat headed for *shore*.

2 ***shores*** [*plural*] *literary* : a country that touches a sea or ocean : a country that has a coast • My family came to these *shores* [=came to this country] 100 years ago. • The plant was brought to our *shores* from Europe. • We arrived on American/British *shores*.

[2]shore *verb* **shores; shored; shor•ing**

shore up [*phrasal verb*] ***shore (something) up*** *or* ***shore up (something)*** **1** : to support (something) or keep (something) from falling by placing something under or against it • They *shored up* [=*propped up*] the roof/wall. **2** : to support or help (something) • The tax cuts are supposed to *shore up* the economy. • The new player should *shore up* the team's defense.

shore leave *noun* [*noncount*] : official permission for a sailor to leave a ship and go onto land for a period of time

shore•line /ˈʃoɚˌlaɪn/ *noun, pl* **-lines** : the land along the edge of an area of water (such as an ocean, lake, etc.) : a coast or shore [*count*] rocky *shorelines* • The road runs along the *shoreline*. [*noncount*] 1,000 miles of *shoreline*

shorn *past participle of* SHEAR

[1]short /ˈʃoɚt/ *adj* **short•er; -est**

1 a : extending a small distance from one end to the other end : having little length : not long • Her hair is *short*. = She has *short* hair. • It's just a *short* distance from here. = It's just a *short* distance away. • the *shortest* rope • One of my legs is slightly *shorter* than the other. • The coat is *short* on him. = The coat is too *short* for him. [=the coat should be longer in order to fit him correctly] **b** : not great in distance • a *short* walk/drive/trip • This way is *shorter*. **c** : having little height : not tall • He is *short* for his age. • a *short* girl

2 a : lasting or continuing for a small amount of time : BRIEF • a *short* delay/vacation/speech • the *shortest* day of the year • Life's too *short* to worry about the past. • The movie/meeting was very *short*. • You have done a lot in a *short* space/period of time. • a *short* burst of speed • I've only lived here for a *short* time/while. • It's just a *short* walk from here. [=you can walk there from here in a few minutes] • She has a very ***short memory***. [=she forgets about events, conversations, etc., soon after they happen] **b** *always used before a noun* : seeming to pass quickly • She has made great progress in a few *short* years. • He visited for two *short* weeks.

3 : having few pages, items, etc. • a *short* book/poem • I have a list of things I need to do before we go, but it's pretty *short*. • *short* sentences

4 *of clothing* : covering only part of the arms or legs • boys in *short* pants • a shirt with *short* sleeves [=sleeves that end at or above the elbows] • a *short* skirt [=a skirt that ends above the knees and especially several inches above the knees]

5 a : existing in less than the usual or needed amount • We should hurry. Time is *short*. [=we don't have much time] • Money has been *short* lately. [=I haven't had enough money lately] • Gasoline is ***in short supply***. [=little gasoline is available] • (*US*) We can be ready ***on short notice***. = (*Brit*) We can be ready ***at short notice***. [=very quickly] • (*US*) Thank you for meeting with me ***on such short notice***. = (*Brit*) Thank you for meeting with me ***at such short notice***. [=even though you did not know that I wanted to meet with you until a short time ago] **b** *not used before a noun* : having less than what is needed : not having enough of something • I can't pay the bill. I'm a little *short* (of money). [=I don't have enough money] • The team was *short* (by) two players. = The team was two players *short*. — often + *on* • *short on* time/food/money • She's a little *short on* patience today. [=she is feeling somewhat impatient] • He's not *short on* self-confidence. [=he has plenty of self-confidence] • He was long on criticism but *short on* useful advice. [=he was very critical but did not give any useful advice] **c** : less than — used in the phrase ***nothing short of*** to give emphasis to a statement or description • His recovery is *nothing short of* a miracle. = His recovery is *nothing short of* miraculous. [=his recovery is a miracle; his recovery is miraculous] **d** : not reaching far enough • The throw to first base was *short*. • a *short* throw

6 : made smaller by having part removed • a *short* tax form — often + *for* • "Doc" is *short for* "doctor." • "Ben" is *short for* "Benjamin." • "www" is *short for* "World Wide Web."

7 *not used before a noun* : talking to someone in a very brief and unfriendly way : rudely brief • I'm sorry I was *short* [=*abrupt*, *curt*] with you.

8 *linguistics, of a vowel* — used to identify certain vowel sounds in English • long and *short* vowels • the *short* "a" in "bad" • the *short* "e" in "bet" • the *short* "i" in "sit" • the *short* "o" in "hot" • the *short* "u" in "but" — compare [1]LONG 6

a short fuse see [2]FUSE

draw the short straw see [1]DRAW

fall short see [1]FALL

in short order : quickly and without delay • *In short order* the group set up camp. • The papers were organized *in short order*.

make short work of see [2]WORK

short and sweet : pleasantly brief : not lasting a long time or requiring a lot of time • That's the way we like the meetings—*short and sweet*. • I've got a few announcements, but I'll keep it *short and sweet*. [=I will talk for only a few minutes]

short of breath ✧ If you are *short of breath*, it is difficult for you to breathe. • He is overweight and gets *short of breath* [=*out of breath*] just walking to his car. • She was *short of breath* and unable to talk after her run.

the short end of the stick see [1]STICK

– **short•ness** /ˈʃoɚtnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] • I was surprised by the *shortness* of the meeting. • One symptom is ***shortness of breath***.

[2]short *adv* **short•er; -est**

1 : to or at a point that is not as far as expected or desired : to a point not reaching what is needed for something • The

ball fell *short*. • He threw the ball *short*. • He began to run/answer and then ***pulled up short*** [=stopped suddenly and did not finish] • We made as many cookies as we could, but we ***came up short*** [=we had fewer than we needed to have] and there weren't enough for everyone. • Time is ***running short*** [=there is little time left to do, accomplish, etc., something] — often + *of* • He finished in 30 seconds—just one second *short of* the world record. [=he finished in 30 seconds and the world record is 29 seconds] • She quit school a month *short of* [=*before*] graduation. • We ***came up short of*** [=we did not achieve] our goal. • Sales for the month ***came short of*** our estimates. [=we sold less than we had predicted we would sell] • The attack was ***just short of*** a full invasion. • She's *just short of* six feet tall. [=she is almost six feet tall] • The performance was *just short of* perfection. = The performance was (only a) ***little short of*** perfect. • The running back was ***stopped short of*** the goal line. [=was stopped just before the goal line] • He ***stopped well short of*** the line. [=long before reaching the line] • The boss said that she was unhappy with some employees, but she ***stopped short of*** naming which ones. [=but she did not say which employees she was unhappy with] • We have plenty of shirts left, but we're ***running short of*** [=*running out of*] smaller sizes. [=the available supply of smaller sizes is almost used up]

2 : in a sudden manner • The hunter stopped *short* [=*suddenly*] when he saw the deer. • I was wandering through the exhibit when I was ***brought up short*** by a striking photograph. [=when a striking photograph made me suddenly stop]

3 : for or during a short time • Her career was *short*-lasting.

4 : in a way that makes something short • Keep the grass mowed *short*. • Her dark hair was cut/cropped *short*. [=she had short hair]

caught short see ¹CATCH

cut short **:** to end (something) earlier than expected • We had to *cut* our vacation *short*. • The speech was *cut short*. [=the speech was interrupted and not finished]

fall short see ¹FALL

sell (someone or something) short see ¹SELL

short of **:** except for (something) : other than (something) • *Short of* replacing the motor, I have tried everything to fix the car. • *Short of* a catastrophe [=unless something terrible happens], I think we'll succeed.

taken/caught short *Brit, informal* **:** suddenly needing to use a toilet when there is no toilet available

³short *noun, pl* **shorts**

1 *shorts* [*plural*] **a :** pants that end at or above the knees • a pair of *shorts* • Your *shorts* are dirty. • short *shorts* [=shorts that cover very little of the legs] — see color picture on page C14; see also BERMUDA SHORTS **b :** BOXER SHORTS

2 [*count*] **:** a short movie • The *short* before the main movie was very funny.

3 [*count*] **:** SHORT CIRCUIT

4 [*noncount*] *baseball, informal* **:** SHORTSTOP • Who's playing *short*?

5 [*count*] *Brit* **:** a small amount of liquor that you drink quickly : SHOT • a *short* of vodka

for short **:** in a shorter form : as an abbreviation • My name is Benjamin, or Ben *for short*.

in short **:** in a few words — used to indicate that you are saying something in as few words as possible • The trip was, *in short*, a disaster. • *In short* [=*in summary*], the company is doing extremely well.

the long and (the) short of it see ³LONG

⁴short *verb* **shorts; short•ed; short•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **:** to cause (something) to have a short circuit : SHORT-CIRCUIT • The lightning *shorted* the TV. — often + *out* in U.S. English • Water *shorted out* the flashlight.

2 [*no obj*] **:** to stop working because of a short circuit : SHORT-CIRCUIT • The hair dryer must have *shorted*. — often + *out* in U.S. English • The toaster oven *shorted out*.

short•age /ˈʃoɚtɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-ag•es :** a state in which there is not enough of something that is needed [*count*] a gasoline/water *shortage* — often + *of* • a *shortage of* cash/gasoline/teachers/water • ***There is no shortage of*** restaurants [=there are many restaurants] in the city. [*noncount*] (*chiefly Brit*) • periods of food *shortage*

short•bread /ˈʃoɚtˌbrɛd/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a thick cookie made of flour, sugar, and a lot of butter or other shortening

short•cake /ˈʃoɚtˌkeɪk/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *chiefly US* **:** a dessert made with a rich cake that is served with sweetened fruit on top • strawberry *shortcake*

2 *chiefly Brit* **:** SHORTBREAD

short•change /ˈʃoɚtˈʧeɪnʤ/ *verb* **-chang•es; -changed; -chang•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to give (someone) less than the correct amount of change • The cashier *shortchanged* me. I gave her 10 dollars to pay for an $8.95 book, and she only gave me a dollar back.

2 : to give (someone) less than what is expected or deserved • The band *shortchanged* its fans by playing for only 30 minutes. — often used as *(be) shortchanged* • He *was shortchanged* [=*was cheated*] out of a promotion (by the company). • Many people felt they were *being shortchanged* by the policy. = Many people ***felt shortchanged*** by the policy.

short circuit *noun, pl* **~ circuits** [*count*] **:** the failure of electricity to flow properly in a circuit because the wires or connections in the circuit are damaged or not connected properly • The fire was caused by a *short circuit*.

short–circuit *verb* **-circuits; -circuited; -circuiting**

1 a [+ *obj*] **:** to cause (something) to have a short circuit • The lightning *short-circuited* the TV. **b** [*no obj*] **:** to stop working because of a short circuit • The lamp must have *short-circuited*.

2 [+ *obj*] **:** to avoid doing (something) • The owners *short-circuited* [=*bypassed, circumvented*] the required inspection.

3 [+ *obj*] **:** to stop (efforts, plans, etc.) from succeeding • The lawyers *short-circuited* [=*frustrated, impeded*] any attempt to sue the company.

short•com•ing /ˈʃoɚtˌkʌmɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*]

1 : a weakness in someone's character : a personal fault or failing • Her lack of attention to detail is her biggest *shortcoming*. — usually plural • He has many more strengths than *shortcomings*.

2 : a bad feature : a flaw or defect in something • The main/major *shortcoming* of this camera is that it uses up batteries quickly.

short•cut /ˈʃoɚtˌkʌt/ *noun, pl* **-cuts** [*count*]

1 : a shorter, quicker, or easier way to get to a place • Wait, I know a *shortcut*. Turn left here. • We ***took*** a ***shortcut*** home. • Let's *take* the *shortcut* through the woods.

2 : a quicker or easier way to do something • I used a *shortcut* to calculate the total weight. • There are no *shortcuts* to/for learning another language. • Mistakes were made because too many ***shortcuts*** were ***taken***.

short•en /ˈʃoɚtn̩/ *verb* **-ens; -ened; -en•ing**

1 [*no obj*] **:** to become shorter • The days have begun to *shorten*. [=last for a smaller amount of time]

2 [+ *obj*] **:** to make (something) shorter • *shorten* a pair of pants • He had to *shorten* the speech. • Not changing the oil regularly will *shorten* the life of the engine. [=will cause the engine to fail sooner] • "Franklin D. Roosevelt" is often *shortened* to "FDR."

– shortened *adj* • "I've" is the *shortened* form of "I have." • I heard a *shortened* version of the song on the radio.

short•en•ing /ˈʃoɚtnɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a fat (such as butter) that is used in cooking or baking

short•fall /ˈʃoɚtˌfɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-falls** [*count*] *formal* **:** a failure to get what is expected or needed • a *shortfall* in milk production • profit *shortfalls* • We had a budget *shortfall*. [=our costs were higher than the available amount of money]; *also* **:** the amount of such a failure • a $2 million *shortfall* = a *shortfall* of $2 million [=$2 million less than is needed]

short•hair /ˈʃoɚtˌheɚ/ *noun, pl* **-hairs** [*count*] **:** a cat that has short, thick fur — compare LONGHAIR

short–haired *adj* **:** having short fur or hair • *short-haired* cats • a *short-haired* student — opposite LONG-HAIRED

short•hand /ˈʃoɚtˌhænd/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a method of writing quickly by using symbols or abbreviations for sounds, words, or phrases : STENOGRAPHY • The notes were written ***in shorthand***. [=using special symbols] • The secretary ***takes shorthand***. [=writes in shorthand] — compare LONGHAND

2 : a short or quick way of showing or saying something — usually + *for* • "ASAP" is *shorthand for* "as soon as possible."

– shorthand *adj, always used before a noun* • *shorthand* symbols • a ***shorthand reporter*** [=someone whose job is to record in shorthand exactly what is said in a court of law or in a meeting] • (*Brit*) a ***shorthand typist*** [=(*chiefly US*) *stenographer*; someone whose job is to record in shorthand what is said and then type it] • "The Far East" is a *shorthand* term for all the countries of eastern Asia and the Malay Archipelago.

short•hand•ed /ˌʃoɚtˈhændəd/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] **:** having fewer than the usual number of people available • The crew was *shorthanded*. [=someone

who is usually in the crew wasn't there] ▪ a *shorthanded* staff ▪ We're very *shorthanded* this week. [=many people who are usually here are not here this week]

2 *always used before a noun, ice hockey* : made when a team member is off the ice for a penalty ▪ a *shorthanded* goal

short–haul /ˈʃoətˌhɑːl/ *adj, always used before a noun* : traveling or involving a short distance ▪ *short-haul* flights

shortie *variant spelling of* SHORTY

short list *noun, pl* ~ **lists** [*count*] : a list of a small number of people or things that have been selected from a larger group and are being considered to receive an award, to get a job, etc. — usually singular ▪ She is on the *short list* for the Nobel Prize. ▪ The book is on the *short list* for the National Book Award.

– **short–list** *verb* **-lists**; **-list•ed**; **-list•ing** [+ *obj*] — usually used as *(be) short-listed* ▪ He*'s been short-listed* for the position. [=he has been put on a short list for the position] ▪ The novel *was short-listed* to win the award.

short–lived /ˈʃoətˈlɪvd/ *adj* **short•er–lived**; **short•est–lived** [*or more* ~; *most* ~] : living or lasting for a short time ▪ *short-lived* insects ▪ Her happiness was *short-lived*. — compare LONG-LIVED

short•ly /ˈʃoətli/ *adv*

1 : in or within a short time : SOON ▪ They should arrive *shortly*. ▪ I'll be ready *shortly*. ▪ He left *shortly* after/before you did. ▪ ***Shortly after*** [=soon after] she hung up, the phone rang again.

2 : in a very brief and unfriendly way ▪ "I can't help you right now," he said *shortly*.

short–or•der /ˈʃoətˌoədəˈ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : making or serving food that can be cooked quickly when a customer orders it ▪ a *short-order* cook

short–range /ˈʃoətˈreɪnʤ/ *adj, always used before a noun* **short•er–range**; **short•est–range**

1 : able to travel or be used over short distances ▪ *short-range* missiles/weapons ▪ a *short-range* radio

2 : involving a short period of time ▪ *short-range* [=*short-term*] goals ▪ a *short-range* weather forecast

short run *noun*

the short run : a short period of time at the beginning of something ▪ One plan had advantages ***over the short run***. — usually used in the phrase ***in the short run*** ▪ It won't make any difference *in the short run*. [=when a small amount of time has passed] ▪ These changes may improve profits *in the short run* [=*in the short term, in the near future*], but they are going to cost us money in the long run. — compare LONG RUN

– **short–run** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *short-run* benefits [=benefits that will exist or continue for a short period of time]

short–sheet *verb* **-sheets**; **-sheeted**; **-sheeting** [+ *obj*] *US*

1 : to arrange the top sheet on a bed in a way that leaves no space for the feet of a person getting into the bed ✧ Short-sheeting a bed is a playful trick. ▪ Somebody *short-sheeted* my bed at summer camp.

2 : to give (someone) less than what is expected or deserved ▪ Our school district was *short-sheeted* [=(more commonly) *shortchanged*] by the state government.

short shrift *noun* [*noncount*] : little or no attention or thought ▪ He ***gives short shrift*** to the author's later works. ▪ The lower classes have ***gotten/received short shrift*** from the city government. [=the city government has not paid attention to the problems of the people in the lower classes]

short•sight•ed /ˈʃoətˌsaɪtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : not considering what will or might happen in the future ▪ *shortsighted* politicians who only care about how they do in the next election **b** : made or done without thinking about what will happen in the future ▪ The plan was dangerously *shortsighted*. ▪ *shortsighted* policies/investments — opposite (*US*) FARSIGHTED, (*Brit*) LONG-SIGHTED

2 *Brit* : NEARSIGHTED

– **short•sight•ed•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We're victims of our own *shortsightedness*.

short–staffed *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having fewer than the usual number of people available ▪ The team/department is *short-staffed*. [=*shorthanded*] ▪ a *short-staffed* hospital

short–stay *adj, always used before a noun, Brit*

1 : providing a specified service for short periods of time ▪ a *short-stay* car park

2 : staying at a place (such as a hospital or nursing home) for a short period of time ▪ *short-stay* patients/residents

short•stop /ˈʃoətˌstɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-stops** [*count*] *baseball* : the player who defends the area between second and third base ▪ an all-star *shortstop*

short story *noun, pl* ~ **-ries** [*count*] : a short written story usually dealing with few characters : a short work of fiction

short temper *noun, pl* ~ **-pers** [*count*] : a tendency to become angry easily ▪ She has a *short temper*.

short–tem•pered /ˌʃoətˈtɛmpəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : easily made angry ▪ *short-tempered* children ▪ She is *short-tempered*.

short term *noun*

the short term : a short period of time at the beginning of something ▪ It will meet our needs, at least for *the short term*. ▪ His plan has advantages ***over the short term***. — usually used in the phrase ***in the short term*** ▪ It won't make any difference *in the short term*. [=when a small amount of time has passed] ▪ These changes may improve profits *in the short term* [=*in the near future, in the short run*], but they are going to cost us money in the long term. — compare LONG TERM

short–term /ˈʃoətˌtəm/ *adj* : lasting for, relating to, or involving a short period of time ▪ the *short-term* effects of the plan ▪ The company is using a *short-term* plan/strategy to increase profits. ▪ Her memory of events that happened long ago is still okay, but her *short-term* memory is failing. [=it is difficult for her to remember things that happened recently] ▪ a *short-term* contract/investment ▪ *short-term* [=*short-range*] goals — opposite LONG-TERM

short time *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : a work schedule in which an employee works fewer hours than usual ▪ The company hasn't laid anyone off, but a number of employees have been put on *short time*.

short•wave /ˈʃoətˌweɪv/ *noun, pl* **-waves** [*count*]

1 : a radio wave with a wavelength between 10 and 100 meters

2 : a radio or receiver that uses shortwaves

– **shortwave** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *shortwave* frequencies ▪ a *shortwave* radio/receiver

shorty *or* **short•ie** /ˈʃoəti/ *noun, pl* **short•ies** [*count*] *informal* : someone who is not tall : a short person ▪ when I was just a *shorty* — often used as a form of address ▪ How are you today, *shorty*? ✧ *Shorty* is often used humorously but can be insulting.

[1]shot /ˈʃɑːt/ *noun, pl* **shots**

1 [*count*] : an act of shooting a gun ▪ Two *shots* were heard. = Two *shots* rang out. ▪ She fired a warning *shot* into the air. [=she fired/shot a gun into the air as a warning] ▪ He ***took a shot*** at the deer. [=he tried to shoot the deer; he fired a gun at the deer] — see also GUNSHOT, POTSHOT

2 [*noncount*] **a** : BUCKSHOT **b** : the objects (called ammunition) that are shot from cannons and other old-fashioned weapons ▪ musket/cannon *shot* — see also SLINGSHOT

3 [*count*] : a person who shoots a gun ▪ She is a very good *shot*. [=she is skilled in shooting a gun] ▪ You're not a bad *shot*. [=you are able to shoot a gun fairly well] — see also BIG SHOT

4 [*count*] : a critical or hurtful remark ▪ They ***took shots*** at each other throughout the debate. ▪ As her ***parting shot*** [=her final critical comment], she said that the other candidate simply did not understand the needs of the city's citizens. — see also CHEAP SHOT, POTSHOT

5 [*count*] : the act of hitting someone or something with your hand or an object ▪ The boxer got in a few good *shots* on his opponent. ▪ She ***took a shot*** at me [=tried to hit me] with a snowball but missed.

6 [*count*] **a** : an act of kicking, hitting, or throwing a ball or puck toward or into a goal ▪ She scored on a perfect *shot* from the right wing. ▪ Wow! That was a good/great *shot*! ▪ He ***made the shot***. [=got the ball or puck in the goal] ▪ He ***took a shot*** [=threw the ball toward the goal] but missed. **b** : a ball or puck that is kicked, hit, or thrown toward or into a goal ▪ The *shot* went between the goalie's legs. ▪ Her *shot* landed on the putting green. — see also CHIP SHOT, FOUL SHOT, JUMP SHOT, SLAP SHOT

7 [*count*] **a** : an attempt to do something successfully — usually singular ▪ You should ***give it a shot***. [=you should try to do it] ▪ I'll *give* you one more *shot*. [=I'll let you try one more time] ▪ They lost, but at least they *gave it* their best *shot*. [=*try, effort*] — often + *at* ▪ ***Take*** another ***shot at*** the math problem. ▪ I never changed a tire before, but I'll ***have*** a ***shot at*** it. ▪ I *took/had* a *shot at* (guessing) the answer and guessed right. **b** : a chance that something will happen or be

S

achieved — usually singular ▪ The horse has a 12 to 1 *shot* of winning. ▪ It's a 10 to 1 *shot* that he'll be on time. — often + *at* ▪ The team has a good *shot at* winning. ▪ She has a *shot at* (winning) the title. — see also LONG SHOT

8 [*count*] *informal* : [1]PHOTOGRAPH — often + *of* ▪ I got some good *shots* [=*pictures*] *of* the kids. ▪ Be sure to take/get a couple *shots of* the car. — see also MUG SHOT, SNAPSHOT

9 [*count*] : a part of a movie or a television show that is filmed by one camera without stopping ▪ the movie's opening *shot* ▪ a close-up *shot* of a beehive

10 [*count*] *chiefly US* : an act of putting something (such as medicine or vaccine) into the body with a needle : INJECTION ▪ a flu *shot* — often + *of* ▪ a *shot of* morphine/Novocain

11 [*count*] **a** : a small amount of a drink and especially a strong alcoholic drink ▪ tequila *shots* ▪ a *shot* glass — often + *of* ▪ a *shot of* whisky/espresso — called also (*Brit*) *short* **b** : a small amount of something — often + *of* ▪ The pilot took a *shot of* oxygen. ▪ My speech could use a *shot of* humor.

12 [*count*] : a heavy metal ball that people throw as far as they can in the athletic event called the shot put

a shot *US, informal* : for each one : APIECE ▪ They cost $5 *a shot*.

a shot across the/someone's bow(s) : a warning to not do something or to stop doing something ▪ The fine is a *shot across the bow* to an industry that thinks it can ignore the law.

a shot in the arm : something that makes someone or something stronger or more active, confident, etc. ▪ The award has given the school a much needed *shot in the arm*.

a shot in the dark **1** : a guess that is based on very little or no information or evidence ▪ Estimating the cost of a project like this is often a *shot in the dark*. **2** : an attempt that is not likely to succeed ▪ I know it's a *shot in the dark*, but I still think we can convince them to join us.

call the shots *informal* : to be in charge or control of something ▪ Who's the one who *calls the shots* around here?

like a shot : immediately and very quickly ▪ He started the car and took off *like a shot*.

[2]shot *past tense and past participle of* [1]SHOOT

[3]shot *adj, not used before a noun*

1 *informal* : in a very bad condition ▪ The tires on the car are *shot*. ▪ It's such a stressful job—my nerves are ***shot (to pieces)***.

2 a *of a fabric* : having threads of a different color woven in — often + *with* ▪ The dress is blue *shot with* silver. ▪ blue fabric ***shot through with*** silver thread **b** : having a particular color, quality, feature, etc., throughout — usually + *with* ▪ His stories are *shot with* comedy. ▪ black hair ***shot through with*** gray

shot of *Brit, informal* : no longer having someone or something that you do not want ▪ I'm ready to get/be *shot of* [=*rid of*] this job. ▪ The band wants to be *shot of* its manager.

shot clock *noun, pl* ~ **clocks** [*count*] *basketball* : a clock that shows how much time a player has left to shoot the ball

shot•gun /ˈʃɑːtˌgʌn/ *noun, pl* **-guns** [*count*]

1 : a gun with a long barrel that shoots a large number of small metal balls (called buckshot) — see picture at GUN; see also SAWED-OFF SHOTGUN

2 *American football* : an offensive formation in which the quarterback is a few yards behind the line of scrimmage at the start of a play

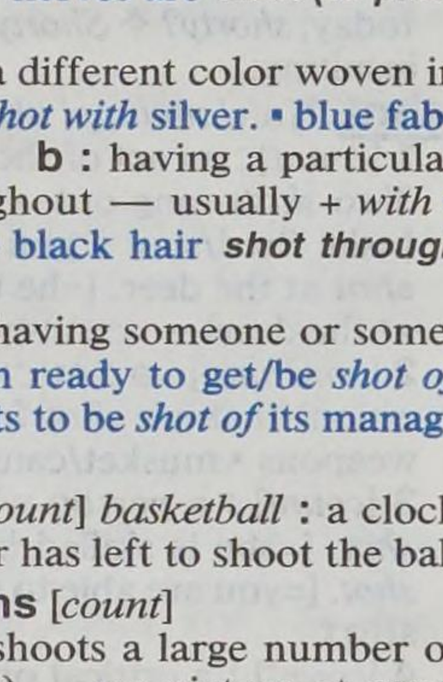
ride shotgun see [1]RIDE

shotgun wedding *noun, pl* ~ **-dings** [*count*] : a wedding that happens because the bride is pregnant — called also *shotgun marriage*

shot put *noun*

the shot put : an athletic event in which people compete by trying to throw a heavy metal ball (called a shot) as far as possible

– shot–put•ter /ˈʃɑːtˌpʊtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]



shot put

should /ˈʃʊd, ʃəd/ *verb, past tense of* SHALL [*modal verb*]

1 a — used to say or suggest that something is the proper, reasonable, or best thing to do ▪ You *should* [=*ought to*] get some rest. ▪ They *should* be punished. ▪ We *should* leave a few minutes early to make sure we get there on time. ▪ Maybe you *should* consider finding a new job. ▪ I *should* emphasize that these numbers are only estimates. ▪ My friends say that I *should* quit the team. ▪ What time *should* we meet? [=what is the best time for us to meet?; what time do you want to meet?] ▪ Patients *should* inform the receptionist upon their arrival. **b** — used with *have* to say that something was the proper, reasonable, or best thing to do but was not done ▪ You *should have* been more careful. ▪ She *shouldn't have* spoken to him so rudely. ▪ What *should* I *have* done? ▪ *Should* I not *have* gone? [=was it wrong for me to go?] ▪ I *should have* known that he would be late. [=I didn't know that he would be late, but it would have been reasonable for me to expect it because he is often late] **c** — used with *have* to say that you wish someone had seen, heard, or experienced something ▪ You *should have* seen her face [=I wish that you had seen her face] when she opened the present. ▪ It was so funny. You *should have* been there.

2 — used to ask for someone's opinion ▪ *Should* [=(more formally) *shall*] I turn the music down? ▪ What *should* we have for lunch?

3 — used to say that something is expected or correct ▪ Everyone *should* [=*ought to*] have a copy of the handout. ▪ There *should* be four place settings at the table, not six. ▪ "He feels very sorry about what happened." "Well, he *should*!" ▪ You *should* be ashamed of yourself, behaving so rudely to our guests! ▪ They *should* be here by now. = They *should* have arrived by now. [=I expected them to be here by now]

4 a — used when saying that you feel a specified way about someone's words or behavior ▪ I'm surprised that he *should* intentionally be so rude to you. ▪ It's strange (that) you *should* say that. ▪ Funny you *should* mention it. [=I think it's odd/strange that you mentioned it] I've been thinking the same thing. **b** — used to emphasize what you believe, think, hope, etc. ▪ I *should* imagine it won't take more than two hours to drive there. [=I am fairly certain that it won't take more than two hours] ▪ I *should* think not. [=I really don't think so] ▪ I *should* hope that she would apologize. [=I expect her to apologize] ▪ "She apologized for her rude behavior." "Well, I ***should hope so***!"

5 — used with *have* in negative statements as a polite way of thanking someone for doing something ▪ You really *should not have* gone to all that trouble on my account—but I'm glad you did! ▪ Flowers for me? You *shouldn't have*.

6 *somewhat formal* — used to talk about the result or effect of something that may happen or be true ▪ *Should* [=*if*] you change your mind, please let us know. ▪ I will feel very guilty *should* anything go wrong. [=if anything goes wrong] — usually used with *if* ▪ I will feel very guilty *if* anything *should* [=*were to*] go wrong. ▪ *If* he *should* call [=if he calls], tell him I'm not home. ▪ *If* you *should* see them [=if you see them], say hello for me.

7 *Brit* — used to say that you would do or feel something if something specified happened; only used after *I* or *we* ▪ If my husband treated me like that, I *should* [=*would*] divorce him. ▪ I *should* be surprised if many people go to the fair on such a rainy day. ▪ I *should* not be surprised if no one goes. ▪ I *shouldn't* [=*wouldn't*] be surprised at all.

8 *Brit* — used when giving someone advice; only used after *I* or *we* ▪ I *should* [=*would*] see a doctor if I were you.

9 *Brit* — used to say that you want to do or want to have something; only used after *I* or *we* ▪ "They really need some help." "Well, I *should* be glad to help them." ▪ I ***should like*** to call my lawyer. ▪ "Would you care for a drink?" "I *should like* one very much."

how/why should I/we know — used to say that you do not know the answer to a question and are surprised that you were asked it ▪ "Where did they go?" "*How should I know*?"

what/who should you see but — used to say that you are surprised to see something or someone ▪ I looked up and *what should I see but* a hummingbird hovering over my head. ▪ They were walking along when *who should they see but* Kim!

[1]shoul•der /ˈʃoʊldɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders**

1 [*count*] : the part of your body where your arm is connected ▪ He rested the baby's head on his *shoulder*. ▪ He grabbed my *shoulder* and turned me around. ▪ She carried a backpack on one *shoulder*. ▪ He has broad *shoulders*. — often used figuratively ▪ The responsibility for the failure falls squarely ***on her shoulders*** [=she is completely responsible for the failure] — see picture at HUMAN; see also COLD SHOULDER

2 a [*count*] : the part of an animal's body where a front leg is connected ▪ The horse is five feet high at the *shoulder*. **b** : a cut of meat from the shoulder of an animal [*count*] a *shoulder* of lamb [*noncount*] We had pork *shoulder* for dinner.
3 [*count*] : the part of a piece of clothing that covers your shoulders — usually plural ▪ The jacket is tight in the *shoulders*. ▪ The blouse has padded *shoulders*.
4 [*count*] : a part of something that is near the top and that resembles a person's shoulder in shape — often + *of* ▪ the *shoulder of* the hill/bottle
5 [*singular*] *US* : the outside edge of a road that is not used for travel ▪ They pulled over to the *shoulder* to fix the flat tire. — called also (*Brit*) *hard shoulder*
a good head on your shoulders see [1]HEAD
a shoulder to cry on **1** : a person who gives you sympathy and support ▪ She's always been a sympathetic *shoulder to cry on*. **2** : sympathy and support ▪ He offered me *a shoulder to cry on* when my husband left me.
have a chip on your shoulder see [1]CHIP
head and shoulders above see [1]HEAD
look over your shoulder : to worry or think about the possibility that something bad might happen, that someone will try to harm you, etc. ▪ You can never feel confident in this business. You always have to be *looking over your shoulder*.
rub shoulders with see [1]RUB
shoulder to shoulder **1** : physically close together ▪ Everyone was standing/squeezed *shoulder to shoulder* on the crowded bus. **2** : united together to achieve a shared goal ▪ I stand *shoulder to shoulder* with the other legislators in this effort.

[2]shoulder *verb* **-ders; -dered; -der•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to deal with or accept (something) as your responsibility or duty ▪ He *shouldered* the blame for the project's failure. ▪ The company will *shoulder* the costs of the repairs. ▪ She *shouldered* the full burden of raising three children.
2 a [+ *obj*] : to push (something) with your shoulder ▪ He *shouldered* the door open. **b** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move forward by pushing through something with the shoulders [*no obj*] She *shouldered* through the crowd. [+ *obj*] She *shouldered* her way through the crowd.
3 [+ *obj*] : to place or carry (something) on your shoulder ▪ The soldiers *shouldered* their rifles and marched away.

shoulder bag *noun, pl* **~ bags** [*count*] : a bag that is designed to be carried on one shoulder by a strap
shoulder blade *noun, pl* **~ blades** [*count*] : one of the two flat, triangular bones of the shoulder that are located in the upper back — called also *scapula*; see picture at HUMAN
-shoul•dered /ˌʃoʊldɚd/ *adj* : having shoulders of a specified kind — used in combination ▪ round-*shouldered* ▪ broad-*shouldered*
shoulder–high *adj* : reaching as high as your shoulder ▪ a *shoulder-high* wall
shoulder–length *adj, of a person's hair* : reaching your shoulders ▪ She has *shoulder-length* hair.
shoulder strap *noun, pl* **~ straps** [*count*] : a strap that is used to carry or hold something on your shoulder or to hold up a piece of clothing
shouldn't /ˈʃʊdn̩t/ — used as a contraction of *should not* ▪ You *shouldn't* do that.
should've /ˈʃʊdəv/ — used as a contraction of *should have* ▪ I *should've* known that she would come. ▪ He *should've* been ready to go.

[1]shout /ˈʃaʊt/ *verb* **shouts; shout•ed; shout•ing**
1 : to say (something) very loudly [+ *obj*] Protesters *shouted* [=*screamed, yelled*] insults as city officials passed by. ▪ Someone was *shouting* "Fire!" — often + *out* ▪ The general *shouted out* orders to his men. [*no obj*] There's no need to *shout* at me.
2 [*no obj*] : to make a sudden, loud cry ▪ They *shouted* [=*screamed*] with delight. — often + *out* ▪ He *shouted out* in pain when the doctor moved his broken ankle.
shout down [*phrasal verb*] ***shout (someone) down*** : to shout so that (someone who is speaking) cannot be heard ▪ The crowd *shouted* him *down* when he tried to give his speech. [=the crowd stopped him from giving his speech by shouting]
shout your head off see [1]HEAD
shout yourself hoarse : to make your voice hoarse by shouting ▪ He *shouted himself hoarse* at the game.

[2]shout *noun, pl* **shouts**
1 [*count*] : a sudden, loud cry — often + *of* ▪ She gave a *shout of* surprise.
2 [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : a person's turn to buy drinks ▪ It's your *shout*.
be in with a shout *Brit, informal* : to have a good chance of winning or achieving something ▪ We aren't too far behind, so we're still *in with a shout*.
give (someone) a shout *informal* : to tell (someone) about something when it happens or is ready to be done ▪ I'll *give you a shout* when it's time to leave.

shouting distance *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : a short distance ▪ We live ***within shouting distance*** of my parents.
shouting match *noun, pl* **~ matches** [*count*] : a loud, angry argument in which people shout at each other ▪ He got into a *shouting match* with his neighbor.
shout–out /ˈʃaʊtˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] *US, informal* : an expression of greeting or praise that is given to someone in the presence of many people — usually singular ▪ I would like to ***give a shout-out*** to all the men and women in our armed forces. ▪ During his awards speech, the director *gave a shout-out* to his production crew.

[1]shove /ˈʃʌv/ *verb* **shoves; shoved; shov•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to push (something) with force ▪ He *shoved* the door until it finally opened.
2 : to push (someone or something) along or away in a rough or careless way [+ *obj*] A large man *shoved* me out of the way. ▪ She *shoved* her plate aside. ▪ He *shoved* me into the pool. [*no obj*] A group of security guards *shoved* through the crowd. ▪ The children were ***pushing and shoving*** to see the clowns.
shove it *US, informal + impolite* — used to say that you will not accept or do something ▪ They can take their suggestion and *shove it*.
shove off [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to leave a place ▪ It's getting late, so I guess I should *shove off*. ▪ She angrily told him to *shove off*.
shove over *or chiefly Brit* ***shove up*** [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to move over to make room for someone else ▪ *Shove over* [=*push over*] so that I can sit down, too.
shove (something) down someone's throat see THROAT

[2]shove *noun, pl* **shoves** [*count*] : a strong, forceful push ▪ He gave the door a *shove*, and it opened.
push comes to shove see [2]PUSH

[1]shov•el /ˈʃʌvəl/ *noun, pl* **-els** [*count*]
1 : a tool with a long handle that is used for lifting and throwing dirt, sand, snow, etc.
2 : the part of a machine (such as a backhoe) that picks up and moves dirt, sand, snow, etc. — see also STEAM SHOVEL

[2]shovel *verb* **-els**; *US* **-eled** *or Brit* **-elled**; *US* **-el•ing** *or Brit* **-el•ling**
1 [+ *obj*] : to lift and throw (dirt, sand, snow, etc.) with a shovel ▪ He is outside *shoveling* snow.
2 *US* **a** : to remove snow from (a sidewalk, driveway, etc.) with a shovel [+ *obj*] I have to *shovel* the driveway. [*no obj*] I had to *shovel* for an hour to clear the driveway. **b** [+ *obj*] : to create (a path) by removing snow with a shovel ▪ The snow was so deep we had to *shovel* a path to our front door.
3 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to put large amounts of (something, such as food) into something in a quick way ▪ Stop *shoveling* food into your mouth.

shov•el•ful /ˈʃʌvəlˌfʊl/ *noun, pl* **shov•el•fuls** /ˈʃʌvəlˌfʊlz/ *also* **shov•els•ful** /ˈʃʌvəlzˌfʊl/ [*count*] : the amount that a shovel will hold ▪ a *shovelful* of snow
shovel pass *noun, pl* **~ passes** [*count*] *American football* : a short pass made by throwing the ball underhand or with a sidearm motion

[1]show /ˈʃoʊ/ *verb* **shows; showed** /ˈʃoʊd/; **shown** /ˈʃoʊn/ *or* **showed; show•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to cause or allow (something) to be seen ▪ He *showed* her a picture. = He *showed* a picture to her. ▪ You have to *show* your tickets/passports at the gate. ▪ You're the only person that I've *shown* this letter to. ▪ Give them a chance to *show* (you) what they can do.
2 [+ *obj*] : to give information that proves (something) ▪ The study/research *shows* (that there is) a link between cigarettes and lung cancer. ▪ The medication has been *shown* [=*proven*] to reduce high blood pressure. ▪ They *showed* the theory to be faulty. ▪ He seemed perfectly healthy before he had his heart attack. That just ***goes to show*** [=*shows, proves*] that appearances can be deceptive.
3 [+ *obj*] : to teach (someone) how to do or use something especially by letting that person see you do or use it ▪ You will

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have to *show* me how to play the game. ▪ He *showed* them a card trick. ▪ Definitions tell you the meanings of words; examples *show* you how the words are used.

4 [+ *obj*] : to tell (someone) what or where something is by touching or pointing to it ▪ *Show* me which video game you want to play. ▪ She *showed* me where Laos was on the globe. ▪ *Show* me where it hurts. ▪ The guide *showed* us the church. [=pointed to the different parts of the church and told us about them]

5 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to lead (someone) to a place ▪ He *showed* us to our seats. ▪ Please ***show him in/out***. [=lead him to the entrance/exit] ▪ She ***showed them the way*** to the door.

6 [+ *obj*] — used to describe what can be seen or noticed when you look at or examine something ▪ Her grades have *shown* some improvement. [=her grades have improved] ▪ The city's education system is ***showing signs of*** improvement. [=the city's education system seems to be improving]

7 [+ *obj*] : to have an image or picture of (someone or something) ▪ The postcard *shows* a sunset on the beach. ▪ The photograph *shows* her as a young woman.

8 : to give (information) in the form of numbers, pictures, etc. [+ *obj*] The thermostat *showed* 68 degrees. ▪ The pie chart *shows* that 20 percent of the money is spent on supplies. [*no obj*] 3:15 *showed* on the clock.

9 a [*no obj*] : to be able to be seen or noticed ▪ The sun *showed* through the clouds. ▪ The scar hardly *shows*. ▪ Pull down your skirt. Your slip is *showing*. [=I can see your slip] ▪ He's been working out a lot, and it *shows*. — sometimes + *up* ▪ The mountains *showed up* clearly against the sky. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause or allow (something) to be easily seen or noticed ▪ A light-colored carpet will *show* dirt.

10 a [+ *obj*] : to cause or allow (a feeling, quality, or condition) to be seen or known ▪ The expression on his face *showed* how disappointed he was. ▪ She is not afraid of *showing* her true feelings. ▪ *Show* your support by wearing one of these yellow ribbons. ▪ When you say you dislike computers, you're really *showing* your age. **b** [*no obj*] *of a feeling, quality, or condition* : to be able to be seen ▪ His disappointment *showed* in his face.

11 [+ *obj*] : to give (mercy, respect, etc.) to someone ▪ The judge *showed* no mercy. ▪ Students must *show* respect for their teachers. = Students must *show* their teachers respect. ▪ Please *show* some compassion.

12 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to see your true ability, power, etc. ▪ They think I'm too old to run the race, but ***I'll show them***! [=I'll run the race and prove that I'm not too old to do it] ▪ He thinks he can tell me what to do, but I'll ***show him who's boss***.

13 : to make (a movie, television show, piece of art, etc.) available for the public to see [+ *obj*] Some news programs have decided not to *show* [=*air*] the video. ▪ She is *showing* her paintings at an art gallery. [*no obj*] The movie is now *showing* [=*playing*] in local theaters. ▪ She has *shown* at the art gallery several times.

14 [*no obj*] *chiefly US, informal* : to arrive or appear at a place ▪ Many passengers failed to *show*. — usually + *up* ▪ Everyone *showed up* on time. ▪ He didn't *show up* for work today. — see also NO-SHOW

15 : to enter (an animal) in a competition in which it is judged against other animals of the same kind [+ *obj*] He breeds and *shows* poodles. [*no obj*] Two of our dogs will be *showing* in the national competition.

16 — used in phrases like ***have something/nothing to show for*** to say what someone has achieved or produced by doing something ▪ We worked all day but *had nothing to show for* it. [=we worked all day but did not achieve/accomplish anything] ▪ He invested millions of dollars into the company, but he *has little to show for* it. ▪ She *has* two Olympic gold medals *to show for* her years of training and practice. [=she won two Olympic gold medals as a result of her years of training and practice]

show around *also Brit* ***show round*** [*phrasal verb*] ***show (someone) around/round*** : to act as a guide for someone who is visiting a place : to lead (someone) around a place and point to and talk about the interesting or important things you see ▪ She *showed* us *around* (the city).

show off [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1** *disapproving* : to try to impress someone with your abilities or possessions ▪ The boys were *showing off* in front of the girls. ▪ Stop trying to *show off*. **2** ***show off (someone or something)*** *or* ***show (someone or something) off*** : to cause (someone or something that you are proud of) to be seen or noticed by a lot of people ▪ She *showed* her baby *off* at the office. ▪ He drove around town, *showing off* his new car. **3** ***show off (something)*** *or* ***show (something) off*** : to make (something) very noticeable ▪ She wears tight clothes that *show off* her figure. — see also SHOW-OFF

show (someone) the door, show (someone) to the door see DOOR

show the flag see [1]FLAG

show up [*phrasal verb*] ***show up (someone)*** *or* ***show (someone) up*** *informal* : to embarrass (someone) : to do something that makes (someone) look foolish, weak, etc. ▪ He was deliberately trying to *show up* the boss. — see also [1]SHOW 9a, 14 (above)

show willing *Brit* : to show that you are willing and eager to do what is needed ▪ I got in to work extra early to *show willing* and impress my boss.

show your face : to appear in public and allow people to see you ▪ I don't know how he can stand to *show his face* around here after what happened.

show your hand *also* ***show your cards*** **1** : to put down your playing cards on a table so that their values can be seen **2** : to tell other people what you are planning to do, want to do, or are able to do ▪ The company wants to avoid *showing its hand* about its decision until next month.

show yourself **1** : to move out from a hidden place so that you can be seen ▪ The guard ordered him to *show himself*. **2** : to show that you are a particular kind of person, that you have a particular skill, etc. — followed by *to + verb* ▪ They *showed themselves to be* cowards. [=they behaved in a cowardly way] ▪ She has *shown herself to be* capable of running the company. [=has shown that she is capable of running the company]

show your stuff see [1]STUFF

show your true colors see [1]COLOR

[2]show *noun, pl* shows

1 [*count*] **a** : a performance in a theater that usually includes singing and dancing ▪ We saw a *show* last night. = We went to a *show* last night. ▪ a Broadway/musical *show* ▪ She was the ***star of the show***. **b** : a public performance that is intended to entertain people ▪ a one-woman comedy *show* ▪ a puppet *show* ▪ The band always ***puts on a good show***. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The team *put on a poor show* [=played poorly] in the second half. — see also FLOOR SHOW, HORROR SHOW, ICE SHOW, PEEP SHOW, PUNCH-AND-JUDY SHOW, ROAD SHOW, SIDESHOW

2 [*count*] : a television or radio program ▪ my favorite (TV) *show* — see also GAME SHOW, QUIZ SHOW, TALK SHOW

3 [*count*] : an event at which things of the same kind are put on display for people to look at or buy ▪ an agricultural *show* ▪ fashion/auto/boat *shows* ▪ a *show* of his early paintings — see also TRADE SHOW

4 [*singular*] **a** : an action, performance, etc., which clearly shows an ability, feeling, quality, etc. — usually + *of* ▪ a *show of* the country's great military strength ▪ a remarkable *show of* generosity ▪ All of the students signed the petition in a *show of* unity/solidarity with their classmate. **b** : an event at which something is done or shown to impress or entertain people — usually + *of* ▪ a spectacular *show of* fireworks

5 *disapproving* : an act of pretending to feel a particular way : an act of behaving a certain way in order to make others like or approve of you [*count*] — usually singular; usually + *of* ▪ He made a great *show of* friendship. ▪ She put on a big *show of* sympathy, but she really didn't care about his troubles. [*noncount*] Her friendliness is ***all show***. [=she does not truly have friendly feelings toward others]

6 [*singular*] : an event, business, etc., and all of the activities that are involved in its success ▪ The new president tried to ***run the whole show*** [=be in charge of everything] himself. ▪ A new manager is *running the show*.

7 [*count*] : a competition at which animals of the same kind are judged against one another ▪ a dog *show* ▪ They have two ***show dogs***. [=dogs that compete in dog shows] — see also HORSE SHOW

a show of hands : an occurrence in which people put a hand in the air to indicate that they want something, agree with something, etc. ▪ Let me see *a show of hands*: how many people want a piece of cake?

dog and pony show see [1]DOG

for show **1** : intended to be seen but not used or bought ▪ We're not supposed to eat the fruit on the table. It's just *for show*. [=it's just being used as decoration] **2** : done in order to make others like or approve of you ▪ He says he en-

joys classical music, but it's only *for show*. [=he pretends to like classical music]

get the/this show on the road *informal* : to begin an activity or journey ▪ Everyone ready? OK, let's *get this show on the road*!

on show : put somewhere for people to see ▪ Her paintings are *on show* [=*on display*] at the art gallery. ▪ The artifacts will be ***put on show*** in the museum. ▪ His work ***goes on show*** tomorrow.

the show must go on *informal* — used to say that a performance, event, etc., must continue even though there are problems

show–and–tell /ˈʃowənˈtɛl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a school activity in which children show an item to the class and talk about it ▪ She brought in a seashell for *show-and-tell*.

show•biz /ˈʃoʊˌbɪz/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : SHOW BUSINESS ▪ Sometimes the critics love you and sometimes they hate you. That's *showbiz*.

[1]show•boat /ˈʃoʊˌboʊt/ *noun, pl* **-boats** [*count*]
1 : a large boat that has a theater and a group of performers and that gives plays at towns and cities along a river
2 *chiefly US, informal + usually disapproving* : a person (such as an athlete) who behaves or performs in a way that is meant to attract the attention of a lot of people ▪ The fans like him, but the other players think he's a *showboat*.

[2]showboat *verb* **-boats**; **-boat•ed**; **-boat•ing** [*no obj*] *chiefly US, informal + usually disapproving* : to behave or perform in a way that is meant to attract the attention of a lot of people ▪ She was *showboating* for the cameras when she tripped and fell.

show business *noun* [*noncount*] : the entertainment industry involved in making movies, television shows, plays, etc. ▪ She has been in *show business* for over 30 years. ▪ actors trying to break into *show business* ▪ *show business* executives

[1]show•case /ˈʃoʊˌkeɪs/ *noun, pl* **-cas•es** [*count*]
1 : a box that has a glass top or sides and that is used for displaying objects in a store, museum, etc.
2 : an event, occasion, etc., that shows the abilities or good qualities of someone or something in an attractive or favorable way ▪ The convention was a *showcase* of the company's new products. — usually + *for* ▪ The program is a *showcase for* up-and-coming musicians. ▪ The movie is a *showcase for* her talents.

[2]showcase *verb* **-cases**; **-cased**; **-cas•ing** [+ *obj*] : to show (something or someone) in an attractive or favorable way ▪ The program *showcases* up-and-coming musicians.

show•down /ˈʃoʊˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs** [*count*]
1 : a meeting, argument, fight, etc., that will finally settle a disagreement between people or groups — often + *with* ▪ Supporters of the bill are in a *showdown with* the opposition.
2 : an important game or competition — often + *with* ▪ The team is getting ready for tonight's *showdown with* last year's champions.

[1]show•er /ˈʃawɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 a : a device that produces a spray of water for you to stand under and wash your body **b** : a room or an enclosed area in a room that contains a shower ▪ My hotel room had a *shower* but no bathtub. ▪ a *shower* curtain/stall ▪ I couldn't answer the phone because I was ***in the shower***. ▪ The team ***hit the showers*** after practice. [=the team went to the locker room and used the *showers* there after practice] — see picture at BATHROOM **c** : the act of washing your body with a shower ▪ She ***took a shower*** after her run. = (*Brit*) She ***had a shower*** after her run. ▪ a ***shower cap*** [=a cap that you wear while you are taking a shower]
2 a : a brief fall of rain or snow over a small area ▪ Light/Heavy *showers* are expected later today. — see also THUNDERSHOWER **b** : a large number of small things that fall or happen at the same time — often + *of* ▪ a *shower of* sparks/tears ▪ He gave the baby a *shower of* kisses. [=he showered the baby with kisses]
3 *US* : a party where gifts are given to a woman who is going to be married or have a baby ▪ a bridal/baby *shower*

[2]shower *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to wash yourself by using a shower ▪ Please *shower* before using the pool.
2 : to fall on someone or something in the way that rain falls from the sky [*no obj*] Sparks from the machine *showered* onto the floor of the garage. ▪ Rice *showered* down on the newlyweds as they left the church. [+ *obj*] A passing car *showered* her with muddy water. = A passing car *showered* muddy water on her.
3 [+ *obj*] : to provide (someone) with something in large amounts ▪ He *showered* her with gifts/kisses. = He *showered* gifts/kisses on her. [=he gave her many gifts/kisses]

show•er•head /ˈʃawɚˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] : the device that controls the spray of water in a shower — see picture at BATHROOM

show•ery /ˈʃawəri/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having a lot of rain showers ▪ We've been having *showery* weather lately. ▪ It may be *showery* [=*rainy*] tomorrow.

show•girl /ˈʃoʊˌgɚl/ *noun, pl* **-girls** [*count*] : a woman who sings or dances in a musical show

showing *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*]
1 : the act of making a movie, television show, piece of art, etc., available for the public to see ▪ The movie's last *showing* tonight is at 10:30.
2 : a performance or appearance of a particular kind — usually singular ▪ He had a poor *showing* [=he performed poorly] in the tournament. ▪ Both candidates are expected to make a good/strong *showing* [=to get many votes] in next week's election.

show jumping *noun* [*noncount*] : the sport of riding a horse over a set of fences as quickly and skillfully as possible

show•man /ˈʃoʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a person who is good at entertaining people

show•man•ship /ˈʃoʊmənˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the ability to attract attention and entertain people ▪ political *showmanship*

shown *past participle of* [1]SHOW

show–off /ˈʃoʊˌɑːf/ *noun, pl* **-offs** [*count*] *informal + disapproving* : a person who tries to impress other people with his or her abilities or possessions — see also *show off* at [1]SHOW

show•piece /ˈʃoʊˌpiːs/ *noun, pl* **-piec•es** [*count*]
1 : something that is the best or most attractive thing being shown ▪ The museum's *showpiece* is a painting by Picasso.
2 : something that is seen as an excellent or outstanding example of something ▪ The house is an architectural *showpiece*.

show•place /ˈʃoʊˌpleɪs/ *noun, pl* **-plac•es** [*count*] : a beautiful or important place that people enjoy seeing ▪ They have transformed their home into a *showplace*.

show•room /ˈʃoʊˌruːm/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] : a large room where things that are for sale are displayed ▪ a car *showroom* ▪ The stereo was a *showroom* model.

show•stop•per /ˈʃoʊˌstɑːpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] : an act, song, or performer that receives so much applause that the performance is interrupted
– **show•stop•ping** /ˈʃoʊˌstɑːpɪŋ/ *adj, usually used before a noun* ▪ a *showstopping* performance

show•time /ˈʃoʊˌtaɪm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the time when a play, movie, etc., begins ▪ We have five minutes until *showtime*. ▪ *Showtime* is in five minutes. — often used figuratively in U.S. English ▪ We've been making plans for months. Now it's *showtime*.

show trial *noun, pl* ~ **trials** [*count*] : a trial in a court of law in which the verdict has been decided in advance ▪ They were forced to confess their guilt in public *show trials*.

show window *noun, pl* ~ **-dows** [*count*] : a large window in the front of a store that is used for displaying goods that are for sale

showy /ˈʃowi/ *adj* **show•i•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] : having an appearance that attracts attention ▪ *showy* blossoms ▪ Perhaps you should wear something a little less *showy*. ▪ (*disapproving*) *showy* [=*gaudy*] jewelry

shrank *past tense of* [1]SHRINK

shrap•nel /ˈʃræpnəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : small metal pieces that scatter outwards from an exploding bomb, shell, or mine ▪ He has a piece of *shrapnel* in his leg. ▪ *Shrapnel* from the explosion wounded many people.

[1]shred /ˈʃrɛd/ *noun, pl* **shreds**
1 [*count*] : a long, thin piece cut or torn off of something ▪ The cats tore/ripped the curtain ***to shreds***. [=into many long, thin pieces] ▪ The wallpaper is ***in shreds***. — often + *of* ▪ *shreds of* paper/cloth
2 *shreds* [*plural*] : a completely ruined condition ▪ An air attack tore the village ***to shreds***. [=completely destroyed the village] ▪ His reputation was ***in shreds*** after the arrest. ▪ Critics ***picked/pulled/tore/ripped the movie to shreds***. [=criticized the movie very severely]
3 [*singular*] : a very small amount *of* something ▪ He struggled to retain a *shred of* his dignity. — usually used in negative statements ▪ There's not a *shred of* evidence showing that

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he committed the crime. ▪ She made the accusation without a *shred of* proof.

[2]shred *verb* **shreds**; **shred·ded**; **shred·ding** [+ *obj*] : to cut or tear (something) into long, thin pieces ▪ He *shredded* the paper/cloth. ▪ *Shred* the cabbage and add it to the salad. ▪ He *shredded* the documents. [=he put the documents into a shredder to cut them into pieces]

shredded wheat *noun* [*noncount*] : a breakfast cereal that is made from cooked wheat that is shredded and formed into biscuits

shred·der /ˈʃrɛdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count*] : a machine used for cutting something (such as paper) into long, thin pieces ▪ a document *shredder* — see picture at OFFICE

shrew /ˈʃru:/ *noun, pl* **shrews** [*count*]
1 : a small animal that looks like a mouse with a long, pointed nose
2 *old-fashioned* : an unpleasant, bad-tempered woman

shrewd /ˈʃru:d/ *adj* **shrewd·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing an ability to understand things and to make good judgments : mentally sharp or clever ▪ a *shrewd* observer/businessman ▪ She's *shrewd* about her investments. ▪ a *shrewd* observation
– **shrewd·ly** *adv* – **shrewd·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

shrew·ish /ˈʃru:wɪʃ/ *adj, old-fashioned, of a woman* : unpleasant and bad-tempered ▪ a *shrewish* old hag

[1]shriek /ˈʃri:k/ *verb* **shrieks**; **shrieked**; **shriek·ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to make a loud, high-pitched cry ▪ The birds were *shrieking* in the trees. ▪ The baby *shrieked* [=*screamed*] with delight. ▪ She *shrieked* when she saw a mouse.
2 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) in a loud, high-pitched voice ▪ "Mommy!" she *shrieked*.

[2]shriek *noun, pl* **shrieks** [*count*] : a loud, high-pitched cry or sound ▪ The baby gave a *shriek* [=*scream*] of delight. ▪ the *shriek* of the train's brakes

shrift /ˈʃrɪft/ see SHORT SHRIFT

[1]shrill /ˈʃrɪl/ *adj* **shrill·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having a very loud, high-pitched sound ▪ a *shrill* whistle/scream
2 : loud and difficult to ignore but often unreasonable ▪ *shrill* protests/accusations
– **shrill·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] – **shril·ly** *adv* ▪ He whistled *shrilly*.

[2]shrill *verb* **shrills**; **shrilled**; **shrill·ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to make a very loud, high-pitched sound ▪ The bell *shrilled*.
2 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) in a very loud, high-pitched voice ▪ "What!?" she *shrilled*.

shrimp /ˈʃrɪmp/ *noun, pl* **shrimp** *or* **shrimps** [*count*]
1 : a small shellfish that has a long body and legs and that is eaten as food — see color picture on page C8; compare PRAWN
2 *informal* : a very small or unimportant person ▪ He's a little *shrimp* of a boy.

shrimp·ing *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity or business of catching shrimp

shrine /ˈʃraɪn/ *noun, pl* **shrines** [*count*]
1 : a place connected with a holy person or event where people go to worship ▪ a Buddhist *shrine* ▪ the *shrine* of Saint Mary ▪ They erected a *shrine* to the saint.
2 : a place that people visit because it is connected with someone or something that is important to them ▪ tourists visiting the *shrines* of American independence ▪ The writer's house has become a *shrine* to/for his fans.

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[1]shrink /ˈʃrɪŋk/ *verb* **shrinks**; **shrank** /ˈʃræŋk/ *or* **shrunk** /ˈʃrʌŋk/; **shrunk** *or* **shrunk·en** /ˈʃrʌŋkən/; **shrink·ing**
1 a [*no obj*] : to become smaller in amount, size, or value ▪ The sweater *shrank* when it was washed. ▪ Meat *shrinks* as it cooks. ▪ The town's population *shrank* during the war. **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) smaller in amount, size, or value ▪ Hot water *shrank* the sweater. ▪ The treatment should *shrink* the tumor.
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to quickly move away from something shocking, frightening, or disgusting ▪ He *shrank* in horror when he saw the dead cat.
shrink from [*phrasal verb*] ***shrink from (something)*** : to try to avoid (something difficult or unpleasant) : to be unwilling to do (something) ▪ He doesn't *shrink from* telling the truth, no matter how painful it may be. ▪ She won't *shrink from* the task.

[2]shrink *noun, pl* **shrinks** [*count*] *informal* : a psychiatrist or psychologist ▪ He is seeing a *shrink*.

shrink·age /ˈʃrɪŋkɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the amount by which something becomes smaller or less ▪ The *shrinkage* in contributions is significant. ▪ a *shrinkage* of 10 percent
2 : the act or process of becoming smaller in amount, size, or value ▪ the *shrinkage* of the polar ice caps

shrinking violet *noun, pl* ~ **-lets** [*count*] *informal* : a person who is very shy ▪ He's no *shrinking violet* when it comes to competition.

shrink–wrap /ˈʃrɪŋkˌræp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : tough, clear, thin plastic that is placed around a product (such as a book or a package of food) and shrunk in order to wrap it tightly
– **shrink–wrapped** /ˈʃrɪŋkˌræpt/ *adj* ▪ a *shrink-wrapped* book

shriv·el /ˈʃrɪvəl/ *verb* **-els**; *US* **-eled** *or Brit* **-elled**; *US* **-el·ing** *or Brit* **-el·ling**
1 [*no obj*] : to become dry and wrinkled from heat, cold, or old age ▪ plants *shriveling* in the heat — often + *up* ▪ The leaves *shriveled up* in the hot sun.
2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to become dry and wrinkled — often + *up* ▪ The heat *shriveled up* the plant's leaves.
– **shriveled** *adj* ▪ She was small and *shriveled* with age. ▪ a *shriveled* grape

[1]shroud /ˈʃraʊd/ *noun, pl* **shrouds** [*count*]
1 : a cloth that is used to wrap a dead body
2 *literary* : something that covers or hides something — usually + *of* ▪ covered in a *shroud of* secrecy/fog

[2]shroud *verb* **shrouds**; **shroud·ed**; **shroud·ing** [+ *obj*] *literary* : to cover or hide (something) ▪ Fog *shrouded* the land. ▪ The mountains were ***shrouded in*** fog. ▪ Their work is *shrouded in* secrecy.

Shrove Tuesday /ˈʃroʊv-/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the day before the first day of the Christian holy period of Lent : the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday — called also (*US*) *Fat Tuesday*, (*Brit*) *Pancake Day*; compare MARDI GRAS

shrub /ˈʃrʌb/ *noun, pl* **shrubs** [*count*] : a plant that has stems of wood and is smaller than a tree : BUSH — see color picture on page C6

shrub·bery /ˈʃrʌbəri/ *noun, pl* **-ber·ies**
1 [*noncount*] : a group of shrubs planted together ▪ a patch of tangled *shrubbery*
2 [*count*] : an area planted with shrubs ▪ a large *shrubbery*

shrug /ˈʃrʌg/ *verb* **shrugs**; **shrugged**; **shrug·ging** : to raise and lower your shoulders usually to show that you do not know or care about something [*no obj*] I asked if he wanted to go out to dinner, and he just *shrugged*. [+ *obj*] He just ***shrugged his shoulders***.
shrug off [*phrasal verb*] ***shrug off (something)*** *or* ***shrug (something) off*** **1** : to think of or treat (something) as not important : to pay no attention to (something) ▪ She *shrugged off* their concerns. ▪ I warned him about the storm but he just *shrugged* it *off*. **2** : to take off (a piece of clothing) by moving your shoulders back and forth ▪ She *shrugged off* her coat.
– **shrug** *noun, pl* **shrugs** [*count*] ▪ The suggestion was met with nothing but *shrugs*. ▪ She answered me with a *shrug* of the/her shoulders.

shrunk *past tense and past participle of* [1]SHRINK

shrunk·en /ˈʃrʌŋkən/ *adj* : made smaller or shorter ▪ a *shrunken* old man [=a man who has gotten smaller/shorter in old age]

shtick *also* **schtick** /ˈʃtɪk/ *noun, pl* **shticks** *also* **schticks** [*count*] *US, informal*
1 : a usual way of performing, behaving, speaking, etc. ▪ That joke is part of his *shtick*.
2 : something that a person likes to do or does well ▪ Sports are just not my *shtick*.

[1]shuck /ˈʃʌk/ *noun, pl* **shucks** [*count*] *US*
1 : the outer covering of a nut or a plant (such as corn)
2 : the shell of an oyster or clam

[2]shuck *verb* **shucks**; **shucked**; **shuck·ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to remove the outer covering of (a plant, such as corn) or the shell of (an oyster or clam) ▪ *shuck* the corn/oysters
shuck off [*phrasal verb*] ***shuck off (something)*** *informal* : to remove and throw aside (something) ▪ He *shucked off* his coat.

shucks /ˈʃʌks/ *interj, US, old-fashioned* — used to show that you are disappointed or embarrassed ▪ Oh, *shucks*, I completely forgot.

shud·der /ˈʃʌdɚ/ *verb* **-ders**; **-dered**; **-der·ing** [*no obj*]
1 *of a person* : to shake because of fear, cold, etc. — often + *with* ▪ He *shuddered* [=*quivered, trembled*] *with* fear when he

heard the scream. — often used figuratively ▪ I *shudder* at the thought of what might happen. = ***I shudder to think*** (of) what might happen. [=I am very worried/fearful about what might happen]

2 *of a thing* : to shake violently ▪ The old car *shuddered* to a halt. ▪ The house *shuddered* as a plane flew overhead.

– **shudder** *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count*] ▪ I felt a *shudder* [=*tremble*] in the floor as the truck drove by. ▪ a *shudder* of fear

[1]shuf•fle /ˈʃʌfəl/ *verb* **shuf•fles; shuf•fled; shuf•fling**

1 : to slide your feet along the ground or back and forth without lifting them completely [*no obj*] He *shuffled* across the floor. [+ *obj*] She stood there, *shuffling* her feet, waiting for the bus to arrive.

2 a [+ *obj*] : to move things or people into a different order or into different positions ▪ She *shuffled* the papers on her desk. ▪ The manager *shuffled* the batting order. **b** : to mix (playing cards) before playing a game so that no one knows what order they are in [+ *obj*] He *shuffled* the cards/deck. [*no obj*] Whose turn is it to *shuffle* and deal?

[2]shuffle *noun, pl* **shuffles**

1 [*singular*] : the act of moving by sliding your feet without lifting them off the ground ▪ We heard the *shuffle* of feet outside the door.

2 [*count*] : the act of mixing the order of playing cards : the act of shuffling cards ▪ He gave the cards a good *shuffle* and then dealt. ▪ Whose *shuffle* is it? [=whose turn is it to shuffle?]

lost in the shuffle *US* : not noticed or given attention because there are many other people or things to consider or deal with ▪ With six older kids, the baby sometimes is/gets *lost in the shuffle*.

shuf•fle•board /ˈʃʌfəlˌboəd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a game in which players use a long stick with a curved piece at one end to slide discs into scoring areas that are marked on the ground

shun /ˈʃʌn/ *verb* **shuns; shunned; shun•ning** [+ *obj*] : to avoid (someone or something) ▪ He *shuns* parties and social events. ▪ After his divorce he found himself being *shunned* by many of his former friends.

shunt /ˈʃʌnt/ *verb* **shunts; shunt•ed; shunt•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to move (someone or something) to a different and usually less important or noticeable place or position ▪ The company *shunted* him (off) to the mail room. — often used figuratively ▪ Her suggestions were *shunted aside*. [=*ignored*]

2 : to move (a train or railway car) from one track to another

[1]shush /ˈʃʌʃ, ˈʃʊʃ/ *verb* **shush•es; shushed; shush•ing** [+ *obj*] : to tell (someone) to be quiet ▪ The librarian *shushed* the noisy children.

[2]shush *interj* — used to tell someone to be quiet ▪ *Shush*! I can't hear the movie.

[1]shut /ˈʃʌt/ *verb* **shuts; shut; shut•ting**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to close (something) ▪ Please *shut* the door/window/lid/drawer. ▪ He *shut* his eyes and went to sleep. ▪ She *shut* the book loudly. ▪ I accidentally *shut* the door on her fingers. **b** [*no obj*] : to become closed ▪ flowers that *shut* at night ▪ The door *shut* slowly behind me.

2 : to stop the services or activities of (a business, school, etc.) for a period of time or forever : CLOSE [+ *obj*] The owner is *shutting* the pub for the weekend. ▪ They plan to *shut* the factory by the end of the year. [*no obj*] (*Brit*) The restaurant *shuts* [=*closes*] at 11.

shut away [*phrasal verb*] ***shut (someone or something) away*** : to put (someone or something) in a place that is separate from others ▪ She was *shut away* in prison for three years. ▪ He *shut* himself *away* (in his room) to study.

shut down [*phrasal verb*] **1 *shut down* or *shut down (something)* or *shut (something) down*** **a** : to close or to cause (a business, factory, etc.) to close for a period of time or forever ▪ They were forced to *shut down* the store. ▪ The factory *shut down*. ▪ The vendors started *shutting down* for the night. **b** : to stop operating or to cause (a machine) to stop operating ▪ The computer suddenly *shut down*. [=*turned off*] ▪ She *shut down* her computer and went home. — see also SHUTDOWN **2 *shut down (someone or something)* or *shut (someone or something) down*** *informal* : to cause (an opponent) to be unsuccessful, unable to score, etc. ▪ The defense *shut down* the opposition.

shut in [*phrasal verb*] **1 *shut (someone or something) in (something)*** : to put (someone or something) in a room and close or lock the door ▪ Someone *shut* the cat *in* the closet. ▪ He *shut* himself *in* his room to study. **2 *shut (something) in (something)*** : to have (something, such as your hand or finger) in between the parts of (something, such as a door or window) when it closes ▪ He accidentally *shut* his hand *in* the car door.

shut off [*phrasal verb*] **1 *shut off* or *shut off (something)* or *shut (something) off*** : to stop operating or to cause (a machine, light, etc.) to stop operating ▪ The camera *shuts off* [=*turns off*] automatically when not in use. ▪ She *shut off* the car. ▪ Who *shut off* the lights? ▪ *Shut* the television *off* and go to bed. **2 *shut off (something)* or *shut (something) off*** : to stop the flow or supply of (something) ▪ Make sure to *shut off* the water/gas/electricity before beginning any work. **3 *shut (yourself) off*** : to keep (yourself) in a place that is away from other people — usually + *from* ▪ He *shut* himself *off from* his family. **4 *shut (someone or something) off from (something)*** : to separate (someone or something) from (something) — usually used as *(be) shut off from* ▪ Here on the island, people *are shut off from* (contact with) the outside world.

shut out [*phrasal verb*] **1 *shut out (someone or something)* or *shut (someone or something) out*** : to stop (someone or something) from entering a place ▪ She locked the door and *shut* him *out* of the room. ▪ He closed the curtain to *shut out* the sunlight. ▪ Try *shutting out* the draft by putting a blanket at the bottom of the door. — often used figuratively ▪ He tried to *shut out* the memory of that day. = He tried to *shut* the memory *out* of his mind. **2 *shut out (someone)* or *shut (someone) out*** : to not allow (someone) to be involved in your life, to know your personal thoughts and feelings, etc. ▪ I can't help you if you keep *shutting* me *out*. — often + *of* ▪ She *shut* him *out of* her life completely. **3 *shut out (someone)* or *shut (someone) out*** *chiefly US* : to keep (a player or team) from scoring in a game or contest ▪ The team was *shut out* [=the team did not score any points] in the first half. — see also SHUTOUT

shut up [*phrasal verb*] **1** *informal* **a** : to stop talking, laughing, etc. ▪ He won't *shut up* about how he won the game. ▪ Can someone get that dog to *shut up*? — often used as a rude way to tell someone to stop talking ▪ *Shut up* for a second and listen to what I have to say. **b *shut (someone) up*** *informal* : to cause (someone) to stop talking, laughing, etc. ▪ Nothing *shuts* her *up*. **2 *shut up (something)* or *shut (something) up*** : to close and lock all the doors of (a house, store, etc.) ▪ They *shut up* the house and left town. ✧ In British English, to ***shut up shop*** is to go out of business forever or stop performing all services or activities for a period of time. ▪ Rather than *shutting up shop* [=*closing up shop*] entirely, the company laid off half of its workers. ▪ The store has already *shut up shop* for the day. **3 *shut (someone or something) up*** : to put (someone or something) in a place that is away from other people ▪ He *shut* himself *up* in his room all day to study.

shut your mouth or ***shut your face*** *informal* — used to tell someone in a rude way to stop talking ▪ She angrily told him to *shut his mouth*. ✧ This phrase is also used with other informal words for *mouth*, such as *yap, trap* and *gob*.

[2]shut *adj*

1 : not open : CLOSED ▪ She listened to the music with her eyes *shut*. ▪ The door slammed *shut*. ▪ Check to make sure that all the windows are *shut*. — see also OPEN-AND-SHUT

2 *Brit* : not operating or open to the public ▪ The store is *shut* [=*closed*] for remodeling.

keep your mouth shut see [1]MOUTH

with your eyes shut see [1]EYE

shut•down /ˈʃʌtˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs** [*count*] : the act of stopping the operation or activity of a business, machine, etc., for a period of time or forever ▪ the *shutdown* of the factory ▪ a maintenance *shutdown* — see also *shut down* at [1]SHUT

shut–eye /ˈʃʌtˌaɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : SLEEP ▪ You'd better get some *shut-eye*.

shut–in /ˈʃʌtˌɪn/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*] *US* : a sick or disabled person who rarely or never leaves home ▪ a service that delivers food to elderly *shut-ins*

shut•out /ˈʃʌtˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] *US* : a game or contest in which one side does not score ▪ They beat us in a 9–0 *shutout*. ▪ He pitched a *shutout*. — see also *shut out* at [1]SHUT

[1]shut•ter /ˈʃʌtə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]

1 : one of a pair of outside covers for a window that open and close like a door — usually plural ▪ She opened the *shutters*. — see picture at HOUSE

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2 : the part of a camera that opens to allow light in when a picture is taken

[2]shutter *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** [+ *obj*] *US*

1 : to cover (a window) with shutters ▪ They locked the doors and *shuttered* the windows.

2 : to close (a business, store, etc.) for a period of time or forever ▪ They declared bankruptcy and *shuttered* the store.

shut•ter•bug /'ʃʌtəˌbʌg/ *noun, pl* **-bugs** [*count*] *US, informal* : a person who enjoys taking photographs

shuttered *adj*

1 : having shutters or having closed shutters ▪ *shuttered* windows ▪ He kept the house *shuttered*.

2 *chiefly US* : closed for business for a period of time or forever ▪ old, *shuttered* factories

[1]shut•tle /'ʃʌtl/ *noun, pl* **shut•tles** [*count*]

1 : a vehicle that travels back and forth between places ▪ A *shuttle* takes people from the parking lot to the airport. — often used before another noun ▪ a *shuttle* bus/train/service

2 : SPACE SHUTTLE

3 : a pointed tool that is used to weave cloth by pulling a thread from side to side across other threads

[2]shuttle *verb* **shuttles**; **shut•tled**; **shut•tling**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to travel back and forth between places ▪ We *shuttled* between the city and the country all summer.

2 [+ *obj*] : to bring (people) back and forth between places ▪ A bus *shuttled* people from the parking lot to the dock.

shut•tle•cock /'ʃʌtlˌkɑ:k/ *noun, pl* **-cocks** [*count*] : a light object shaped like a cone that is hit over the net in the game of badminton — called also (*US*) *birdie*; see picture at RACKET

shuttle diplomacy *noun* [*noncount*] : activity in which a person travels back and forth between two countries and talks to their leaders in order to bring about agreement, prevent war, etc.

[1]shy /'ʃaɪ/ *adj* **shi•er** *or* **shy•er** /'ʃajɚ/; **shi•est** *or* **shy•est** /'ʃajəst/ [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : feeling nervous and uncomfortable about meeting and talking to people ▪ a *shy*, quiet girl ▪ I was painfully *shy* as a teenager. ▪ She was too *shy* to ask for help. **b** : showing that you are nervous and uncomfortable about meeting and talking to people ▪ her *shy* manner ▪ He gave her a *shy* smile.

2 : tending to avoid something because of nervousness, fear, dislike, etc. ▪ publicity *shy* ▪ camera *shy* — often + *of* ▪ He was never *shy of* controversy.

3 : hesitant about taking what you want or need ▪ Help yourself if you want more. Don't be *shy*.

4 *of an animal* : easily frightened : TIMID ▪ animals that are nocturnal and *shy*

5 *chiefly US* : having less than a full or expected amount or number : SHORT ▪ We were *shy* about 10 dollars. — usually + *of* ▪ He was two weeks *shy of* his 19th birthday when he joined the army. ▪ The ball stopped just a few inches *shy of* the hole. ▪ He's three credits *shy of* his bachelor's degree.

fight shy of *Brit* : to try to avoid something ▪ She has always *fought shy of* publicity.

once bitten, twice shy see [1]BITE

– shy•ly *adv* ▪ He answered/smiled *shyly*. **– shy•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]shy *verb* **shies**; **shied**; **shy•ing** [*no obj*] : to move away from something because of fear ▪ The horse *shied* when the gun went off.

shy from (*US*) *or* ***shy away from*** [*phrasal verb*] ***shy from (something)*** (*US*) *or* ***shy away from (something)*** : to try to avoid (something) because of nervousness, fear, dislike, etc. ▪ They never *shied from* publicity. ▪ She *shies away from* making any predictions. ▪ He *shied away from* discussing his divorce.

shy•ster /'ʃaɪstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sters** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : a dishonest person; *especially* : a dishonest lawyer or politician — often used before another noun ▪ a *shyster* lawyer

Si•a•mese cat /'sajəˌmi:z-/ *noun, pl* ~ **cats** [*count*] : a type of cat that has blue eyes and short light-colored hair on the body with darker-colored ears, paws, tail, and face

Si•a•mese twin /'sajəˌmi:z-/ *noun, pl* ~ **twins** [*count*] : CONJOINED TWIN

[1]sib•i•lant /'sɪbələnt/ *adj, formal* : making or having a sound like the letters *s* or *sh* ▪ *sibilant* consonants/whispers ▪ the *sibilant* hiss of a snake

[2]sibilant *noun, pl* **-lants** [*count*] *technical* : a sibilant sound (such as \s\ or \z\)

sib•ling /'sɪblɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-lings** [*count*] *formal* : a brother or sister ▪ Do you have any *siblings*? [=brothers or sisters] ▪ younger/older *siblings* ▪ *sibling* relationships ▪ There was barely any ***sibling rivalry*** [=competition between brothers and sisters] in our family.

[1]sic /'sɪk/ *verb* **sics**; **sicced** /'sɪkt/; **sic•cing** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to attack (someone or something) — usually used as a command to a dog ▪ *Sic* 'em, boy.

sic (something) on (someone or something) : to order (an animal, such as a dog) to attack (someone or something) ▪ He *sicced* his dog *on* me. — often used figuratively ▪ The company *sicced* their lawyers *on* me.

[2]sic — used in writing after an error (such as a spelling error) in a quotation to show that the error was made by the speaker or writer who is being quoted and not by you ▪ His letter said the people were "very freindly [*sic*] to me."

[1]sick /'sɪk/ *adj* **sick•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : affected with a disease or illness : ILL ▪ He is at home *sick* in bed. ▪ She is *sick* with the flu. ▪ I'm too *sick* to go to work. ▪ a *sick* dog ▪ The medicine just made me *sicker*. ▪ The *sickest* patients are in intensive care. ▪ My poor rosebush looks *sick*. ▪ (*US*) I hardly ever ***get sick*** ▪ (*US*) She has been ***out sick*** all week. = (*Brit*) She has been ***off sick*** all week. [=she has not been at work all week because she is sick] ▪ (*formal*) Dozens of workers ***fell sick*** [=became ill] from exposure to the fumes. ▪ (*old-fashioned*) He ***took sick*** [=became ill] and died. ▪ (*informal*) He was (as) ***sick as a dog*** [=he was very sick] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a *sick* economy — see also AIRSICK, CARSICK, SEASICK

2 *always used before a noun* : of or relating to people who are ill ▪ She has been on the *sick* list all week. ▪ the hospital's *sick* ward

3 a *not used before a noun, informal* : very annoyed or bored by something because you have had too much of it — + *of* ▪ He was *sick of* her lies. ▪ I'm getting *sick of* this cold weather. ▪ I'm *sick of* pizza—I had it three times this week already. ▪ What are you most *sick of*? ▪ I'm ***sick and tired of*** hearing you two argue. = I'm ***sick to death of*** hearing you two argue. **b** : very disgusted or angry ▪ The way they treat people ***makes me sick***

4 : not mentally normal or healthy ▪ I know it sounds *sick*, but I like reading about murders. ▪ He has a *sick* [=*perverted*] mind. ▪ *sick* [=*morbid, disturbing*] thoughts

5 : relating to very unpleasant or offensive things ▪ *sick* jokes/humor

6 a : very unpleasant ▪ I had a *sick* feeling that we were hopelessly lost. **b** : powerfully affected by a strong and unpleasant emotion — usually + *with* ▪ She was *sick with* shame/fear/longing/guilt. ▪ We have been ***sick with worry*** about her. = We've been ***worried sick*** [=very worried] about her. — see also HOMESICK, LOVESICK

be sick : to vomit ▪ I *was sick* [=*vomited, threw up*] several times. ▪ The last time I ate oysters, I *was* violently *sick*. [=I vomited a lot] ▪ Stop the car—I'm ***going to be sick*** [=I'm going to throw up]

call/phone in sick ✧ If you *call/phone in sick*, you make a phone call to your place of work to say you will not be working that day because you are sick. ▪ Two of the waiters *called in sick*, so we're very short-staffed.

feel sick **1** *US* : to feel ill ▪ I was *feeling sick*, so I went home early. **2** : to feel like you will vomit ▪ After eating a whole plate of cookies, I *felt sick*. **3** *US* : to feel very upset ▪ I *feel sick* about what happened.

report sick see [2]REPORT

sick at heart see HEART

sick to your stomach **1** *US* : caused to vomit ▪ I was *sick to my stomach* [=I vomited] last night. : feeling like you are going to vomit ▪ When I had the flu, just the thought of eating made me *sick to my stomach*. [=*nauseous*] **2** : feeling very disgusted or angry ▪ The way they treat people ***makes me sick to my stomach***

the sick : people who are sick : sick people ▪ She spent her life caring for *the sick* and dying.

[2]sick *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit, informal* : VOMIT

[3]sick *verb* **sicks**; **sicked**; **sick•ing**

sick up [*phrasal verb*] ***sick up (something)*** *or* ***sick (something) up*** *Brit, informal* : to vomit (something) ▪ He *sicked up* [=*threw up*] his dinner.

sick bay *noun, pl* ~ **bays** [*count*] : a place on a ship that is used to care for sick or injured people

sick•bed /'sɪkˌbɛd/ *noun, pl* **-beds** [*count*] : the bed on

which a sick person lies ▪ The general gave the orders from his *sickbed*.

sick day *noun, pl* ~ **days** [*count*] : a paid day in which an employee does not work because he or she is sick

sick•en /'sɪkən/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing**

1 *somewhat formal* : to become sick or to cause (someone) to become sick [*no obj*] Many people *sickened* and died on the long voyage. [+ *obj*] The bacteria in the drinking water *sickened* the whole village.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to feel disgusted or angry ▪ We were *sickened* by the reports of violence.

be sickening for *Brit, informal* : to be starting to have or suffer from (an illness) ▪ I've been sneezing all day. I must *be sickening for* something.

sicken of [*phrasal verb*] ***sicken of (something)*** *US* : to lose interest in (something) because you have had too much of it ▪ He soon *sickened of* [=*got sick of*] busy city life and moved out to the country.

sick•en•ing /'sɪkənɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : causing you to feel sick ▪ a *sickening* [=*nauseating*] odor/stench ▪ We had reached a *sickening* [=*dizzying*] height.

2 : causing a strong feeling of disgust ▪ a *sickening* display of selfishness ▪ *sickening* cruelty

3 *of a sound* : causing great concern especially because someone or something may have been badly harmed ▪ We heard the squeal of brakes and a *sickening* thud/crash.

– **sick•en•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ The cake was *sickeningly* sweet. ▪ a *sickeningly* familiar pattern of behavior

sick•ie /'sɪki/ *noun, pl* **-ies** [*count*] *informal*

1 *US* : SICKO ▪ He's a real *sickie*.

2 *Brit* : a day when someone who is not really sick claims to be sick and does not go to work ▪ He ***took/pulled/threw a sickie*** to go to the football game.

sick•le /'sɪkəl/ *noun, pl* **-les** [*count*] : a tool with a curved metal blade attached to a short handle that is used for cutting grass, grain, etc.

sick leave *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the number of days per year for which an employer agrees to pay workers who are unable to work because they are sick ▪ employee benefits such as vacation time and *sick leave* ▪ We are allotted three weeks annual *sick leave*. — called also *sick time*

2 : an absence from work because of sickness ▪ He's been on *sick leave* since last Thursday.

sickle–cell anemia (*US*) *or Brit* **sickle–cell anaemia** *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a serious disease that affects the red blood cells and occurs mostly in people of African, Mediterranean, or southwest Asian ancestry

sick•ly /'sɪkli/ *adj* **sick•li•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : often affected by a disease or illness : not healthy and strong ▪ a *sickly* child ▪ a *sickly* plant **b** : caused by or relating to sickness ▪ a *sickly* complexion/appetite

2 a : causing a person to feel sick ▪ A *sickly* [=*nauseating*] odor filled the room. **b** : causing feelings of dislike or disgust ▪ The walls were painted a *sickly* yellow.

3 : weak and pale ▪ The lamp gave off a *sickly* glow.

– **sickly** *adv* ▪ The dessert has a *sickly* sweet taste.

sick•ness /'sɪknəs/ *noun, pl* **-ness•es**

1 [*noncount*] : unhealthy condition of body or mind : the state of being sick ▪ She missed work due to *sickness*. [=*illness*]

2 [*count*] : a specific type of disease or illness ▪ He died from an unknown *sickness*. — see also RADIATION SICKNESS, SLEEPING SICKNESS

3 [*noncount*] : the feeling you have in your stomach when you think you are going to vomit ▪ The patient complained of *sickness* [=*nausea*] and stomach pains. — see also MORNING SICKNESS, MOTION SICKNESS, TRAVEL SICKNESS

sickness benefit *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : money that is paid by the government to someone who is too sick to work

sicko /'sɪkoʊ/ *noun, pl* **sick•os** [*count*] *informal* : a person who does disturbing things that a person who is mentally normal would not do ▪ She was afraid to walk alone for fear some *sicko* might be lurking in the shadows.

sick pay *noun* [*noncount*] : money that is paid by an employer to a person who misses work because of sickness

sick•room /'sɪkˌru:m/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] : a room in which a sick person stays ▪ We brought father home from the hospital and converted a spare room into a *sickroom*.

sick time *noun* [*noncount*] : SICK LEAVE

[1]side /'saɪd/ *noun, pl* **sides**

1 [*count*] : a place, space, or direction that is away from or beyond the center of something ▪ The army was attacked from all *sides*. ▪ the right-hand *side* of the street ▪ the opposite *side* of the room ▪ Move over. This is my *side* of the bed. — often used with *on* or *to* ▪ You have some dirt *on* the *side* of your face. ▪ The car was hit *on* the driver's *side*. ▪ They live *on* the other *side* of town. ▪ The cabins are *on* the east *side* of the lake. ▪ Guards stood *on* either *side* of the gate. ▪ The army was surrounded *on* every *side*. ▪ He sat *on* the *side* [=*edge*] of the bed. ▪ The statue is leaning *to* the *side*. ▪ The dog tilted its head *to* one *side*. ▪ Pull over *to* the *side* of the road.

2 [*count*] **a** : an outer surface or part of something ▪ The box says, "THIS *SIDE* UP." — often + *of* ▪ the dark *side of* the moon ▪ You should season both *sides of* the steak before you grill it. **b** : one of the surfaces of an object that is not the front, back, top, or bottom — often + *of* ▪ Nutritional information can be found on the *side of* the box. ▪ Red cloth decorated the front and *sides of* the platform. ▪ The *side of* the car was badly dented. **c** : one of the two surfaces of a thin object ▪ Flip the record over and play the other *side*. — often + *of* ▪ She wrote on both *sides of* the paper. ▪ Look on the back *side of* the note.

3 [*count*] : a line that forms part of a geometric shape ▪ A square has four *sides*. : a surface that forms part of a geometric object ▪ A cube has six *sides*.

4 [*count*] : one of the slopes of a hill or mountain — often + *of* ▪ the steep *side of* the hill ▪ They built a house on the *side of* a mountain. — see also HILLSIDE, MOUNTAINSIDE

5 [*count*] **a** : the right or left part of your body ▪ She likes to sleep on her right *side*. : the right or left part of your body from your shoulder to your hip ▪ I have a pain in my left *side*. ▪ We laughed so much that our *sides* hurt. **b** : the place directly to the right or left of someone — usually singular ▪ I stood ***at/by her side*** as she spoke to reporters. ▪ I was standing ***on her left side***. ▪ She set/put the book ***to the/one side*** and looked out the window. — often used figuratively ▪ His wife ***stood at/by his side*** [=remained loyal to him] throughout the scandal. ▪ Promise me that you will not ***leave my side***. [=abandon me] — see also BLIND SIDE

6 [*count*] : one of two or more opinions, positions, etc., that disagree with each other ▪ He listened to both *sides* of the argument. ▪ My *side* [=*version*] of the story is different from his. ▪ She has since changed *sides* on that issue. ▪ You are both my friends, so I don't want to ***choose/pick/take sides***. [=support one person and not the other] ▪ Are you ***on my side*** or his? [=do you support me or him?] ▪ ***Whose side are you on***, anyway? ▪ People ***on both sides*** of the dispute [=people who support one position and people who support the other position] agree that changes are necessary. — see also ON YOUR SIDE (below)

7 [*count*] : one of the two or more people or groups that are involved in an argument, war, etc. ▪ All *sides* agreed on the treaty. ▪ Each *side* accuses the other of delaying progress.

8 [*count*] **a** : a sports team ▪ There are 11 players on each *side*. ▪ Our *side* won the game. ▪ (*Brit*) a football *side* ▪ We need to ***choose/pick sides*** [=to decide which players will be on each team] before we start playing. **b** *baseball* : the players on a team who bat in an inning — usually singular ▪ The pitcher struck out the *side* [=struck out three batters] in the first inning.

9 a [*count*] : a particular part or feature of something that is opposite to or different from another part or feature ▪ There are good/positive and bad/negative *sides* to owning your own business. — often + *of* ▪ He's learning about the sales *side of* the business. ▪ She ***kept her side of the bargain/deal***. [=she did what she agreed to do] — see also DOWNSIDE, FLIP SIDE, UPSIDE **b** — used in phrases like ***on the large side***, ***on the heavy side***, etc., to describe someone or something as somewhat heavy, large, etc. ▪ She has always been a little *on the heavy side*. [=has always been somewhat heavy] ▪ These pants are *on the tight side*. [=are a little tight] ▪ The sauce is a bit *on the spicy side*. [=is a bit spicy] ▪ Your boyfriend is *on the young side* for you, isn't he?

10 [*count*] **a** : a part of someone's personality that is opposite or different from another part ▪ I have never seen this *side* of you before. ▪ He is in touch with his feminine *side*. **b** — used in phrases like ***be/get on someone's good/bad side*** and ***be/get on the right/wrong side of someone*** to talk about doing things that cause someone to like you or dislike you ▪ Trust me. You don't want to *get on his bad side*. [=you don't want to make him annoyed or angry] ▪ She tries to *keep/stay on her boss's good side* by finishing all of her work on time. ▪ If you *get on the wrong side of* him [=if you make him annoyed or angry] he can be very mean.

S

11 [*count*] : the ancestors or relatives of your mother or your father ▪ She gets her red hair from her mother's *side*. ▪ Both *sides* of his family are Irish. ▪ my grandfather on my father's *side* [=my father's father]
12 [*count*] *US* : a small amount of food that is ordered in addition to the main meal — often + *of* ▪ I ordered a *side of* fries with my hamburger.
13 [*count*] : one of the two halves of an animal that is eaten as food — usually + *of* ▪ a *side of* bacon/pork/beef
14 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a page of writing on one side of a piece of paper ▪ I wrote two *sides* in response to the question.
15 [*count*] *Brit, informal* + *old-fashioned* : a television channel — usually singular ▪ What's on the other *side*?
a thorn in the/your side see THORN
err on the side of see ERR
(from) side to side : moving to the left and then to the right ▪ She shook her head *from side to side* in disagreement. ▪ waving the flags *from side to side* ▪ He moved *side to side* on the tennis court.
let the side down *Brit* : to disappoint your family, friends, etc., by failing to do what is needed or expected ▪ I feel like I really *let the side down*. [=let everyone down]
on side *Brit* : included among the group of people who support a particular goal, project, etc. ▪ We need to keep everyone *on side*. [=*on board*]
on the bright side see BRIGHT
on the credit side see [1]CREDIT
on the debit side see [1]DEBIT
on the right/wrong side of 30, 40, 50 (etc.) *informal* : younger/older than 30, 40, 50 (etc.) ▪ She's still *on the right side of 40*. [=younger than 40]
on the side **1 a** : in addition to the main item in a meal ▪ We were served salmon with rice and grilled vegetables *on the side*. **b** : served next to something rather than on top of it ▪ For my salad, I'd like Italian dressing *on the side*. **2** : in addition to your main job ▪ She sells insurance *on the side*. **3** : as part of a secret romantic relationship that is outside of your marriage or main romantic relationship ▪ a married man with a girlfriend *on the side* ▪ She had a fiancé but was seeing another man *on the side*.
on the wrong/right side of the law — used to say that someone is or is not living the life of a criminal ▪ He has been *on the wrong side of* the law since he stole a car at the age of 17. ▪ Now that she's out of prison she's trying to stay *on the right side of the law*. [=trying not to get into trouble with the police]
on your side : as an advantage ▪ He is not a very tall basketball player, but he does have quickness *on his side*. : helping you to succeed ▪ Luck seems to be *on your side* tonight. ▪ Time is *on our side*. [=we have a lot of time to do what we need to do] — see also [1]SIDE 6 (above)
side by side **1** : next to each other and facing in the same direction ▪ We walked *side by side* down the hallway. ▪ They stood *side by side* at the altar. **2** : together or very close to each other ▪ The tribes have lived peacefully *side by side* for many years. ▪ People worked *side by side* to rescue the trapped coal miners.
split your sides (laughing) see [1]SPLIT
the other side of the coin see [1]COIN
the wrong side of the tracks see [1]TRACK
this side of **1 a** : very nearly (something) ▪ Their actions were just *this side of* illegal. [=were almost but not quite illegal] **b** : that is not (something) : other than (something) ▪ the worst punishment *this side of* death **2** *Brit* : BEFORE ▪ She's not likely to be back *this side of* Monday week.
to the/one side **1** : to a place that is on one side : ASIDE ▪ Please move/step *to the side*. I need to get past you. ▪ He put his luggage *to one side*. ▪ She took the boy *to the side* [=away from other people] and told him to behave. **2** : in a state in which something is not dealt with, done, or used until a later time : ASIDE ▪ Let's put/leave that question *to the side* for a moment. ▪ He set his household chores *to the side* to finish writing his essay. ▪ They managed to put some money *to the side* every month. — see also [1]SIDE 1 (above)
two sides of the same coin see [1]COIN
– compare [4]SIDE

[2]side *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : of or located on the side of something ▪ a front and *side* view of the car ▪ The jacket has *side* pockets. ▪ Please use the *side* door/entrance.
2 : happening or done in addition to the main or most important thing ▪ A *side* benefit of the drug is that it helps patients relax. ▪ She took on a *side* project/job during the summer. ▪ a *side* remark/issue
3 : in addition to the main meal ▪ a *side* salad ▪ I had a burger with a ***side order*** of fries. ▪ I'll have rice as a ***side dish***.

[3]side *verb* **sides**; **sid·ed**; **sid·ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to cover the outside walls of (a building) with long pieces of material (called siding) ▪ They just *sided* their house.
side against [*phrasal verb*] ***side against (someone)*** : to not agree with (someone) : to not support the opinions or actions of (someone) ▪ They both *sided against* [=*opposed*] me. ▪ His father *sided* with his mother *against* him.
side with [*phrasal verb*] ***side with (someone)*** : to agree with or support the opinions or actions of (someone) ▪ She *sided with* her friend in the argument. ▪ They betrayed their country and *sided with* the enemy.

[4]side *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit, informal* : an unpleasantly proud attitude or way of behaving ▪ He was a war hero and yet there was ***no side to*** him. [=he was not arrogant or pretentious] — compare [1]SIDE

[1]side·arm /ˈsaɪdˌɑɚm/ *noun, pl* **-arms** [*count*] : a weapon (such as a sword or handgun) that is worn on your hip or in your belt

[2]sidearm *adj, chiefly US* : done with your arm moving out to the side ▪ The pitcher has a *sidearm* delivery. ▪ a *sidearm* pass
– **sidearm** *adv* ▪ He throws *sidearm*.

side·board /ˈsaɪdˌboɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards**
1 [*count*] : a piece of furniture that has drawers and shelves for holding dishes, silverware, table linen, etc.
2 *sideboards* [*plural*] *Brit* : SIDEBURNS

side·burns /ˈsaɪdˌbɚnz/ *noun* [*plural*] : hair that grows on the side of a man's face in front of his ears — see picture at BEARD

side–by–side *adj, always used before a noun* : positioned next to each other ▪ *side-by-side* beds : involving things that are positioned next to each other ▪ a *side-by-side* comparison of the two paintings

side·car /ˈsaɪdˌkɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-cars** [*count*] : a small vehicle that is attached to the side of a motorcycle for a passenger to ride in

sided *adj* : having sides usually of a specified number or kind — used in combination ▪ a two-*sided* letter ▪ glass-*sided* buildings — see also DOUBLE-SIDED, ONE-SIDED

side effect *noun, pl* ~ **-fects** [*count*]
1 : an often harmful and unwanted effect of a drug or chemical that occurs along with the desired effect ▪ Nausea and diarrhea are the *side effects* of the drug. ▪ the harmful *side effects* of using chemicals to kill insects
2 : a result of an action that is not expected or intended ▪ The merger created positive *side effects* for both companies.

side·kick /ˈsaɪdˌkɪk/ *noun, pl* **-kicks** [*count*] *informal* : a person who helps and spends a lot of time with someone who is usually more important, powerful, etc. ▪ the mayor and his *sidekick*

side·light /ˈsaɪdˌlaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-lights** [*count*]
1 : a piece of information that is in addition to the main information ▪ The book includes some amusing *sidelights* about his childhood
2 *Brit* : PARKING LIGHT

[1]side·line /ˈsaɪdˌlaɪn/ *noun, pl* **-lines** [*count*]
1 a : a line that marks the outside edge of a sports field or court **b** : the space outside the area where a game is played on a field or court — usually plural ▪ We stood ***on the sidelines*** to watch the game. ▪ He was forced to watch the game ***from the sidelines***. — often used figuratively ▪ His injury has kept him *on the sidelines* [=has kept him from playing] this season. ▪ He stayed *on the sidelines* and let his daughter run the family business her way.
2 : a job that is done in addition to your main job ▪ She makes and sells jewelry ***as a sideline***.

[2]sideline *verb* **-lines**; **-lined**; **-lin·ing** [+ *obj*] : to prevent (a player) from playing in a game especially because of injury, illness, etc. — usually used as *(be) sidelined* ▪ He *was sidelined* with a knee injury. — often used figuratively ▪ a lawyer *sidelined* by illness ▪ Her career had *been sidelined* for several years by motherhood.

side·long /ˈsaɪdˌlɑːŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : made to the left or right or out of the corner of your eye ▪ a *sidelong* look/glance
– **sidelong** *adv* ▪ She glanced *sidelong* at her brother.

side road *noun, pl* ~ **roads** [*count*] : a smaller road that is connected to a main road ▪ We like driving on *side roads* when we travel.

side·sad·dle /ˈsaɪdˌsædl/ *noun, pl* **-sad·dles** [*count*] : a

saddle that is made for a rider to sit with both legs on one side of the horse
– **sidesaddle** *adv* ▪ She rode/sat *sidesaddle*. [=she rode/sat with both legs on one side of the horse]

side•show /'saɪdˌʃoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-shows** [*count*]
1 : a smaller show that is performed in addition to a main show ▪ a circus *sideshow*
2 : an activity or event that is less important than the main activity or event ▪ Their disagreement is just a political *sideshow* when compared to the real issues at hand.

side•split•ting /'saɪdˌsplɪtɪŋ/ *adj, informal* : very funny ▪ a *sidesplitting* comedy/performance

side•step /'saɪdˌstɛp/ *verb* **-steps**; **-stepped**; **-step•ping**
1 : to avoid walking into or being hit by (someone or something) by stepping to the right or left [+ *obj*] She *sidestepped* the puddle. [*no obj*] He *sidestepped* to avoid (being hit by) his opponent.
2 [+ *obj*] : to avoid answering or dealing with (something) directly ▪ She *sidestepped* the reporter's question. ▪ They're *sidestepping* the real issue.

side street *noun, pl* ~ **streets** [*count*] : a smaller street that connects to and often ends at a main road ▪ We live on a quiet *side street*.

[1]side•swipe /'saɪdˌswaɪp/ *verb* **-swipes**; **-swiped**; **-swip•ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to hit the side of a vehicle with the side of another vehicle ▪ The taxi *sideswiped* a parked car.

[2]sideswipe *noun, pl* **-swipes** [*count*] : a critical remark about someone or something that is made while talking about someone or something else ▪ She ***took a sideswipe at*** the senator's voting record.

side table *noun, pl* ~ **tables** [*count*] : a table that is designed to be placed against a wall

side•track /'saɪdˌtræk/ *verb* **-tracks**; **-tracked**; **-track•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to cause (someone) to talk about or do something different and less important — usually used as *(be/get) sidetracked* ▪ Now, what was I saying? I *got sidetracked* by that phone call.
2 *US* **a** : to change the direction or use of (something) — usually used as *(be) sidetracked* ▪ The grant money *was sidetracked* [=*diverted*] to fund unrelated research projects. **b** : to prevent (something) from being dealt with — usually used as *(be) sidetracked* ▪ The real issue *has been sidetracked*.

side–view mirror *noun, pl* ~ **-rors** [*count*] *US* : a mirror on the outside of a vehicle that allows the driver to see what is behind and to the right or left of the vehicle ▪ the right/left *side-view mirror* — called also (*Brit*) *wing mirror*

side•walk /'saɪdˌwɑːk/ *noun, pl* **-walks** [*count*] *US* : a usually concrete path along the side of a street for people to walk on ▪ Bicycles are not allowed on the *sidewalk*. ▪ *sidewalk* cafés ▪ a ***sidewalk sale*** [=an event in which a store displays its goods outside on a sidewalk] — called also (*Brit*) *pavement*; see picture at STREET

side•ways /'saɪdˌweɪz/ *adv*
1 : with one side facing forward ▪ We had to turn *sideways* to let them through the crowded hallway. ▪ crabs walking *sideways* along the beach
2 : to or toward the right or left side ▪ Helicopters can fly up, down, forward, backward, and *sideways*. ▪ She fell *sideways* and landed on her shoulder. ▪ I looked *sideways* at him to see if he was smiling.
– **sideways** *adj* ▪ a *sideways* movement/glance

sid•ing /'saɪdɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**
1 [*noncount*] *US* : long pieces of material that are used to cover the outside walls of a building ▪ vinyl *siding* — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *cladding*
2 [*count*] : a short railroad track that is connected with the main track

si•dle /'saɪdl/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **si•dles**; **si•dled**; **si•dling** [*no obj*]
1 : to move close to someone in a quiet or secret way ▪ He *sidled* up to me and slipped me a note. ▪ She *sidled* over and whispered, "Do you see that guy?"
2 : to go or move with one side forward ▪ The crab *sidled* away. ▪ She *sidled* through the narrow opening.

SIDS *abbr* sudden infant death syndrome

siege /'siːʤ/ *noun, pl* **sieg•es**
1 : a situation in which soldiers or police officers surround a city, building, etc., in order to try to take control of it [*count*] the *siege* of Paris ▪ The castle was built to withstand a *siege*. [*noncount*] The city is in a ***state of siege***.
2 [*count*] : a serious and lasting attack *of* something — usually singular ▪ He's recovering from a *siege of* depression. ▪ a long *siege of* bitterly cold temperatures
lay siege to (something or someone) **1** : to surround (a city, building, etc.) with soldiers or police officers in order to try to take control of it ▪ The army *laid siege to* the city. **2** : to attack (something or someone) constantly or repeatedly — usually used figuratively ▪ Angry taxpayers *laid siege to* city hall with letters and phone calls.
under siege **1** : surrounded with soldiers or police officers in a siege ▪ The city was *under siege* and food was getting scarce. **2** : very seriously attacked or criticized by many people ▪ The newspaper has been *under siege* lately by its readers for printing a false story.

siege mentality *noun* [*singular*] : a strong feeling that you are in constant danger or are surrounded by enemies ▪ Living in a high-crime area can create a *siege mentality*.

si•en•na /siˈɛnə/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a brownish-yellow color
2 : a reddish-brown color

si•er•ra /siˈerə/ *noun, pl* **-ras** [*count*]
1 : a range of mountains with sharply pointed peaks ▪ The *Sierra* Nevada is a mountain range in California.
2 : a mountain in a sierra — usually plural ▪ The *sierras* rose up sharply before us.

si•es•ta /siˈɛstə/ *noun, pl* **-tas**
1 : a regular period of sleep or rest in the afternoon in some hot countries [*count*] Most of the shops were closed after lunch for a two-hour *siesta*. [*noncount*] The shops are closed during *siesta*. ▪ It's *siesta* time.
2 [*count*] : a brief sleep : NAP ▪ He's taking a little *siesta* out there on the patio.

[1]sieve /'sɪv/ *noun, pl* **sieves** [*count*] : a kitchen tool that has many small holes and that is used to separate smaller particles from larger ones or solids from liquids
have a memory/mind like a sieve *informal* : to have a very bad memory : to be unable to remember things ▪ I'm sorry. I *have a memory like a sieve*. What was your name again?

[2]sieve *verb* **sieves**; **sieved**; **siev•ing** [+ *obj*] : to put (something) through a sieve ▪ She *sieved* [=*sifted*] the flour into a mixing bowl.

sift /'sɪft/ *verb* **sifts**; **sift•ed**; **sift•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to put (flour, sugar, etc.) through a sifter or sieve ▪ *Sift* the flour into a mixing bowl. ▪ *sifted* flour **b** : to separate or remove (something) by using a sifter or sieve ▪ *Sift* the lumps from the sugar. — often + *out* ▪ *Sift out* the rocks from the sand. — often used figuratively ▪ The lawyer *sifted out* the relevant facts of the case.
2 : to go through (something) very carefully in order to find something useful or valuable [+ *obj*] The police *sifted* the evidence in hopes of finding a clue. [*no obj*] The police *sifted* for clues. ▪ The lawyer ***sifted through*** the hundreds of pages of testimony. ▪ Firefighters *sifted through* the debris.

sift•er /'sɪftɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 *chiefly US* : [1]SIEVE; *especially* : a special kitchen tool used for sifting flour, sugar, etc.
2 *Brit* : SHAKER 1

sigh /'saɪ/ *verb* **sighs**; **sighed**; **sigh•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to take in and let out a long, loud breath in a way that shows you are bored, disappointed, relieved, etc. ▪ He *sighed* with/in relief when he saw that he passed the test.
2 [*no obj*] *literary* : to make a sound like sighing ▪ The wind *sighed* through the trees.
3 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) with a sigh ▪ "I may never see my old home again," she *sighed*.
– **sigh** *noun, pl* **sighs** [*count*] ▪ She gave a long, weary *sigh*. ▪ He sank into the chair with a *sigh*. — often + *of* ▪ a *sigh of* disappointment ▪ I can ***breathe a sigh of relief*** [=stop worrying] now that she's safe.

[1]sight /'saɪt/ *noun, pl* **sights**
1 [*noncount*] : the sense through which a person or animal becomes aware of light, color, etc., by using the eyes : the ability to see ▪ Your *sight* [=*vision, eyesight*] weakens as you get older. ▪ She regained *sight* in her left eye. ▪ He ***lost his sight*** [=he became blind] at a young age.
2 [*noncount*] : the act of seeing someone or something ▪ I know him ***by sight*** [=I have seen him], but I don't know his name. ▪ She hated him ***on sight***. [=she hated him the first time she saw him] ▪ The officers were ordered to ***shoot on sight***. — often + *of* ▪ The (mere) *sight of* her ex-boyfriend filled her with rage. ▪ We ***lost sight of*** the plane. [=we could no longer see the plane] ▪ He faints ***at the sight of*** [=when he sees] blood. ▪ He ***can't stand/bear the sight of*** blood. ▪ She

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caught sight of an eagle gliding through the air. — often used figuratively ▪ We must not *lose sight of* our goal. [=we must keep thinking about our goal]

3 [*noncount*] : a position in which someone or something can be seen ▪ The ship came ***into sight***. [=*into view*] ▪ When I looked out the door, there was no one ***in sight***. [=no one could be seen] ▪ Keep ***out of sight*** until I tell you it's OK to come out. ▪ The child wandered *out of sight*. ▪ ***Get out of my sight!*** [=go away from me; I don't want to see you] ▪ Don't let the puppy *out of your sight*. ▪ The rabbit ***disappeared from sight*** into the tall grass. ▪ The controls are ***hidden from sight*** behind a panel. ▪ She left her purse out ***in plain sight***. = Her purse was ***in plain sight of*** anyone passing by. ▪ We finally ***came in/within sight of*** the mountains. [=we finally came to a place where we could see the mountains] ▪ A large pole was directly in my ***line of sight***. [=a large pole was blocking my view] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The end of the project is finally *in/within sight*. [=the end of the project is finally near] ✧ The phrase ***out of sight, out of mind*** means that you stop thinking about something or someone if you do not see that thing or person for a period of time.

4 [*count*] **a** : someone or something that is seen ▪ The old dog was a pathetic/sorry *sight*. ▪ Deer are a common/familiar *sight* in this area. ▪ I've seen what he looks like when he gets out of bed in the morning, and believe me, it's ***not a pretty sight***. ▪ The birth of the calf was ***a sight to see/behold***. [=was an amazing or wonderful thing to see] ▪ We enjoyed the ***sights and sounds*** of the casino. **b** : a famous or interesting place in an area — usually plural ▪ Our tour guide showed us the *sights*. ▪ We saw all the *sights* of/in the city.

5 [*singular*] *informal* : someone or something that is strange, funny, messy, etc. ▪ I'd invite you in, but the living room is a *sight*. ▪ He was all dressed up as a pirate. It was quite a *sight* (to see)! ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) You should get some sleep. You ***look a sight***.

6 *sights* [*plural*] : a goal or expectation ▪ The company has raised/lowered its *sights* for annual sales by five percent. ▪ She has ***set her sights on*** becoming a doctor. [=she wants to become a doctor]

7 [*count*] : a device that is used to aim a gun ▪ He adjusted the *sight* of the rifle. — usually plural ▪ The deer was ***in her sights***. = She could see the deer *in her sights*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He always had a law career *in his sights*. [=his goal was always to have a law career]

8 [*singular*] *informal* : a large amount or extent : a lot ▪ The car is a *sight* less expensive and has better gas mileage. ▪ The book is ***a far sight*** [=a great deal] better than the movie. ▪ You'll have to work ***a damn/darn sight*** quicker than that if you want to get done on time.

a sight for sore eyes : a person or thing that you are very glad to see ▪ After being away from home for so long, my friends and family were *a sight for sore eyes*.

at first sight see ¹FIRST

drop out of sight see ²DROP

heave in/into sight see ¹HEAVE

no end in sight see ¹END

out of sight *US, informal + old-fashioned* : very good ▪ The show was really *out of sight*.

sight gag see ²GAG

sight unseen : without seeing or examining something ▪ They bought the house *sight unseen*. [=they bought the house without first looking at it]

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²sight *verb* **sights**; **sight•ed**; **sight•ing** [+ *obj*] : to see (something or someone that is being looked for or that is rarely seen or difficult to see) ▪ They *sighted* a ship in the distance. ▪ Several bears have been *sighted* in the area.

sight•ed /'saɪtəd/ *adj* : able to see : not blind ▪ blind and *sighted* people ▪ partially *sighted* people [=people who are not blind but have only a limited ability to see] — see also CLEAR-SIGHTED, FARSIGHTED, LONG-SIGHTED, NEAR-SIGHTED, SHORTSIGHTED

sighting *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : an act of seeing something or someone that is rarely seen or difficult to see — often + *of* ▪ There have been several *sightings of* whales swimming off the island.

sight•less /'saɪtləs/ *adj, literary* : not able to see : BLIND ▪ *sightless* eyes

sight–read /'saɪtˌri:d/ *verb* **-reads**; **-read** /-ˌrɛd/; **-read•ing** /-ˌri:dɪŋ/ : to perform (written music) while reading it for the first time without practicing it [+ *obj*] The orchestra hired her because she could *sight-read* even the most difficult scores. [*no obj*] She *sight-reads* well.

— **sight reader** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] — **sight–reading** *noun* [*noncount*]

sight•see•ing /'saɪtˌsi:ɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of visiting the famous or interesting places of an area ▪ We spent the afternoon *sightseeing*. ▪ We did a lot of *sightseeing* on our vacation.

— **sight•seer** /'saɪtˌsi:ɚ/ *noun, pl* **-seers** [*count*] ▪ The church attracts a lot of *sightseers*.

sig•ma /'sɪgmə/ *noun, pl* **-mas** [*count*] : the 18th letter of the Greek alphabet — Σ or σ or ς

¹sign /'saɪn/ *noun, pl* **signs** [*count*]

1 : a piece of paper, wood, etc., with words or pictures on it that gives information about something ▪ The *sign* in the store window says "OPEN." ▪ After you get off the highway, follow the *signs* for Route 25. ▪ road/street/traffic *signs* ▪ He ran the stop *sign*. ▪ There was a "For Sale" *sign* on the car.

2 : something (such as an action or event) which shows that something else exists, is true, or will happen ▪ All the *signs* point to him as the guilty party. ▪ She ignored me, which was a sure *sign* that she was mad at me. ▪ "The company called me in for a second interview." "That's a ***good sign***." ▪ It was a ***bad sign*** that he couldn't walk on the injured leg. ▪ There are plenty of ***warning signs*** that the company is in danger of bankruptcy. — often + *of* ▪ Chest pain could be a *sign of* a heart attack. ▪ We remained alert for any *signs of* danger. ▪ the telltale *signs of* the disease ▪ the first *signs of* spring ▪ The bartender called the police ***at the first sign of*** trouble. [=as soon as there was trouble] ▪ The runner ***showed signs of*** fatigue. [=appeared to be tired] ▪ His writing is *showing signs of* improvement. [=appears to be improving] ▪ He ***showed no sign of*** remorse. ▪ The planet *showed no signs of* life. [=there was no evidence of living things on the planet] — see also VITAL SIGNS

3 : a motion, action, or movement that you use to express a thought, command, or wish ▪ They bowed before the king as a *sign* of respect. ▪ The teacher made a *sign* for the students to be quiet. ▪ a picture of the president giving the thumbs-up *sign* — see also SIGN OF THE CROSS

4 : any one of the hand movements that are used in sign language — often + *for* ▪ Do you know the *sign for* "thank you"? ▪ the *sign for* the letter B

5 : a symbol that is used to represent something especially in mathematics ▪ The symbol ÷ is the *sign* for division. — see also CALL SIGN, DIVISION SIGN, DOLLAR SIGN, MINUS SIGN, MULTIPLICATION SIGN, PLUS SIGN

6 : STAR SIGN ▪ What's your *sign*?

a sign of the times : something that shows the kinds of things that are happening, popular, important, etc., in a culture at a particular period in history ▪ Having metal detectors in schools is *a sign of the times*.

²sign *verb* **signs**; **signed**; **sign•ing**

1 a : to write (your name) on something [+ *obj*] *Sign* your name on the bottom line. ▪ She met with fans and *signed* autographs. [*no obj*] Please *sign* at the bottom of the application. ▪ Make sure you get all the details before you ***sign on the dotted line***. [=officially agree to buy or do something by signing a document] **b** [+ *obj*] : to write your name on (something) especially to show that you accept, agree with, or will be responsible for something ▪ You forgot to *sign* the document/letter/check. ▪ He was forced to *sign* the confession. ▪ The contract was *signed* by both parties. ▪ The author will be *signing* copies of his books today. ▪ a *signed* confession ▪ The contract should be ***signed, sealed, and delivered*** by tomorrow. ▪ The President ***signed*** the bill ***into law***. [=made the bill a law by signing an official document]

2 a [+ *obj*] : to hire (someone) to do something especially by having that person sign a contract ▪ The team *signed* the pitcher to a three-year contract. ▪ He is *signed* to a three-year contract. ▪ The studio *signed* her to do another movie. = The studio *signed* her for another movie. — see also SIGN ON (below), SIGN UP (below) **b** [*no obj*] : to agree to work for or to produce something for an organization, business, etc., especially by signing a contract ▪ She *signed* to direct two movies for the studio. — usually + *with* ▪ She *signed with* the studio to direct two movies. ▪ He *signed with* the team for one season. ▪ The band *signed with* an independent label. — see also SIGN ON (below), SIGN UP (below)

3 : to communicate by using sign language [*no obj*] The child is learning how to *sign*. [+ *obj*] She *signed* "please."

sign away [*phrasal verb*] ***sign (something) away*** *or* ***sign away (something)*** : to give (something, such as rights or property) to someone by signing a document ▪ He *signed away* his share of the property.

sign for [*phrasal verb*] ***sign for (something)*** : to sign a document to show that you have received (a package, letter, etc.) ▪ I *signed for* the package when it was delivered.

sign in [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to sign your name on a list, in a book, etc., to show that you have arrived ▪ All visitors must *sign in* upon arrival. **b** ***sign (someone) in*** *or* ***sign in (someone)*** : to write the name of (someone) on a list, in a book, etc., to show that they have arrived ▪ The receptionist *signed* the guests *in*. **2** ***sign (something) in*** *or* ***sign in (something)*** : to sign your name on a list, in a book, etc., to show that you have returned (something that you borrowed) ▪ He *signed* the video equipment (back) *in*.

sign off [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to end a letter or broadcast by signing or saying your name ▪ She *signed off* with "Yours Truly, Maria." ▪ "This is DJ Fresh *signing off*. Peace." ▪ The radio station *signs off* [=stops broadcasting] at midnight. **2** *US* ***sign off*** *or Brit* ***sign (something) off*** *or Brit* ***sign off (something)*** : to approve something officially by signing your name ▪ (*US*) She refused to *sign off* until the wording was changed. ▪ (*Brit*) He inspected the memo before *signing* it *off*. — usually + *on* in U.S. English ▪ He ***signed off on*** the memo [=he approved the memo by signing it] and gave it back to his secretary for distribution.

sign on [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to agree to do something (such as a job) especially by signing a contract ▪ She *signed on* to the new project. ▪ He *signed on* [=*signed up*] as a member of the crew. **b** ***sign (someone) on*** *or* ***sign on (someone)*** : to hire (someone) to do something especially by having that person sign a contract ▪ The studio has *signed* her *on* [=*signed* her *up*] to do another movie. ▪ She's *signed on* for another movie. — see also ²SIGN 2 (above) **2** : to start a broadcast by saying your name ▪ "This is DJ Fresh *signing on*." ▪ The radio station *signs on* [=begins broadcasting] at 5:00 a.m. **3** *Brit* : to report officially that you are unemployed in order to receive money from the government ▪ She lost her job and had to *sign on*.

sign out [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to sign your name on a list, in a book, etc., to show that you have left a place ▪ Did the visitors *sign out*? **b** ***sign (someone) out*** *or* ***sign out (someone)*** : to write the name of (someone) on a list, in a book, etc., to show that they have left a place ▪ The receptionist *signed* the guests *out*. **2** ***sign (something) out*** *or* ***sign out (something)*** : to sign your name on a list, in a book, etc., to show that you have borrowed (something) ▪ He *signed* the video equipment *out*. ▪ The library book is *signed out*.

sign over [*phrasal verb*] ***sign (something) over*** *or* ***sign over (something)*** : to give (something that you own, such as rights or property) to someone by signing a document ▪ He *signed over* the property to his brother.

sign up [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to sign your name on a document or list in order to get, do, or take something ▪ She *signed up* for health insurance. ▪ He *signed up* for tennis lessons. ▪ Students can now *sign up* for classes. **b** : to indicate that you will definitely do a job, join a team, etc., especially by signing a contract ▪ He *signed up* [=*signed on*] as an Army reservist. ▪ She *signed up* with another team. **2** ***sign (someone) up*** *or* ***sign up (someone)*** **a** : to add the name of (someone) to an official list in order for that person to get, do, or take something ▪ The church has *signed up* more than enough volunteers for the festival. **b** : to hire (someone) to do something especially by having that person sign a contract ▪ The team *signed up* [=*signed on*] several new players. ▪ The record label *signed* the band *up*. — see also ²SIGN 2 (above)

sign·age /ˈsaɪnɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : signs or a system of signs used to show information about something (such as a business or a road) ▪ Recent airport improvements include more lighting and better *signage*.

¹sig·nal /ˈsɪgnl/ *noun, pl* **-nals** [*count*]

1 : an event or act which shows that something exists or that gives information about something : SIGN ▪ The change in his behavior is clearly a *signal* [=*indication*] that there is a problem. ▪ He likes her but he is sending the wrong *signals* with his constant teasing. — often + *of* ▪ Inflammation is a *signal of* infection.

2 : something (such as a sound, a movement of part of the body, or an object) that gives information about something or that tells someone to do something ▪ Don't start until I give the *signal*. [=*sign*] ▪ The teacher gave us the *signal* to finish what we were working on and hand in our tests. ▪ The pilot sent out a ***distress signal*** [=a message that the airplane was in danger] before the plane crashed. ▪ They communicated with each other by using ***hand signals***. [=movements of a person's hands that mean something]

3 : a piece of equipment with colored lights that is used on railways and roads to tell people when to go, to slow down, or to stop ▪ Faulty wiring in the train station caused a *signal* to malfunction. ▪ The ***traffic signal*** [=*traffic light*] was not working.

4 *technical* **a** : a message, sound, or image that is carried by waves of light or sound ▪ The video/TV *signal* is scrambled. ▪ Satellite dishes receive television *signals*. ▪ a *digital* signal ▪ The transmitter beams radio *signals* into space. **b** : a wave of light or sound that carries a message, sound, or image ▪ We'll need better equipment to generate a 50 Hz *signal*.

busy signal see ¹BUSY

mixed signals see MIXED

²signal *verb* **-nals**; *US* **-naled** *or Brit* **-nalled**; *US* **-nal·ing** *or Brit* **-nal·ling**

1 [+ *obj*] : to be a sign of (something) : to show the existence of (something) ▪ Robins *signal* the arrival of spring. ▪ The election results surely *signal* the start/beginning of a new era. ▪ He *signaled* [=*showed, communicated*] his irritation by sighing and rolling his eyes dramatically. ▪ Redness, swelling, and painful itching *signal* [=*indicate*] an infection. ▪ A lock on the suitcase might *signal* that there's something of value inside.

2 : to make a sound or motion that tells someone something [*no obj*] Did he *signal* before he made the left turn? ▪ They *signaled* at me to come over to their table. ▪ We *signaled* for help. [+ *obj*] He *signaled* us that it was time to begin the meeting. ▪ The umpire *signaled* a strike.

³signal *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : very important or great : SIGNIFICANT ▪ Is he worthy of such a *signal* honor? ▪ The bill's passage was a *signal* [=*notable*] victory for environmentalists.

– **sig·nal·ly** /ˈsɪgnəli/ *adv* ▪ The mayor has *signally* failed to do what he promised to do.

sig·nal·er (*US*) *or Brit* **sig·nal·ler** /ˈsɪgnələ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : SIGNALMAN 2

sig·nal·man /ˈsɪgnlmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*]

1 *chiefly Brit* : a person who has the job of operating signals on a railway

2 : a person in the military who is trained to send and receive signals

sig·na·to·ry /ˈsɪgnəˌtori, *Brit* ˈsɪgnətri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *formal* : a person, country, or organization that has signed an official document ▪ *signatories* to the treaty/petition ▪ a *signatory* of the Declaration of Independence

¹sig·na·ture /ˈsɪgnəʧə/ *noun, pl* **-tures**

1 [*count*] : a person's name written in that person's handwriting ▪ There is a place for your *signature* at the bottom of the form. ▪ If we can collect 200,000 *signatures* on our petition, then our candidate will be included on the ballot. ▪ We presented the document to the president for her *signature*.

2 [*noncount*] *formal* : the act of signing something ▪ The contract requires *signature* by both parties. [=must be signed by both parties] ▪ The bill passed and went to the governor ***for signature*** a week ago.

3 [*count*] : something (such as a quality or feature) that is closely associated with someone or something — usually singular ▪ Her latest movie includes the humor and fast pace that have become her *signature*.

²signature *adj, always used before a noun* : closely associated with someone or something : making a person or thing easy to recognize ▪ the chef's *signature* dish ▪ "Respect" is her *signature* song/tune. ▪ The director's new movie is a return to his *signature* style.

sign·board /ˈsaɪnˌboəd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] : a board with writing or a picture on it that gives information about something (such as a business)

sign·ee /ˌsaɪˈniː/ *noun, pl* **-ees** [*count*] *US, formal* : a person, organization, etc., that has signed an official document (such as a treaty or contract) ▪ *signees* [=*signatories*] to the treaty/petition

sign·er /ˈsaɪnə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person, country, or organization that has signed an official document ▪ He was one of the *signers* of the Declaration of Independence.

2 : a person who uses sign language

sig·net ring /ˈsɪgnət-/ *noun, pl* ~ **rings** [*count*] : a ring that is decorated with a special design and worn on the finger — see color picture on page C11

sig·nif·i·cance /sɪgˈnɪfɪkəns/ *noun*

1 : the quality of being important : the quality of having notable worth or influence [*noncount*] The discovery has great

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significance to researchers. ▪ His age is of little *significance*. ▪ This building should be preserved because of its historical *significance*. ▪ Does the ceremony have any religious *significance*? [*singular*] Her work has a *significance* that will last beyond her lifetime. — opposite INSIGNIFICANCE

2 : the meaning of something [*noncount*] I failed to understand/grasp/appreciate the *significance* of her remarks. ▪ Does the date March 16 have some special *significance* to/for you? [*singular*] People in ancient times assigned a particular *significance* to the number seven.

sig•nif•i•cant /sɪg'nɪfɪkənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : large enough to be noticed or have an effect ▪ A *significant* number of customers complained about the service. ▪ He won a *significant* amount of money. ▪ There is a *significant* difference in prices between the two stores. ▪ The study found a statistically *significant* decrease in symptoms in patients who had taken the drug. ▪ His influence on me was *significant*. = He had a *significant* influence on me.

2 : very important ▪ a *significant* event in the history of our nation ▪ Fish is a *significant* part of their diet. ▪ It is *significant* that she never mentioned him. — opposite INSIGNIFICANT

3 : having a special or hidden meaning ▪ He gave us a *significant* wink/look. ▪ a *significant* [=*suggestive*] glance

sig•nif•i•cant•ly /sɪg'nɪfɪkəntli/ *adv*

1 : in a way that is large or important enough to be noticed or have an effect ▪ People who smoke have a *significantly* greater risk of developing lung cancer than people who don't. ▪ Another store sold the game for a *significantly* lower price. ▪ If you take my advice, your chances of winning will increase/improve *significantly*.

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] — used to say that something is important or meaningful ▪ *Significantly*, William broke with family tradition and decided not to name his newborn son "William." ▪ It was the first time I had ever traveled outside of the country, but, more *significantly*, it was the first time I had ever been outside of my parents' supervision.

3 : in a way that has a special or hidden meaning ▪ He looked/glanced *significantly* in her direction when he said that some of us are not doing our jobs.

significant other *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : someone that you have a romantic relationship with : your husband, wife, boyfriend, or girlfriend ▪ Before you make such an important decision, you should talk it over with your *significant other*. — abbr. *SO*

sig•ni•fy /'sɪgnəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to be a sign of (something) : to mean (something) ▪ Black clothing *signifies* mourning. ▪ A check mark next to your name *signifies* that you have met all the requirements. ▪ The recent decline of the stock market does not necessarily *signify* the start of a recession.

2 [+ *obj*] : to show (your feelings, intentions, opinions, etc.) by doing something ▪ He nodded to *signify* his approval. = He nodded to *signify* that he approved. ▪ He gave her a diamond ring to *signify* his love.

3 [*no obj*] *formal + somewhat old-fashioned* : to have importance : MATTER ▪ Whether he agrees or not does not *signify*.

sign•ing /'saɪnɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*noncount*] : the act of writing your name on something (such as a contract or document) to show that you agree to something — often + *of* ▪ the *signing of* the Declaration of Independence ▪ Two people witnessed the *signing of* the will.

2 [*noncount*] : the use of sign language ▪ The child uses *signing* to communicate.

3 a [*noncount*] : the act of having someone sign a contract with a sports team, record company, etc. ▪ The team has announced the *signing* of several new players. **b** [*count*] : someone who has signed a contract with a sports team, record company, etc. ▪ a list of the team's recent *signings*

sign language *noun, pl* ~ **-guages** [*count, noncount*] : a system of hand movements used for communication especially by people who are deaf

sign of the cross

the sign of the cross : a movement of the hand that forms a cross shape and that is done as an expression of the Christian faith ▪ She knelt and made *the sign of the cross*.

[1]sign•post /'saɪnˌpoʊst/ *noun, pl* **-posts** [*count*] : a sign beside a road showing the direction and distance to a place ▪ The *signpost* says it is 10 miles to the city. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ There are no *signposts* pointing to a solution.

[2]signpost *verb* **-posts**; **-post•ed**; **-post•ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to provide (something) with signposts or guides ▪ The road from here to London is well/clearly *signposted*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ His success has *signposted* the way for others.

Sikh /'si:k/ *noun, pl* **Sikhs** [*count*] : a follower of Sikhism — **Sikh** *adj*

Sikh•ism /'si:ˌkɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a religion founded in India around 1500 that is based on the belief that there is one God

si•lage /'saɪlɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : food for farm animals that is stored inside a silo

[1]si•lence /'saɪləns/ *noun, pl* **-lenc•es**

1 [*noncount*] : a lack of sound or noise : QUIET ▪ I find it hard to sleep unless there is complete *silence*. ▪ The *silence* was broken by the sound of footsteps in the hallway.

2 : a situation, state, or period of time in which people do not talk [*noncount*] We sat there in dead/total/complete *silence*. ▪ My sister's revelation was met with stunned *silence*. ▪ *Silence* fell/descended upon the room. [=the room became quiet] ▪ The professor asked for *silence*. [*count*] There was an awkward *silence* after he confessed his love for her. ▪ A long *silence* followed her reply.

3 : a situation or state in which someone does not talk about or answer questions about something [*noncount*] We must break 50 years of *silence* on issues like the government's involvement in assassination and espionage. ▪ I will not be intimidated into *silence*. ▪ You don't have to ***suffer in silence***. [=suffer or be unhappy without saying anything] [*singular*] She finally ended her *silence* and spoke to the media about what happened. — see also CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE

deafening silence see DEAFENING

silence is golden — used to say that it is often better to remain silent than to speak

[2]silence *verb* **-lences**; **-lenced**; **-lenc•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (someone or something) to stop speaking or making noise : to cause (someone or something) to become silent ▪ My sister's revelation *silenced* everyone around the table. ▪ Police *silenced* the crowd. ▪ Disconnecting the battery will *silence* the alarm.

2 a : to stop (someone) from expressing opinions that are opposed to your own or from telling people about bad things that you have done ▪ The mayor tried to *silence* his critics. ▪ I will not be *silenced*! **b** : to stop (something) from being expressed or revealed : SUPPRESS ▪ It's obvious that the purpose of this law is to *silence* dissent.

si•lenc•er /'saɪlənsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 *US* : a device that is attached to a handgun to reduce the noise that the gun makes when it is fired

2 *Brit* : MUFFLER 1

si•lent /'saɪlənt/ *adj*

1 : not speaking or making noise : QUIET ▪ She was *silent* for a few minutes as she thought about how to answer him. ▪ Please be *silent*. ▪ The crowd ***fell silent*** as the horrible news was read aloud.

2 *always used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : tending not to talk much ▪ My father was a very *silent* man. ▪ He was ***the strong, silent type***.

3 : not having or making any sound or noise ▪ He said he would call me, but the phone was *silent* all day. ▪ The radio went *silent*. [=*dead*] ▪ A long, *silent* pause followed her reply.

4 *always used before a noun* : done, felt, or expressed without speaking ▪ She offered a *silent* prayer of thanks for her family's safety. ▪ They nodded their heads in *silent* agreement. ▪ He turned his back on the president in *silent* protest.

5 : giving no information about something or refusing to discuss something ▪ History books are *silent* about this shameful incident in our nation's past. ▪ The president remained *silent* on the issue of funding. ▪ You have the ***right to remain silent***. [=the legal right not to say anything when you are arrested]

6 *grammar* : written in the spelling of a word but not pronounced ▪ There is a *silent* "e" in "cane." ▪ The "b" in "debt" is *silent*.

7 *always used before a noun, of movies* **a** : not having spoken dialogue ▪ *silent* movies/films **b** : of or relating to movies that have no spoken dialogue ▪ filmmakers of the *silent* era

— **si•lent•ly** *adv* ▪ She sat *silently* beside me. ▪ The tiger moved *silently* through the jungle.

silent auction *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] : an auction in which people write down their bids for the things being sold

silent majority *noun*

the silent majority : the largest part of a country's population that consists of people who are not actively involved

in politics and do not express their political opinions publicly

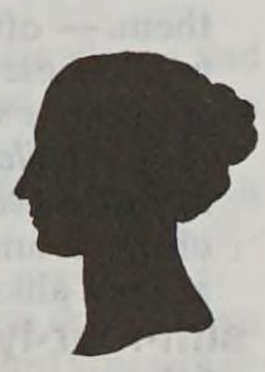
silent partner *noun, pl* ~ **-ners** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a partner who invests money in a business but is not involved in running the business — called also (*Brit*) *sleeping partner*

silent treatment *noun*

the silent treatment : the act of ignoring someone because you are angry at him or her ▪ I told him that I thought he was crazy and got *the silent treatment* for the rest of the day. [=he refused to talk to me for the rest of the day] ▪ Whenever she gets mad at me, she ***gives me the silent treatment*** [=she does not speak to me]

[1]sil•hou•ette /ˌsɪləˈwɛt/ *noun, pl* **-ettes**

1 a : a dark shape in front of a light background [*count*] the *silhouettes* of buildings against the sky [*noncount*] The buildings appeared ***in silhouette*** against the sky. **b** : a picture of something showing it as a dark shape on a light background; *especially* : such a picture showing a person's face from the side [*count*] My piano teacher has a framed *silhouette* of Mozart on her wall. [*noncount*] a portrait of my mother done ***in silhouette***



silhouette

2 [*count*] : the shape or outline of something ▪ He admired the sports car's sleek *silhouette*.

[2]silhouette *verb* **-ettes**; **-ett•ed**; **-ett•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) appear as a dark shape in front of a light background — often used as *(be) silhouetted* ▪ The house *was silhouetted* against the sky.

sil•i•ca /ˈsɪlɪkə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a chemical that contains silicon, that is found in sand and quartz, and that is used to make glass

sil•i•cate /ˈsɪləˌkeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-cates** [*count, noncount*] : a chemical that contains silicon and that is used in building materials (such as bricks, cement, and glass) ▪ aluminum *silicate*

sil•i•con /ˈsɪlɪkən, ˈsɪləˌkɑːn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a chemical element that is found in the Earth's crust and is used especially in computers and electronics

sil•i•cone /ˈsɪləˌkoʊn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a chemical that does not let water or heat pass through and that is used to make rubber, grease, and in plastic surgery ▪ a prosthesis made of *silicone* — often used before another noun ▪ *silicone* breast implants

silk /ˈsɪlk/ *noun, pl* **silks**

1 : a smooth, soft, and shiny cloth that is made from thread produced by silkworms; *also* : the thread that is used to make silk [*count*] *silks* from China ▪ a variety of *silks* and satins ▪ embroidery *silks* [*noncount*] a dress (made) of blue *silk* ▪ pure *silk* ▪ The robe has butterflies embroidered in *silk* on the sleeves. ▪ Her hair is ***as smooth as silk*** [=very smooth] — often used before another noun ▪ a *silk* blouse/scarf

2 [*noncount*] : the thread that is produced by a spider ▪ the *silk* of a spider's web ▪ spider *silk*

3 [*noncount*] : the thin strings in an ear of corn ▪ corn *silk*

4 *silks* [*plural*] : the cap and shirt worn by a jockey ▪ the stable's red and green racing *silks*

5 *Brit* : a lawyer who has reached the highest rank : a Queen's Counsel or King's Counsel [*count*] She maintains a busy practice as a leading *silk* in employment law. [*noncount*] He ***took silk*** [=reached the highest barrister's rank] in 2001.

silk•en /ˈsɪlkən/ *adj*

1 : made of silk or a cloth that is like silk ▪ *silken* [=*silk*] robes ▪ a *silken* cord ▪ *silken* cushions

2 : smooth, soft, and shiny like silk ▪ her *silken* [=(more commonly) *silky*] black hair ▪ the baby's *silken* skin

3 *of food* : smooth, soft, and rich ▪ *silken* pudding/pâté

4 *of a sound* : smooth and pleasant to hear ▪ his *silken* voice ▪ the *silken* tones of his violin

silk screen *noun, pl* ~ **screens**

1 [*noncount*] : a method of printing in which ink or paint is forced through a stretched piece of silk cloth ▪ artists who work ***in silk screen*** — often used before another noun ▪ *silk screen* printing/designs

2 [*count*] : a print that is made by silk screen ▪ He decorated the office with paintings and *silkscreens*.

– **silk–screen** *verb* **-screens**; **-screened**; **-screen•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ The logo was *silk-screened* onto T-shirts.

silk•worm /ˈsɪlkˌwɚm/ *noun, pl* **-worms** [*count*] : a caterpillar that produces silk which is used to make thread or cloth

silky /ˈsɪlki/ *adj* **silk•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : made of silk or of material that is soft, smooth, and shiny like silk ▪ *silky* lingerie/pantyhose ▪ a *silky* nightgown

2 : smooth, soft, and shiny like silk ▪ her *silky* brown hair ▪ The cat has a *silky* coat. ▪ The material has a *silky* feel.

3 *of food* : smooth, soft, and rich ▪ *silky* chocolate mousse

4 *of a sound* : smooth and pleasant to hear ▪ a *silky* voice

5 : having a smooth motion ▪ This car gives a *silky* ride. ▪ a golfer with a *silky* swing

– **silk•i•ly** /ˈsɪlkəli/ *adv* ▪ a *silkily* smooth fabric – **silk•i•ness** /ˈsɪlkinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] – **silky** *adv* ▪ This lotion will make your skin feel smooth and *silky*. ▪ The dog's fur is *silky* soft. ▪ He has such a ***silky smooth*** voice.

sill /ˈsɪl/ *noun, pl* **sills** [*count*]

1 a : the shelf at the bottom of a window frame : WINDOWSILL — see picture at WINDOW **b** : a piece of wood, metal, or stone at the bottom of a door frame

2 : the part of the frame of a car that is directly under its doors

[1]sil•ly /ˈsɪli/ *adj* **sil•li•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having or showing a lack of thought, understanding, or good judgment : foolish or stupid ▪ I hope I didn't make any *silly* mistakes. ▪ The idea does seem a bit *silly*. ▪ That's the *silliest* thing I've ever heard. ▪ You drove in this weather? What a *silly* thing to do! ▪ *Silly* me. I locked myself out of the car again. ▪ Ask a *silly* question, and you get a *silly* answer. ▪ He looks *silly* [=*ridiculous*] wearing that huge floppy hat. ▪ "I can't ask you to do that." "***Don't be silly***. It is my pleasure."

2 : not practical or sensible ▪ What a *silly* little purse. It looks too small to hold everything that I'd need to carry.

3 a : not serious, meaningful, or important ▪ I'm tired of watching *silly* movies. ▪ The book was a *silly* waste of time. **b** : playful and funny ▪ I like a man who can be *silly* without being immature. ▪ He made a *silly* face. ▪ He has a *silly* sense of humor.

4 *not used before a noun* : in a condition in which you are unable to think clearly ▪ The ball hit him in the head and knocked him *silly*. ▪ He was beaten *silly* by thugs. ▪ They drank themselves *silly*. [=they got extremely drunk]

– **sil•li•ness** /ˈsɪlinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *silliness* of the whole idea

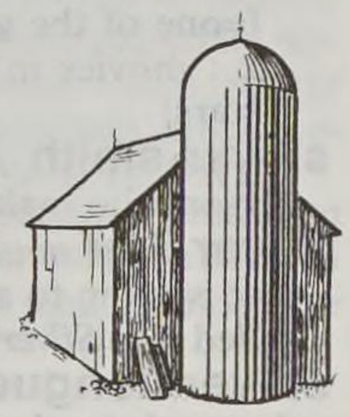
[2]silly *adv, informal* : to an extreme degree ▪ I'm scared *silly* [=I'm very scared] of speaking to such a large group. ▪ She was bored *silly* throughout much of the class.

[3]silly *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* — used to address someone who is being silly ▪ No, *silly*, I don't need that one; I need the other one.

si•lo /ˈsaɪloʊ/ *noun, pl* **-los** [*count*]

1 : a tower that is used to store food (such as grain or grass) for farm animals

2 : an underground structure that is used for storing and firing a missile



silo

[1]silt /ˈsɪlt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : sand, soil, mud, etc., that is carried by flowing water and that sinks to the bottom of a river, pond, etc.

– **silty** /ˈsɪlti/ *adj* **silt•i•er**; **-est** ▪ *silty* water

[2]silt *verb* **silts**; **silt•ed**; **silt•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to become blocked, filled, or covered with silt ▪ The marsh *silted* over. — often + *up* ▪ The river delta has *silted up* over the centuries.

2 [+ *obj*] : to block, fill, or cover (something) with silt ▪ The entrance to the creek had *silted* shut. ▪ heavily *silted* areas — often + *up* ▪ Sand had *silted up* the stream bed.

[1]sil•ver /ˈsɪlvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-vers**

1 [*noncount*] : a soft grayish-white metal that is very valuable and is used to make jewelry, coins, knives, forks, etc. ▪ a bracelet made of *silver* ▪ an artist who works in *silver* and gold ▪ a wooden statue inlaid with *silver* ▪ pure/sterling *silver*

2 [*noncount*] : objects (such as knives, forks, teapots, candlesticks, etc.) that are made of or covered with silver ▪ We need to polish the *silver*.

3 [*noncount*] : coins that are made of silver ▪ a bag of *silver*

4 [*count, noncount*] : a shiny light gray color

5 [*count*] : SILVER MEDAL ▪ She won two *silvers* in the last Olympics.

[2]silver *adj*

1 a : made of silver ▪ *silver* jewelry/coins ▪ a *silver* teapot ▪ a *silver* belt buckle **b** : containing silver ▪ *silver* ore ▪ a *silver*

S

mine **c** : of or relating to silver ▪ *Silver* prices have risen.
2 [*more ~; most ~*] : having the whitish-gray color of silver ▪ *silver* hair ▪ a *silver* car ▪ a dress trimmed with *silver* ribbon
3 *always used before a noun* : of or relating to the 25th anniversary of an important event (such as a marriage) ▪ They will celebrate their ***silver (wedding) anniversary*** this year. = (*Brit*) They will celebrate their ***silver wedding*** this year. ▪ a ***silver jubilee*** — compare DIAMOND, GOLDEN
born with a silver spoon in your mouth see BORN

[3]silver *verb* **-vers**; **-vered**; **-ver•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *technical* : to cover (something, such as a mirror) with a thin layer of silver or something that looks like silver
2 *literary* : to make (something) shine like silver ▪ The surface of the lake was *silvered* by the moonlight.
– silvered *adj* ▪ a container lined with *silvered* glass

silver bullet *noun, pl* **~ -lets** [*count*] *US* : something that very quickly and easily solves a serious problem — usually singular ▪ There is no *silver bullet* that will solve all our economic problems.

silver dollar *noun, pl* **~ -lars** [*count*] *US* : a large silver coin worth one dollar that was used in the past ✧ *Silver dollar* is now often used to describe the size of something. ▪ He had a bald spot the size of a *silver dollar* on his head.

sil•ver•fish /ˈsɪlvəˌfɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **silverfish** [*count*] : a small silver-colored insect that does not have wings and that lives inside houses

silver foil *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : a very thin sheet of metal (such as aluminum) : FOIL

silver lining *noun, pl* **~ -ings** [*count*] : something good that can be found in a bad situation ▪ If there's a *silver lining* to losing my job, it's that I'll now be able to go to school full-time and finish my degree earlier.
every cloud has a silver lining — used to say that every bad situation holds the possibility of something good ▪ When my closest friend moved away, my mother reminded me that "*every cloud has a silver lining.*"

silver medal *noun, pl* **~ -dals** [*count*] : a medal made of silver that is given as a prize to someone who wins second place in a contest ▪ She won a *silver medal* in the Olympics. — compare BRONZE MEDAL, GOLD MEDAL

silver paper *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit*
1 : paper that is shiny on one side like silver and that is used for wrapping food (such as chocolate)
2 : SILVER FOIL

silver–plated *adj* : covered with a thin layer of silver ▪ a *silver-plated* tray

silver screen *noun*
the silver screen *old-fashioned* **1** : a screen in a movie theater ▪ one of the greatest films ever to hit *the silver screen* [=one of the greatest films ever shown in movie theaters]
2 : movies in general ▪ stars of *the silver screen* [=movie stars]

sil•ver•smith /ˈsɪlvəˌsmɪθ/ *noun, pl* **-smiths** [*count*] : a person who makes things out of silver

Silver Star *noun, pl* **~ Stars** [*count*] : a U.S. military award that is given to a soldier who is extremely brave in battle — called also *Silver Star Medal*

sil•ver–tongued /ˈsɪlvəˌtʌŋd/ *adj* : able to speak in a way that makes other people do or believe what you want them to do or believe ▪ a *silver-tongued* politician

sil•ver•ware /ˈsɪlvəˌweə/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : objects (such as forks, knives, spoons, dishes, teapots, etc.) for serving food and drink that are made of or covered with silver
2 *US* : forks, knives, and spoons that are made of stainless steel, plastic, etc. — called also *flatware*
3 *Brit, informal* : something (such as a large cup or trophy) that is given as a prize in a sports contest ▪ The team has gone two seasons without winning any *silverware*.

sil•very /ˈsɪlvəri/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *literary*
1 : shiny and white or light gray in color like silver ▪ a pond full of *silvery* fish ▪ a dress of *silvery* gray/white silk ▪ *Silvery* light reflected off the water.
2 *of sound* : high, clear, soft, and pleasant ▪ The violinist played with a bright, *silvery* tone. ▪ a singer with a beautiful *silvery* voice

[1]sim•i•an /ˈsɪmijən/ *adj*
1 *technical* : of or relating to monkeys or apes ▪ a study of *simian* viruses
2 *literay* : like a monkey or ape ▪ his *simian* facial features

[2]simian *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] *technical* : a monkey or ape

sim•i•lar /ˈsɪmələ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : almost the same as someone or something else ▪ Our cats are *similar* in size/color/appearance. ▪ You two look very/quite *similar* to each other. ▪ They had *similar* experiences growing up, even though they came from vastly different backgrounds. ▪ We got remarkably/strikingly *similar* results. ▪ I was going to say something *similar*. ▪ I would have reacted in a *similar* way if it had happened to me. — opposite DISSIMILAR

sim•i•lar•i•ty /ˌsɪməˈlerəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** : a quality that makes one person or thing like another [*count*] I doubt that these words are related beyond a *similarity* in sound. ▪ The books share a *similarity* of ideas. ▪ I see a lot of *similarities* in them. — often + *between* ▪ Have you noticed a *similarity between* these movies? ▪ We discussed the *similarities between* the author's books. [*noncount*] Looking at these fossils, I see some *similarity* to modern-day birds. ▪ I see very little *similarity between* your situation and his. ▪ Both women have two children and like sports but ***there the similarity ends***. [=they are not alike in other ways]

sim•i•lar•ly /ˈsɪmələli/ *adv*
1 [*more ~; most ~*] : in a similar way : in almost the same way ▪ My friend and I were *similarly* affected by the new tax law. ▪ The houses are decorated *similarly*.
2 — used to say that two situations, actions, statements, etc., are alike ▪ People still painted after photography became popular. *Similarly* [=*likewise*], there will still be people who prefer to shoot on film even after digital cameras become the norm.

sim•i•le /ˈsɪməli/ *noun, pl* **-les** *grammar* : a phrase that uses the words *like* or *as* to describe someone or something by comparing it with someone or something else that is similar [*count*] "She's as fierce as a tiger" is a *simile*, but "She's a tiger when she's angry" is a metaphor. [*noncount*] What do you think of the author's use of *simile*? — compare METAPHOR

[1]sim•mer /ˈsɪmə/ *verb* **-mers**; **-mered**; **-mer•ing**
1 : to cook (something) so that it is almost boiling for a certain period of time [+ *obj*] *Simmer* the stew for 40 minutes or until the sauce has thickened. ▪ The chicken was *simmered* in a cream sauce. [*no obj*] Let the stew *simmer* (for) 40 minutes.
2 [*no obj*] **a** : to be filled with a strong feeling that is difficult to control or hide — usually + *with* ▪ He was *simmering with* anger/resentment. **b** : to be felt strongly by someone without being directly shown or expressed ▪ Anger *simmered* inside him.
3 [*no obj*] : to continue for a long time without producing a definite result ▪ The dispute *simmered* for years before any progress was made. ▪ It's a debate that has *simmered* for 30 years and is likely to continue. ▪ *simmering* conflicts/controversies ▪ Long-*simmering* tensions between the two groups eventually sparked violence.
4 [*no obj*] : to develop slowly ▪ The idea for my novel *simmered* in my mind for quite some time.
simmer down [*phrasal verb*] : to become calm after being very angry or excited ▪ After he *simmered down*, we were able to work out a solution to the problem. ▪ "*Simmer down*! I was just joking. Don't take it so personally."

[2]simmer *noun* [*singular*] : a state of simmering : a way of cooking that is close to boiling ▪ Bring the mixture to a *simmer*.

sim•per /ˈsɪmpə/ *verb* **-pers**; **-pered**; **-per•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to smile in a way that is not sincere or natural ▪ He *simpered* and smirked while he talked to the boss.
2 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) in a way that is not sincere or natural ▪ She *simpered* that she had gone to all this trouble for a reason.
– simper *noun* [*singular*] ▪ an annoying *simper* **– simpering** *adj* ▪ a *simpering* reporter

sim•ple /ˈsɪmpəl/ *adj* **sim•pler**; **-plest** [*or more ~; most ~*]
1 : not hard to understand or do ▪ a *simple* task ▪ The solution to the problem was relatively *simple*. ▪ The answer is really quite *simple*. ▪ a *simple* [=*straightforward*] explanation ▪ a *simple* recipe ▪ There are three *simple* steps/rules to follow. ▪ The camera is *simple* to use. ▪ The directions seem *simple* enough. [=seem fairly simple] ▪ Just press the button. It is ***as simple as that***. = Just press the button. It is ***that simple***. ▪ Don't go into too much detail in the report. Just ***keep it simple*** and to the point.
2 : having few parts : not complex or fancy ▪ The engine has a *simple* [=*basic*] design. ▪ a *simple* machine ▪ The melody is very *simple*. ▪ She wore a *simple* [=*plain, unadorned*] black dress. ▪ We don't want to spend a lot of money on the party,

so we're ***keeping it simple***. [=we're not having an extravagant party]

3 *always used before a noun* : not special or unusual : ORDINARY ▪ *simple* folks ▪ I'm a *simple* farmer just trying to make a living. ▪ He enjoys the ***simple pleasure*** of spending time with his wife and kids after work. ▪ Relaxing on the beach and watching the sunset is one of ***life's simple pleasures***.

4 *always used before a noun* : complete and total — used for emphasis ▪ I watch what I eat, but the *simple* truth is that I can't resist chocolate. ▪ The *simple* fact is that he did not study for the exam. ▪ I don't want to go ***for the simple reason that*** [=*because*] I'm very tired.

5 *grammar, of a sentence* : having only one main clause and no additional clauses ▪ "Last summer was unusually hot" is a *simple* sentence.

6 *old-fashioned* : not very intelligent ▪ a mentally *simple* man ▪ She looked at me as if I were *simple*.

pure and simple see PURE

the simple life ✧ If you live *the simple life*, you do not own many things or use many modern machines and you usually live in the countryside. ▪ He lives in a small cabin and enjoys *the simple life*.

simple fracture *noun, pl* ~ **-tures** [*count*] *medical* : a break in a bone in which no parts stick out through the skin — compare COMPOUND FRACTURE

simple interest *noun* [*noncount*] *finance* : interest paid only on the original amount of money and not on the interest it has already earned — compare COMPOUND INTEREST

sim·ple·mind·ed /ˌsɪmpəlˈmaɪndəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not very intelligent ▪ a superstitious and very *simpleminded* man ▪ He took a *simpleminded* approach to the problem.

2 : having or showing a lack of good sense or judgment ▪ a *simpleminded* [=*stupid, silly*] mistake

sim·ple·ton /ˈsɪmpəltən/ *noun, pl* **-tons** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : someone who is not very intelligent or who does not have or show good sense or judgment ▪ The instructions were so complicated I felt like a complete *simpleton*.

sim·plic·i·ty /sɪmˈplɪsəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : the quality of being easy to understand or use ▪ People like the *simplicity* of the instructions/camera. ▪ ***For simplicity's sake*** [=to make it simpler and easier], we have rounded off the numbers to the nearest whole number. = We have rounded off the numbers ***for the sake of simplicity***.

2 a [*noncount*] : the state or quality of being plain or not fancy or complicated ▪ the *simplicity* of the music/writing/design **b** [*count*] : something that is simple or ordinary but enjoyable — usually plural ▪ He loved the *simplicities* of country life.

3 [*noncount*] : something that is easy to do ▪ Making the dish is ***simplicity itself***. [=very easy]

sim·pli·fy /ˈsɪmpləˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy·ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) easier to do or understand ▪ Microwave ovens have *simplified* cooking. ▪ The new software should *simplify* the process. ▪ The forms have been *simplified*.

– **simplified** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Can you explain the problem in more *simplified* terms? ▪ a *simplified* version of the instructions – **sim·pli·fi·ca·tion** /ˌsɪmpləfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ Voters are pushing for *simplification* of the tax code.

sim·plis·tic /sɪmˈplɪstɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : too simple : not complete or thorough enough : not treating or considering all possibilities or parts ▪ a *simplistic* approach to a complicated problem ▪ His interpretation of the theory was too *simplistic*. ▪ *simplistic* thinking

– **sim·plis·ti·cal·ly** /sɪmˈplɪstɪkli/ *adv* ▪ He described the problem too *simplistically*.

sim·ply /ˈsɪmpli/ *adv*

1 a : nothing more than : only, merely, or just ▪ *Simply* add water to the mix and stir. ▪ *Simply* click on the computer icon and follow the directions. ▪ If he continues to bother you, *simply* ignore him. ▪ You can order new checks *simply* by calling or going online. ▪ It is *simply* a matter of time before something goes wrong. **b** : without any question — used to stress the simple truth of a description or statement ▪ That is *simply* [=*just*] not true. ▪ The opera was *simply* marvelous. ▪ She *simply* can't sing. ▪ I *simply* could not decide which one I wanted. ▪ She *simply* does not understand the work that is involved. ▪ There is *simply* not enough time to visit everyone. ▪ We want to buy the car, but we *simply* can't afford it. ▪ He is, ***quite simply***, one of the best players ever to play the game. ▪ *Quite simply*, the countryside is beautiful.

2 a : in way that is clear and understandable ▪ The instructions are *simply* written. **b** : in a way that is plain or not fancy or complicated ▪ She dresses *simply*. ▪ *simply* drawn figures ▪ He lived *simply* on the farm. **c** : in a way that is direct and uses few words ▪ The diner is called *simply* "Joe's." ▪ "Sorry, I can't help you," he said *simply*. ▪ The problem, ***put simply***, is money. ▪ ***Simply put***, the movie was horrible. ▪ ***Simply speaking***, he's not capable of doing the job.

sim·u·late /ˈsɪmjəˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat·ed**; **-lat·ing** [+ *obj*] : to look, feel, or behave like (something) ▪ The wall surface is made to *simulate* stone. = The wall surface *simulates* stone. ▪ The model will be used to *simulate* the effects of an earthquake. ▪ The material *simulates* [=*imitates*] the look and feel of real fur.

simulated *adj* : made to look, feel, or behave like something : not real ▪ *simulated* leather ▪ They are trained in *simulated* combat. ▪ Dummies are used in *simulated* car crashes.

sim·u·la·tion /ˌsɪmjəˈleɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : something that is made to look, feel, or behave like something else especially so that it can be studied or used to train people [*count*] — often + *of* ▪ a computer *simulation of* spaceflight ▪ *simulations of* body movements ▪ a *simulation of* the planet's surface [*noncount*] They use computer *simulation* to predict weather conditions.

sim·u·la·tor /ˈsɪmjəˌleɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a machine that is used to show what something looks or feels like and is usually used to study something or to train people ▪ a flight *simulator* used by pilots ▪ an earthquake *simulator*

si·mul·cast /ˈsaɪməlˌkæst, *Brit* ˈsɪməlˌkɑːst/ *verb* **-casts**; **-cast**; **-cast·ing** [+ *obj*] : to broadcast (a program) by radio and television at the same time ▪ The network will *simulcast* the game on its radio and television stations. — often used as *(be) simulcast* ▪ The President's speech will *be simulcast* this afternoon.

– **simulcast** *noun, pl* **-casts** [*count*] ▪ a TV/radio *simulcast* of the concert

si·mul·ta·neous /ˌsaɪməlˈteɪnijəs, *Brit* ˌsɪməlˈteɪniəs/ *adj* : happening at the same time ▪ The two gunshots were *simultaneous*. ▪ *simultaneous* events — often + *with* ▪ The release of the new album will be *simultaneous with* the release of the DVD.

– **si·mul·ta·neous·ly** *adv* ▪ The speech will be broadcast *simultaneously* on radio and TV.

[1]sin /ˈsɪn/ *noun, pl* **sins**

1 : an action that is considered to be wrong according to religious or moral law [*count*] He committed the *sin* of stealing. ▪ Murder is a *sin*. ▪ I confessed my *sins*. [*noncount*] We are not free from *sin*. ▪ a world of *sin* — see also CARDINAL SIN, DEADLY SIN, MORTAL SIN, ORIGINAL SIN, VENIAL SIN

2 [*count*] : an action that is considered to be bad — usually singular ▪ It's a *sin* to waste food. — see also BESETTING SIN

(as) guilty/miserable/ugly as sin *informal* : very guilty/miserable/ugly ▪ Even though he was acquitted, most people think he is *guilty as sin*. ▪ That house is *as ugly as sin*.

for your sins *chiefly Brit, humorous* — used to say that you are doing something unpleasant, difficult, etc., as a form of punishment ▪ *For my sins*, I was made chairman of the board.

live in sin see [1]LIVE

[2]sin *verb* **sins**; **sinned**; **sin·ning** [*no obj*] : to do something that is considered wrong according to religious or moral law : to commit a sin ▪ Forgive me, for I have *sinned*.

[1]since /ˈsɪns/ *prep* : in the time after (a specified time or event in the past) : from (a point in the past) until the present time ▪ I haven't seen him *since* yesterday. ▪ I haven't eaten *since* breakfast. ▪ *Since* the party, she has not spoken to him at all. ▪ The company has been in its present location *since* the beginning of the century. ▪ We've been waiting for you *since* 10 o'clock. ▪ We have been friends *since* [=*ever since*] college. ▪ The company started as a small local business 10 years ago and has grown a lot ***since then***. [=within that time] ▪ The house was built in 1919. ***Since that time*** [=from 1919 to the present], it has changed owners several times.

since the year one see YEAR

since when? — used to show that you are surprised and often angry, annoyed, or doubtful about what someone has said or done ▪ "I'm a vegetarian." "*Since when*?" ▪ "You told me to do it." "*Since when* did you start listening to me?" ▪ *Since when* is it okay to cheat?

[2]since *conj*

1 : in the period after the time when ▪ We've played better *since* you joined the team. ▪ He has had two jobs *since* he graduated.

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2 : from the time in the past when ▪ I have wanted to be a pilot *since* [=*ever since*] I was a child. ▪ He hasn't ridden a bike *since* he was a boy. ▪ (*US*) It has been over 10 years *since* I last visited Europe. = (*Brit*) It is over 10 years *since* I last visited Europe. ▪ They haven't won a championship *since* Truman was President.

3 — used to introduce a statement that explains the reason for another statement ▪ *Since* you've finished all your chores, you may go out and play. ▪ Should we invite someone else *since* he can't go?

[3]since *adv*

1 : from a past time until now ▪ He moved to New York one year ago and has lived there *since*. [=(more commonly) *ever since*]

2 : after a time in the past ▪ She graduated four years ago and has *since* married. ▪ He left home two years ago and has *since* become a soldier.

3 : before the present time ▪ I received your letter some time *since*. [=(more commonly) *ago*] — see also *long since* at [2]LONG

sin•cere /sɪn'siɚ/ *adj* **sin•cer•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having or showing true feelings that are expessesd in an honest way ▪ He sounded *sincere* in his promises. ▪ She seemed *sincere* in her commitment to finish school.

2 : genuine or real : not false, fake, or pretended ▪ She has a *sincere* interest in painting. ▪ He showed a *sincere* concern for her health. ▪ Her apology was *sincere*. ▪ He made a *sincere* attempt/effort to quit smoking. ▪ Please accept our *sincere* thanks. — opposite INSINCERE

– **sin•cer•i•ty** /sɪn'serəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Some people are questioning the *sincerity* of her promises. ▪ Her apology was spoken with *sincerity*. ▪ ***In all sincerity*** [=*in all honesty*], we could not have done this project without your help.

sin•cere•ly /sɪn'siɚli/ *adv*

1 : genuinely or truly : in a sincere or truthful way ▪ He *sincerely* apologized for breaking the vase. ▪ Do you *sincerely* [=*really*] believe that the country is better off now? ▪ I *sincerely* hope that you do a better job next time. ▪ I am *sincerely* sorry for your loss. ▪ He tried *sincerely* to make up for his mistake.

2 ✧ ***Sincerely, yours sincerely***, and (*chiefly US*) ***sincerely yours*** are often used at the end of a formal letter before the sender's signature.

sine /'saɪn/ *noun, pl* **sines** [*count*] *geometry* : the ratio between the long side (called the hypotenuse) and side that is opposite to an acute angle in a right triangle

si•ne•cure /'saɪnɪˌkjɚ/ *noun, pl* **-cures** [*count*] *formal* : a job or position in which someone is paid to do little or no work

si•ne qua non /ˌsɪnɪˌkwɑ:'nɑ:n/ *noun, pl* ~ **nons** [*count*] *formal* : something that is absolutely needed ▪ Patience is a *sine qua non* for this job.

sin•ew /'sɪnˌju:/ *noun, pl* **-ews** [*count, noncount*] : strong tissue that connects muscles to bones ▪ cutting through bone and *sinew* — often used figuratively ▪ the *sinews* of power

sin•ewy /'sɪnjəwi/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having strong and lean muscles ▪ *sinewy* arms ▪ The lion has a *sinewy* body. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ *sinewy* writing

2 : tough and difficult to cut or chew ▪ a *sinewy* piece of meat

sin•ful /'sɪnfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : wrong according to religious or moral law ▪ a *sinful* act [=an act that is a sin] ▪ It is *sinful* to steal.

2 : very bad or wicked ▪ *sinful* people

3 *informal* : extremely enjoyable in a way that makes you feel guilty ▪ a *sinful* chocolate cake

– **sin•ful•ly** *adv* ▪ They acted *sinfully*. ▪ The cake is *sinfully* delicious. ▪ *sinfully* rich chocolate – **sin•ful•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

sing /'sɪŋ/ *verb* **sings**; **sang** /'sæŋ/ *or* **sung** /'sʌŋ/; **sung**; **sing•ing**

1 : to use your voice to make musical sounds in the form of a song or tune [*no obj*] She *sings* in the choir. ▪ The children danced and *sang*. ▪ She *sings* beautifully. ▪ He *sang* softly to the baby. ▪ She's a great actress, and she can dance and *sing*, too. [+ *obj*] We all stood and *sang* the national anthem. ▪ He *sang* a tune to us. = He *sang* us a tune. ▪ I can't *sing* the high notes. ▪ She *sang* the baby to sleep. [=she sang to the baby until it fell asleep]

2 [*no obj*] : to make pleasant sounds that sound like music ▪ Do you hear the birds *singing*?

3 [*no obj*] : to make a high-pitched whistling sound ▪ The kettle *sang* on the stove. ▪ The bullet *sang* past his helmet.

sing a different tune see [1]TUNE

sing along [*phrasal verb*] : to sing a song together with someone who is already singing or with a recording of the song ▪ If you know the words, *sing along* (with us). ▪ He loves to *sing along* with the radio. — see also SING-ALONG

sing of [*phrasal verb*] ***sing of (someone or something)*** *literary + old-fashioned* : to speak or write about (someone or something) especially with enthusiasm ▪ The poet *sang of* knights and medieval times.

sing out [*phrasal verb*] ***sing out*** *or* ***sing out (something)*** *or* ***sing (something) out*** **1** : to say or shout something loudly ▪ If you need any help, just *sing out*. ▪ The children *sang out* [=*cried out*] "good morning" to the teacher. ▪ The crowd *sang out* insults. **2** : to sing something loudly ▪ The singer stopped and the crowd *sang out* the rest of the chorus.

sing someone's/something's praises *or* ***sing the praises of someone/something*** : to say good things about someone or something ▪ His patients all *sing his praises*. ▪ They were *singing the praises* of their new equipment.

– **singing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ What beautiful *singing*. ▪ folk *singing* ▪ There was *singing* and dancing all night long. – **singing** *adj* ▪ She has a wonderful *singing* voice. ▪ His *singing* career is ruined.

sing. *abbr* singular

sing–along /'sɪŋəˌlɑ:ŋ/ *noun, pl* **-alongs** [*count*] : an informal occasion or event at which people sing songs together ▪ a Christmas *sing-along* — called also (*Brit*) *singsong*; see also *sing along* at SING

singe /'sɪnʤ/ *verb* **sing•es**; **singed**; **singe•ing** [+ *obj*] : to burn (something) slightly ▪ The flame *singed* his hair. = His hair was *singed* by the flame. ▪ The wood was *singed* by the candle.

sing•er /'sɪŋɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who sings ▪ My sister is a pretty good *singer*; *especially* : a performer who sings ▪ He is the lead *singer* in the band. ▪ a country/opera/pop/rock *singer* — see also FOLKSINGER, TORCH SINGER

singer–songwriter *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a performer who writes songs and sings them

[1]sin•gle /'sɪŋgəl/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : not having or including another : only one ▪ They lost by a *single* point. [=they lost by one point] ▪ A *single* shoe was found. ▪ It costs $10 for a *single* glass of wine! ▪ a *single* serving of carrots ▪ He earns $2,000 in a *single* week. ▪ There is a *single* [=*uniform*] standard for men and women. — sometimes used to emphasize the largeness or importance of something ▪ The fingerprint turned out to be the *single* most important piece of evidence. ▪ Tobacco is the *single* greatest/largest/biggest industry in the state. ▪ Drunk driving is the greatest/largest/biggest *single* killer of high school students. — sometimes used in negative statements to emphasize that there is a complete lack of something ▪ Not a *single* cookie was left. ▪ Not a *single* sound was heard. ▪ I could not hear a *single* word of what he said. ▪ We didn't get a *single* reply.

2 : not married or not having a serious romantic relationship with someone ▪ a club for *single* [=*unattached, unmarried*] people ▪ Are you *single*? ▪ a *single* parent/mother/father [=a mother or father who takes care of a child alone]

3 — used for emphasis after words like *any, each, every*, etc. ▪ He has more home runs than any other *single* player. [=than any other player] ▪ These laws apply to each *single* citizen. ▪ I drink milk every *single* day. ▪ She can't watch him every *single* minute.

4 *always used before a noun* : made for one person to use ▪ I stayed in a *single* room. ▪ I slept in a ***single bed***. [=(*US*) *twin bed*]

5 *Brit* : ONE-WAY ▪ a *single* ticket ▪ How much is the *single* fare?

[2]single *noun, pl* **sin•gles**

1 [*count*] : an unmarried person and especially one who is young and socially active — usually plural ▪ The party is for *singles*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *singles* bar/club

2 [*count*] **a** *baseball* : a hit that allows the batter to reach first base ▪ He hit a *single* to right field. — compare DOUBLE, HOME RUN, TRIPLE **b** *cricket* : a hit that scores one run

3 ***singles*** [*plural*] : a game of tennis or a similar sport that is played between two players ▪ Do you want to play *singles* or doubles? ▪ a *singles* match

4 [*count*] : a music recording having one main song and sometimes one or more other songs ▪ I bought the *single*.; *also* : one song from a recording that includes many songs ▪ Have you heard the latest *single* from the album? ▪ The song was released as a *single* before the album came out. — compare ALBUM

5 [*count*] : a room in a hotel, inn, etc., for one person ▪ The hotel has only *singles* available. — compare DOUBLE

6 [*count*] *US* : a one-dollar bill ▪ Do you have five *singles* for this five?

7 [*count*] *Brit* : a one-way ticket ▪ A *single* to Bath, please.

[3]single *verb* **singles**; **sin·gled**; **sin·gling** [*no obj*] : to hit a single in baseball ▪ He *singled* to right field.

single out [*phrasal verb*] ***single out (someone or something) or single (someone or something) out*** : to treat or to speak about (someone or something in a group) in a way that is different from the way you treat or speak about others ▪ The teacher *singled* him *out* as the only student to get a perfect score on the test. ▪ The coach *singled out* the players who played poorly. ▪ The reviewer *singled* her performance *out* for praise/criticism. — often used as *(be) singled out* ▪ She *was singled out* for special treatment.

single bond *noun, pl* ~ **bonds** [*count*] *technical* : a chemical bond in which two atoms in a molecule share one pair of electrons — compare DOUBLE BOND, TRIPLE BOND

sin·gle–breast·ed /ˈsɪŋgəlˈbrɛstəd/ *adj, of a coat, jacket, or suit* : having one row of buttons ▪ He wore a *single-breasted* blazer. — compare DOUBLE-BREASTED

sin·gle–deck·er /ˈsɪŋgəlˈdɛkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : a bus that has only one level — often used before another noun ▪ a *single-decker* bus — compare DOUBLE-DECKER, TRIPLE-DECKER

single digits *noun* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : a number or percentage that is 9 or less ▪ They won the game by *single digits*. [=by 9 points or fewer than 9 points] ▪ The state's unemployment rate is in the *single digits*. — called also *single figures*

– **sin·gle–dig·it** /ˈsɪŋgəlˈdɪʤɪt/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ the state's *single-digit* unemployment rate ▪ a *single-digit* increase

single file *noun* [*noncount*] : a line of people, animals, or things arranged one behind another — used after *in* ▪ They stood/walked *in single file*.

– **single file** *adv* ▪ The students walked *single file* out of the classroom. ▪ Boys and girls, please line up *single file*.

sin·gle–hand·ed /ˌsɪŋgəlˈhændəd/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : done by one person ▪ *single-handed* sailing

2 : working alone ▪ a *single-handed* sailor

– **single–handed** *adv* ▪ He sailed the boat home *single-handed*. – **sin·gle–hand·ed·ly** *adv* ▪ She raised the children *single-handedly*. [=she raised the children by herself] ▪ He is credited with almost *single-handedly* saving the company from bankruptcy.

single malt *noun, pl* ~ **malts** [*count, noncount*] : a kind of whiskey that comes from one place and that is not blended with other kinds of whiskey — often used before another noun ▪ *single-malt* Scotch

single market *noun* [*singular*] *economics* : a group of countries that have an agreement which allows goods to be moved, bought, or sold between them very easily ▪ the European Union's *single market*

sin·gle–mind·ed /ˌsɪŋgəlˈmaɪndəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having only one purpose, goal, or interest : focused on one thing ▪ He worked with *single-minded* dedication/determination/devotion to help the poor. ▪ She is very *single-minded* and determined to succeed.

– **sin·gle–mind·ed·ly** *adv* ▪ He is *single-mindedly* devoted to his job. – **sin·gle–mind·ed·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

sin·glet /ˈsɪŋglət/ *noun, pl* **-glets** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a shirt that has no sleeves or collar and that is worn for playing sports

sin·gly /ˈsɪŋgəli/ *adv, formal* : without another ▪ The birds can be seen *singly* or in groups. ▪ The books in the set cannot be sold *singly*. [=(more commonly) *individually*]

sing·song /ˈsɪŋˌsɑːŋ/ *noun, pl* **-songs**

1 [*singular*] : a way of speaking in which the sound of your voice rises and falls in a pattern ▪ They spoke in a *singsong*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *singsong* voice

2 [*count*] *Brit* : SING-ALONG

[1]sin·gu·lar /ˈsɪŋgjələɚ/ *adj*

1 *grammar* : showing or indicating no more than one thing ▪ In the phrase "his car is red," the word "car" is a *singular* noun. ▪ "Walks" in "she walks everyday" is a *singular* verb. — abbr. *sing.*; compare PLURAL

2 a *formal* : better or greater than what is usual or normal ▪ the *singular* [=*exceptional*] beauty of the landscape ▪ Her father noticed her *singular* [=*unique*] talent for music. ▪ the *singular* [=*remarkable*] importance of the discovery ▪ She showed a *singular* [=*noticeable, obvious*] lack of interest. **b** *literary* : strange or odd ▪ He had a *singular* appearance. ▪ *singular* customs

– **sin·gu·lar·ly** *adv* ▪ a *singularly* important discovery ▪ Passion was *singularly* [=*noticeably*] lacking in his music.

[2]singular *noun*

the singular : a form of a word that is used to refer to one person or thing ▪ "Wolf" is the *singular* and "wolves" is the plural. ▪ "Mouse" is the *singular* of "mice." ▪ The verb should be ***in the singular***. ▪ Rewrite the sentence *in the singular*. [=using singular forms of words]

sin·gu·lar·i·ty /ˌsɪŋgjəˈlerəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the quality of being strange or odd ▪ People could not understand the *singularity* of his imagination.

Sin·ha·la /sɪnˈhɑːlə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : SINHALESE 2

Sin·ha·lese /ˌsɪnhəˈliːz/ *noun, pl* **Sinhalese**

1 [*count*] : a member of a group of people who live in Sri Lanka

2 [*noncount*] : the language of the Sinhalese people ▪ He speaks *Sinhalese*.

– **Sinhalese** *adj*

sin·is·ter /ˈsɪnəstɚ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having an evil appearance : looking likely to cause something bad, harmful, or dangerous to happen ▪ There was something *sinister* about him. ▪ He looked *sinister*. ▪ *sinister* black clouds

– **sin·is·ter·ly** *adv*

[1]sink /ˈsɪŋk/ *verb* **sinks**; **sank** /ˈsæŋk/ *or* **sunk** /ˈsʌŋk/; **sunk**; **sink·ing**

1 a [*no obj*] : to go down below the surface of water, mud, etc. ▪ The passengers were rescued from the boat before it *sank*. ▪ a *sinking* ship ▪ The rock *sank* to the bottom of the pool. ▪ My foot *sank* into the deep mud. ▪ She *sank* up to her knees in the snow. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (a ship or boat) to go down below the surface of water ▪ The torpedo *sank* the ship.

2 [*no obj*] : to move down to a lower position ▪ The sun *sank* behind the hills. ▪ He *sank* to his knees and prayed. [=he knelt down and prayed] ▪ She *sank* back into the cozy chair.

3 [*no obj*] : to become lower in amount, value, etc. : to decline or decrease ▪ The temperature *sinks* quickly after the sun sets. ▪ The lake's water level is slowly *sinking*. ▪ His strength is slowly *sinking*. ▪ The company's stock *sank* after it announced that profits were less than expected. ▪ The currency's value is *sinking*.

4 [+ *obj*] : to use force to cause (something) to go into the ground or another surface — often + *into* ▪ He *sank* [=*drove*] the fence posts *into* the ground. ▪ He *sank* the ax *into* the tree. ▪ The nail was *sunk* all the way *into* the wall. ▪ The cat *sank* its claws *into* my arm.

5 [*no obj*] **a** : to do something that is morally wrong ▪ How could you *sink* [=*stoop*] to cheating? ▪ I never thought he could *sink* so low. [=do something so wrong] **b** : to begin to feel sad, depressed, etc. ▪ She *sank* into a deep depression. ▪ Her ***heart sank*** [=she became very sad] at the thought of moving so far away. ▪ With a ***sinking heart*** [=with great sadness], she signed the papers to sell the house. ▪ She got that ***sinking feeling*** [=a feeling of dread or discouragement] as she viewed the storm damage. **c** : to go or change to a worse or less active state — often + *into* ▪ The patient *sank into* a coma. ▪ He's ***sinking fast*** and won't live much longer.

6 [*no obj*] *of a person's voice* : to become quieter ▪ Her voice *sank* to a whisper. [=she began to whisper]

7 a [*no obj*] : to become less successful : to move toward failure ▪ The company is *sinking* under the weight of heavy debt. [=the company is failing because it has too much debt] **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to fail ▪ Bad weather *sank* their plans for a picnic. ▪ If we don't get that money soon, we'll ***be sunk***.

8 [+ *obj*] : to make (a well, shaft, mine, etc.) by digging down into the earth ▪ The workers are *sinking* a well.

9 [+ *obj*] : to spend (a lot of money, work, time, etc.) on something — + *in* or *into* ▪ He *sank* [=*invested*] five million dollars *in* the new company. ▪ He keeps *sinking* money *into* that old car. ▪ She has *sunk* a lot of work *into* the project.

10 [+ *obj*] : to throw, hit, or roll (a ball) into a hole or basket ▪ He *sank* [=*dropped, holed*] the putt. ▪ In pool, you need to

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sink [=*pocket*] the eight ball to win. ▪ She *sank* the jump shot.
11 [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : to drink (something) completely ▪ They *sank* [=*downed*] one more pint before leaving.
sink in [*phrasal verb*] : to become completely known, felt, or understood ▪ I had to tell him what to do over and over before it finally *sank in*. ▪ The fact that she's left me still hasn't really *sunk in*.
sink like a stone : to sink very suddenly and quickly ▪ The ship hit an iceberg and *sank like a stone*. — often used figuratively ▪ His last movie *sank like a stone*.
sink or swim ✧ A situation in which you either *sink or swim* is one in which you must succeed by your own efforts or fail completely. ▪ They left me to *sink or swim* on my own. ▪ In this job, it's *sink or swim*.
sink without a trace (*US*) *or Brit* ***sink without trace*** : to sink beneath the water to a place that cannot be seen or found ▪ The boat *sank without a trace*. — often used figuratively ▪ Her first album was a big success, but after that she *sank without a trace*.
sink your teeth into see TOOTH

[2]sink *noun, pl* **sinks** [*count*] : a wide bowl that has a faucet for water and a drain at the bottom and is usually positioned in a counter or on a pedestal ▪ a kitchen *sink* ▪ (*chiefly US*) a bathroom *sink* [=(*chiefly Brit*) *washbasin*] — see pictures at BATHROOM, KITCHEN

sink•er /ˈsɪŋkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a weight used for holding a fishing line or net underwater
2 *baseball* : a fast pitch that drops lower as it reaches home plate — called also *sinker ball*
hook, line and sinker see [1]HOOK

sink•hole /ˈsɪŋkˌhoʊl/ *noun, pl* **-holes** [*count*] : a low area or hole in the ground that is formed especially when soil and rocks are removed by flowing water — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The new highway is a financial *sinkhole*. [=something that constantly uses up money, resources, etc.]

sin•ner /ˈsɪnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*] : someone who has done something wrong according to religious or moral law : someone who has sinned

Si•no- /ˈsaɪnoʊ/ *combining form* : Chinese and ▪ *Sino-Japanese relations* [=relations between China and Japan]

sin•u•ous /ˈsɪnjəwəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal + literary*
1 : having many twists and turns ▪ a *sinuous* [=*winding*] road ▪ *sinuous* vines
2 : moving and bending in a smooth and attractive way ▪ a *sinuous* dancer ▪ She moved with *sinuous* grace.
– **sin•u•ous•ly** *adv*

si•nus /ˈsaɪnəs/ *noun, pl* **-nus•es** [*count*] : any of several spaces in the skull that connect with the nostrils — usually plural ▪ My *sinuses* are blocked. [=they are filled with mucus that will not drain properly] — often used before another noun ▪ a *sinus* infection/problem

si•nus•itis /ˌsaɪnjəˈsaɪtəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : painful swelling of the tissues inside the sinuses

Sioux /ˈsu:/ *noun, pl* **Sioux** /ˈsu:/ [*count*] : a member of a Native American people originally from the north central U.S.

sip /ˈsɪp/ *verb* **sips**; **sipped**; **sip•ping** : to drink (a liquid) slowly by taking only small amounts into your mouth [+ *obj*] She *sipped* her coffee while she watched the sun rise. [*no obj*] He *sipped* on the bottle of water. — sometimes + *at* ▪ He *sipped at* his wine.
– **sip** *noun, pl* **sips** [*count*] ▪ Have/take a *sip* of water.

[1]si•phon *also* **sy•phon** /ˈsaɪfən/ *noun, pl* **-phons** [*count*] : a bent tube used to move a liquid from one container into another container by means of air pressure

[2]siphon *also* **syphon** *verb* **-phons**; **-phoned**; **-phon•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to move (a liquid) from one container to another by using a siphon ▪ The water needs to be *siphoned* from the pool. — often + *off* ▪ He *siphoned off* gas from the car's tank.
2 : to take and use (something, such as money) for your own purpose ▪ She illegally *siphoned* money out of other people's bank accounts. ▪ Funds were *siphoned* from the schools to build a new stadium. ▪ The large chain stores are *siphoning* profits from the small local stores.

sir /ˈsɚ/ *noun, pl* **sirs**
1 [*noncount*] **a** — used without a name as a form of polite address to a man you do not know ▪ May I help you, *sir*? ▪ *Sir*, your order is ready. — compare MA'AM, MADAM, MISS **b** — used without a name as a form of polite address to a man of rank or authority (such as a military or police officer, teacher, or master) ▪ "At ease, lieutenant." "Yes *sir*, captain." ▪ *Sir*, I don't think I was speeding. ▪ *Sir*, can you help me with this math problem? ▪ Dinner is ready, *sir*.
2 ***Sir*** [*count*] — used without a name as a form of address at the beginning of a formal letter ▪ Dear *Sir* or Madam ▪ Dear *Sir/Sirs*
3 ***Sir*** [*noncount*] — used as a title before the name of a knight or baronet ▪ *Sir* Lancelot ▪ *Sir* Charles ▪ *Sir* Elton John ▪ *Sir* Walter Scott
4 [*noncount*] *US, informal* — used in the phrases ***no sir*** and ***yes sir*** for emphasis, to show surprise, etc. ▪ I will not have that man in my home, *no sir*. [=*no sirree*] ▪ That was a wonderful dinner. *Yes sir*. [=*yes sirree*] ▪ "She couldn't have said that to her mom." "*Yes sir*, she sure did." ▪ "The teacher caught them kissing." "*No sir*! She did?"

[1]sire /ˈsajɚ/ *noun, pl* **sires**
1 [*noncount*] — used formerly to address a man of rank or authority (such as a king or lord) ▪ Your horses are ready, *sire*. [=*my lord*]
2 [*count*] *technical* : a male parent of some animals (such as dogs and horses) ▪ the foal's *sire* — compare [3]DAM

[2]sire *verb* **sires**; **sired**; **sir•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *of an animal* : to become the father of (an animal) ▪ The horse *sired* several champion racers.
2 *old-fashioned* : to become the father of (a child) ▪ He *sired* [=*fathered*] six children.

si•ren /ˈsaɪrən/ *noun, pl* **-rens** [*count*]
1 : a piece of equipment that produces a loud, high-pitched warning sound ▪ an ambulance *siren* ▪ the wailing of air-raid *sirens* ▪ We heard police *sirens*. [=sirens on police cars]
2 : a woman who is very attractive but also dangerous : TEMPTRESS ▪ a Hollywood *siren*
3 ***Siren*** : one of a group of female creatures in Greek mythology whose singing attracted sailors and caused them to sail into dangerous water or toward rocks

siren song *noun, pl* **~ songs** [*count*] : something that is very appealing and makes you want to go somewhere or do something but that may have bad results — often + *of* ▪ They could not resist the *siren song of* fame and money. — called also *siren call*

sir•loin /ˈsɚˌlɔɪn/ *noun, pl* **-loins** [*count, noncount*] : a piece of beef from the lower back area of a cow — often used before another noun ▪ a *sirloin* steak ▪ *sirloin* tips

sir•ree *also* **sir•ee** /səˈri:/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal* — used in the phrases ***no sirree*** and ***yes sirree*** for emphasis, to show surprise, etc. ▪ I won't let them do it. *No sirree*. [=*no sir*] ▪ "Did you like the movie?" "*Yes sirree*, I sure did."

sis /ˈsɪs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : SISTER — used as a name for your sister especially when you are talking to her ▪ *Sis*, can you help me with this?

si•sal /ˈsaɪsəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a strong white fiber made from a tropical plant — often used before another noun ▪ *sisal* fibers/rope/twine ▪ a *sisal* rug

sis•sy *also Brit* **cis•sy** /ˈsɪsi/ *noun, pl* **sis•sies** [*count*] *informal + disapproving*
1 : a boy who is weak or who likes things that girls usually like ▪ The other kids laughed at him and called him a *sissy* because he didn't like sports.
2 : a person who is weak and fearful ▪ Don't be such a *sissy*. [=*wimp*] It's just a frog.
– **sissy** *adj* ▪ He thinks golf is a *sissy* sport.

[1]sis•ter /ˈsɪstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters**
1 [*count*] : a girl or woman who has one or both of the same parents as you ▪ my little/younger *sister* ▪ his big/older *sister* ▪ She's my twin *sister*. ▪ He has two *sisters*. — compare HALF SISTER, SISTER-IN-LAW, STEPSISTER
2 *informal* — used when talking to a woman ▪ *Sister*, you have got to relax. ▪ *Sister*, you don't need him in your life.
3 *or* ***Sister*** [*count*] : a member of a religious community of women : NUN ▪ The *sisters* live in the convent. — often used as a title ▪ the *Sisters* of St. Joseph ▪ *Sister* Christine — abbr. *Sr*.
4 [*count*] : a woman who is from the same group or country as you ▪ her college sorority *sisters* ▪ We must support our brothers and *sisters* fighting overseas. ▪ She speaks for her Asian *sisters*.
5 [*count*] *US, informal* : a black woman — used especially by African-Americans
6 *or* ***Sister*** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a nurse in a hospital ward or clinic
– see also WEAK SISTER

[2]sister *adj, always used before a noun* : belonging to the same kind or group : having similar qualities or characteristics ▪

The two cruise liners are *sister* ships. ▪ *sister* companies/schools

sister city *noun, pl* ~ **cit•ies** [*count*] *US* : one of two cities or towns in different areas that have a special relationship and are usually similar in some way ▪ A choir from our *sister city* in France is performing here next week. — called also (*Brit*) *twin town*

sis•ter•hood /ˈsɪstəˌhʊd/ *noun, pl* **-hoods**
1 [*noncount*] : the close relationship among women based on shared experiences, concerns, etc. ▪ The bonds of *sisterhood* have helped unite women to fight for social equality.
2 [*count*] : a community or society of women — usually singular ▪ She is a member of the *sisterhood*; *especially* : a community of nuns — usually singular ▪ Sister Katherine joined the *sisterhood* 10 years ago.

sis•ter–in–law /ˈsɪstərənˌlɑ:/ *noun, pl* **sis•ters–in–law** /ˈsɪstəzənˌlɑ/ [*count*]
1 : the sister of your husband or wife
2 : the wife of your brother

sis•ter•ly /ˈsɪstəli/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing or suggesting the closeness of a sister ▪ She gave her brother a *sisterly* kiss on the cheek. ▪ She received *sisterly* support from other women. ▪ a *sisterly* friendship

sit /ˈsit/ *verb* **sits**; **sat** /ˈsæt/; **sit•ting**
1 a [*no obj*] : to be in a position in which your bottom is resting on a chair, the ground, etc., especially with your back upright ▪ He was *sitting* in a chair next to the window. ▪ She *sat* across from me during dinner. ▪ The children *sat* cross-legged on the floor playing a game. ▪ Are you going to *sit* there and watch TV all day? ▪ Don't just *sit* there—do/say something! ▪ You can't expect young children to ***sit still*** [=sit without moving around] for that long. **b** [*no obj*] : to begin to sit : to put yourself in a sitting position ▪ He went over and *sat* [=*sat down*] in a chair next to the window. ▪ She walked around the table and *sat* across from me. **c** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to be seated : to put (someone) in a sitting position ▪ She *sat* the toddler in the chair.
2 [*no obj*] **a** *of an animal* : to rest with the tail end of the body on the floor and the front legs straight ▪ The cat likes to *sit* by the window. ▪ He taught the dog to *sit* (on command). ▪ *Sit*! Good dog! **b** *of a bird* : to rest on the top or the edge of something ▪ The bird *sat* on the ledge.
3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to be or stay in a particular place, position, or condition ▪ The limousine is *sitting* outside. ▪ A vase *sat* on the table. ▪ The sled *sits* unused in the garage during the summer.
4 [*no obj*] : to be a member of an official group that has meetings ▪ She *sits* on the board of directors.
5 [*no obj*] : to meet in order to carry on official business : to hold a session ▪ The court is now *sitting*. ▪ Parliament will *sit* for four months.
6 [*no obj*] **a** : to take care of a child while the child's parents are away : BABYSIT ▪ She *sits* for the neighbors' kids. = She *sits* for the neighbors. **b** : to take care of something while the owner is away — usually used in combination ▪ Can you dog-*sit* [=take care of my dog] for me this weekend? — see also HOUSE-SIT
7 [+ *obj*] *US* : to have enough seats for (a certain number of people) ▪ The car *sits* [=*seats*] five (people).
8 [*no obj*] : to pose *for* a portrait, photograph, etc. ▪ She agreed to *sit for* the painting/painter.
9 *Brit* : to take (an examination) [+ *obj*] Students will *sit* the exam next week. [*no obj*] The course prepares students to *sit* for the exam.

sit around *also chiefly Brit* ***sit about*** [*phrasal verb*] : to spend time doing nothing useful ▪ He *sits around* and does nothing while I do all the work. ▪ She just *sits around* watching television all day.

sit back [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to get into a comfortable and relaxed position in a chair, seat, etc. ▪ *Sit back* and enjoy the ride. **2** : to make no effort to do something ▪ He *sat back* and watched us do all the work. ▪ How can you just *sit back* and let him insult you like that?

sit by [*phrasal verb*] : to make no effort to stop something bad or unpleasant from happening ▪ We cannot just *sit by* and watch him ruin his life. ▪ I won't *sit* idly *by* while he ruins his life!

sit down [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to begin to sit : to put yourself into a sitting position ▪ She called just as we were *sitting down* to eat. ▪ Come on in and *sit down*. [=have a seat] ▪ Please *sit down* and be quiet. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ We need to ***sit down and*** figure this problem out. [=we need to give our attention to figuring this problem out] **2** ***be sitting down*** : to be in a sitting position ▪ She made sure everyone *was sitting down* before she began. ▪ I have some shocking news. *Are* you *sitting down*? **3** ***sit (someone) down*** : to cause (someone) to be seated : to put or get (someone) in a sitting position ▪ He *sat* the child *down*. ▪ You need to *sit* him *down* and have a talk with him. ▪ She *sat* herself *down* on the couch.

sit in [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to take the place of someone who is not present ▪ The President could not attend the meeting, so the Vice President is *sitting in*. = The Vice President is ***sitting in for*** the President. **2** ***sit in on (something)*** : to attend (something, such as a class or meeting) without officially participating ▪ She's been asked to *sit in on* the meetings. ▪ I would like to *sit in on* one of your classes.

sit on [*phrasal verb*] ***sit on (something)*** *informal* : to delay dealing with or talking about (something) ▪ Let's *sit on* the problem for a while and see if anything changes. ▪ They have been *sitting on* my insurance claim for months! ▪ Let's just *sit on* this news for the time being.

sit on your hands : to make no effort to deal with or respond to something ▪ She accused the administration of *sitting on its hands* while industries violated the law.

sit on your laurels see LAUREL

sit out [*phrasal verb*] ***sit out (something)*** *or* ***sit (something) out*** **1** : to stay in a place and wait for (something) to end ▪ Though the movie was very boring, he *sat* it *out* to see how it ended. **2** : to not take part in (something) ▪ She *sat out* several dances/practices. ▪ You can start the game without me. I'm going to *sit* this one *out*.

sit pretty *informal* : to be in a very good or favorable situation ▪ Our team *sits pretty* at the top of the rankings. — usually used as ***be sitting pretty*** ▪ He bought stock in the company early on, and now he *is sitting pretty*.

sit through [*phrasal verb*] ***sit through (something)*** : to go to (something) and stay until the end ▪ We had to *sit through* another boring meeting. ▪ I can't believe the kids *sat through* the whole movie.

sit tight **1** : to not move or change your position : to stay where you are ▪ *Sit tight*, I'll go get help. **2** : to not change your situation : to stay in the same situation ▪ This isn't a good time to sell a house. Let's just *sit tight* and see if the market improves.

sit up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to stay awake until late at night ▪ They *sat up* talking until almost dawn. **2** : to sit with your back very straight ▪ Quit slouching and *sit up* (straight). **3** ***sit up*** *or* ***sit (someone) up*** : to move or help (someone) to move into a sitting position ▪ He *sat up* in bed. ▪ She *sat* the child *up*.

sit up and take notice : to suddenly pay attention to (someone or something) ▪ The news made them *sit up and take notice*.

sit well/comfortably (etc.) ✧ If something ***does not sit well/comfortably (etc.) with you***, you do not like it. ▪ The decision *didn't sit well with* him. ▪ That attitude *doesn't sit comfortably with* me.

si•tar /sɪˈtɑə/ *noun, pl* **-tars** [*count*] : a musical instrument from India that is like a guitar and that has a long neck and a round body

sit•com /ˈsɪtˌkɑ:m/ *noun, pl* **-coms** [*count, noncount*] : a show that is on television regularly and that is about a group of characters who are involved in different funny situations — called also *situation comedy*

[1]sit–down /ˈsɪtˈdaʊn/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : done or used while sitting down ▪ a *sit-down* job/interview ▪ a *sit-down* lawn mower
2 a : served to people who are sitting down at a table ▪ Will the reception be a *sit-down* dinner or a buffet? **b** : serving sit-down meals ▪ a *sit-down* restaurant

[2]sit–down /ˈsɪtˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs**
1 [*count*] : a strike or protest in which a group of people sit down to block a road, entrance, etc., and refuse to leave until they are given what they demand ▪ The students staged a *sit-down*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *sit-down* strike/protest
2 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a meeting held to talk about a problem or disagreement ▪ The group arranged a *sit-down* with city officials.
3 [*singular*] *Brit* : a short rest while sitting down ▪ I need a *sit-down* and a cup of tea.

[1]site /ˈsaɪt/ *noun, pl* **sites** [*count*]

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1 : the place where something (such as a building) is, was, or will be located ▪ Hard hats must be worn on the construction *site*. ▪ They visited the *site* of their future house. ▪ The company has chosen a new *site* for its office building.
2 : a place where something important has happened ▪ the *site* of the battle ▪ Federal investigators combed through the crash *site*.
3 : a place that is used for a particular activity ▪ an archaeological *site* ▪ a nuclear test *site*
4 : WEB SITE

[2]site *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **sites**; **sit•ed**; **sit•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to place or build (something) in a particular location — usually used as *(be) sited* ▪ The office building will *be sited* on this lot.

sit–in /'sɪt,ɪn/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*] : a strike or protest in which people sit or stay in a place and refuse to leave until they are given what they demand ▪ The activists staged a *sit-in* at the State House to protest the treatment of prisoners.

sit•ter /'sɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]
1 *chiefly US* : a person who takes care of a child while the child's parents are away : BABYSITTER ▪ They hired a *sitter* so they could go out.
2 : a person who poses for a portrait or photograph

[1]sit•ting /'sɪtɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-tings** [*count*]
1 : a period of time during which someone sits and does a particular activity ▪ I got through the book in one *sitting*.
2 : a period of time when a person poses for a portrait or photograph ▪ He finished the portrait in one *sitting*.
3 : a time when a meal is served to a number of people at the same time ▪ We'll eat at the second *sitting*. ▪ We have reservations for the 5:30 *sitting*.
4 : a formal meeting of a court of law, a legislature, etc. ▪ a *sitting* of the legislature

[2]sitting *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : currently holding an office ▪ a *sitting* President ▪ a *sitting* member of Parliament
2 : used in or for sitting ▪ a *sitting* position
3 : easily hit ▪ a *sitting* target

sitting duck *noun, pl* ~ **ducks** [*count*] : a person or thing that is easy to hit, attack, trick, etc. ▪ The tourists were *sitting ducks* for local thieves.

sitting room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] : LIVING ROOM

sitting tenant *noun, pl* ~ **-ants** [*count*] *Brit* : a person who is living in a rented house or apartment and has the legal right to stay there

sit•u•ate /'sɪʧə,weɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to place (someone or something) in a particular location ▪ They decided to *situate* the new office building near the airport. ▪ We *situated* ourselves in the seats nearest the exit. — often used figuratively ▪ You need to *situate* the events in the proper historical context.

situated *adj, formal*
1 : located in a particular place ▪ The building is *situated* in the bad part of town. ▪ *Situated* above the valley, the house offers beautiful views. ▪ beautifully/ideally/well *situated*
2 : in a particular living situation ▪ My parents are not rich, but they're comfortably *situated*.

sit•u•a•tion /,sɪʧə'weɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]
1 : all of the facts, conditions, and events that affect someone or something at a particular time and in a particular place ▪ He's in a bad/difficult/dangerous *situation*. ▪ You may find yourself in a *situation* where you lose control of the vehicle. ▪ How is your financial *situation*? ▪ I'm worried about the current political/economic *situation*. ▪ I've been in your *situation* [=*position*] before, so I think I can help you. ▪ My parents are retired and in a good *situation*.
2 : an important or sudden problem ▪ I have a *situation* that I have to deal with at the moment.
3 *somewhat formal + old-fashioned* : a place or location ▪ The house is in a wonderful *situation* overlooking the valley.
4 *old-fashioned* : JOB 1 ▪ She found a *situation* as a governess.

situation comedy *noun, pl* ~ **-dies** [*count*] : SITCOM

sit–up /'sɪt,ʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] : an exercise in which you lie on your back and use your stomach muscles to raise the top part of your body to a sitting position ▪ She does 50 *sit-ups* every morning. — compare [2]CRUNCH 4

six /'sɪks/ *noun, pl* **sixes**
1 [*count*] : the number 6
2 [*count*] : the sixth in a set or series ▪ the *six* of hearts
3 [*noncount*] : six o'clock ▪ "What time is it?" "It's *six*." ▪ I leave each day at *six*.
at sixes and sevens *chiefly Brit, informal* : disorganized and confused ▪ The change left everyone *at sixes and sevens*. ▪ Everything will be *at sixes and sevens* until our computer system is fixed.
hit/knock (someone) for six *Brit, informal* : to have an unpleasant and shocking effect on (someone) ▪ The news of the accident really *hit me for six*.
six of one, half (a) dozen of the other (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* ***six of one and half a dozen of the other*** *informal* — used to say that you do not see any real difference between two possible choices ▪ "Which do you prefer?" "I don't care; it's *six of one, half a dozen of the other*."
– **six** *adj* ▪ *six* possibilities/hours – **six** *pronoun* ▪ *Six* (of them) will be coming tonight.

six–figure *adj, always used before a noun* : in the hundreds of thousands : totaling 100,000 or more but less than one million ▪ a *six-figure* income/salary

six•fold /'sɪks,foʊld/ *adj* : six times as great or as many ▪ a *sixfold* increase
– **six•fold** /'sɪks'foʊld/ *adv* ▪ Membership has increased *sixfold*.

six–gun /'sɪks,gʌn/ *noun, pl* **-guns** [*count*] : SIX-SHOOTER

six–pack /'sɪks,pæk/ *noun, pl* **-packs** [*count*]
1 : a group of six cans or bottles sold together ▪ We bought/drank a *six-pack*. ▪ a *six-pack* of soda/beer
2 *informal* : a group of strong and well-shaped muscles that can be seen on a person's stomach ▪ Check out his *six-pack*. ▪ He has *six-pack* abs.

six•pence /'sɪkspəns/ *noun, pl* **sixpence** *or* **six•penc•es** [*count*] : a coin formerly used in Britain that was worth six pennies

six–shoot•er /'sɪks,ʃu:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a type of gun (called a revolver) that can hold six bullets — used especially to describe guns used in the old American West ▪ a cowboy's *six-shooter* — called also *six-gun*

six•teen /,sɪk'sti:n/ *noun, pl* **-teens** [*count*] : the number 16
– **sixteen** *adj* ▪ *sixteen* years – **sixteen** *pronoun* ▪ *Sixteen* (of them) will be coming tonight. – **six•teenth** /,sɪk'sti:nθ/ *noun, pl* **-teenths** [*count*] ▪ I'll see you on the *sixteenth* of April. ▪ The bill is due on the *sixteenth* (of the month). ▪ one *sixteenth* of the total – **sixteenth** *adj* ▪ The paintings were made in the *sixteenth* century. ▪ He finished in *sixteenth* place. – **sixteenth** *adv* ▪ She finished *sixteenth* in the race. ▪ the nation's *sixteenth* largest city

sixteenth note *noun, pl* ~ **notes** [*count*] *US* : a musical note equal in time to 1/16 of a whole note — called also (*Brit*) *semiquaver*

[1]sixth /'sɪksθ/ *noun, pl* **sixths**
1 [*singular*] : the number six in a series ▪ I'll be flying in on the *sixth*. [=the sixth day of the month] ▪ He got a base hit in the *sixth*. [=the sixth inning]
2 [*count*] : one of six equal parts of something ▪ Only about a *sixth* of the town voted for her.

[2]sixth *adj* : occupying the number six position in a series ▪ on the *sixth* day ▪ the book's *sixth* edition ▪ I finished in *sixth* place in the competition.
– **sixth** *adv* ▪ She finished *sixth* in the race. ▪ the nation's *sixth* largest city

sixth form *noun* [*singular*] *Brit* : the two final years of secondary school in Britain for students aged 16 to 18
– **sixth–former** *noun, pl* **-mers** [*count*] *Brit*

sixth form college *noun, pl* ~ **-leges** [*count*] *Brit* : a school in Britain providing education for students aged 16 to 18

sixth sense *noun* [*singular*] : a special ability to know something that cannot be learned by using the five senses (such as sight or hearing) ▪ She claimed to have a *sixth sense* for knowing when someone was about to call her.

six•ty /'sɪksti/ *noun, pl* **six•ties**
1 [*count*] : the number 60
2 ***sixties*** [*plural*] **a** : the numbers ranging from 60 to 69 **b** : a set of years ending in digits ranging from 60 to 69 ▪ She likes music from the *sixties*. [=from 1960 to 1969] ▪ He retired when he was in his *sixties*.
– **six•ti•eth** /'sɪkstijəθ/ *noun, pl* **-eths** [*count*] ▪ one *sixtieth* of the total – **sixtieth** *adj* ▪ his *sixtieth* birthday – **sixty** *adj* ▪ *sixty* books – **sixty** *pronoun* ▪ *Sixty* (of them) arrived this morning.

siz•able *or* **size•able** /'saɪzəbəl/ *adj* : fairly large ▪ a *sizable* contribution/donation ▪ a *sizable* portion/percentage/proportion of the population ▪ He won by a *sizable* margin.
– **siz•ably** /'saɪzəbli/ *adv, chiefly US* ▪ Costs have increased *sizably*.

[1]size /ˈsaɪz/ *noun, pl* **siz·es**

1 a : the total amount of physical space that a person or thing occupies : how large or small someone or something is [*count*] The *size* of the box is 12 inches long, 6 inches wide, and 5 inches tall. ▪ The bug was about the *size* of a dime. ▪ The twins are the same *size*. [=*height*] ▪ The tomatoes haven't quite reached their full *size*. ▪ The house is a good *size*. ▪ pieces of wood in all shapes and *sizes* ▪ televisions in large and small *sizes* [*noncount*] The cars are similar ***in size***. **b :** the total number of people or things in a group [*count*] I was impressed by the *size* of the audience. ▪ The *size* of the population keeps increasing. [*noncount*] There is a big difference ***in size*** between 50 people and a hundred! **c** [*noncount*] **:** the very large size of something ▪ It's hard to imagine the canyon's *size* until you see it in person. ▪ You should have seen ***the size of*** the shark they caught!

2 [*noncount*] **:** a specific size ▪ The lumber can be cut ***to size***. [=cut to the specific size you need]

3 : one of a series of standard measurements in which clothing, shoes, etc., are made [*count*] What is your shoe *size*? ▪ The dress is a *size* 12. ▪ Do you have this dress in a larger *size*? ▪ She's a *size* six. [=the clothes that fit her are size six] [*noncount*] Try this shoe on ***for size***. [=try this shoe on to see if it is the correct size]

down to size ✧ If people ***cut/bring (etc.) you down to size***, they make you realize that you are not as powerful and important as you thought you were. ▪ He thinks he's so smart! I wish someone would *cut him down to size*.

that's about the size of it *informal* — used to say that what has been stated about a situation is correct ▪ "So there's no chance of getting finished on time?" "*That's about the size of it*, I'm afraid."

– compare [4]SIZE

[2]size *verb* **sizes**; **sized**; **siz·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (something) a particular size ▪ The jeweler *sized* the ring (up/down) to fit her finger.

2 : to arrange or classify (things) in different groups according to size — usually used as *(be) sized* ▪ Men's pants *are sized* in inches.

size up [*phrasal verb*] ***size (something or someone) up*** *or* ***size up (something or someone)*** *informal* **:** to consider (something or someone) in order to form an opinion or conclusion ▪ The news media has been *sizing* the candidates *up*. ▪ She quickly *sized up* the situation.

– compare [5]SIZE

[3]size *adj* **:** having a specified size — used in combination ▪ medium-*size* cars ▪ a decent-*size* house

[4]size *noun* [*noncount*] **:** SIZING — compare [1]SIZE

[5]size *verb* **sizes**; **sized**; **siz·ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to cover (something, such as paper) with a sticky substance (called sizing) in order to make it stiff or smooth or to attach something else to it — compare [2]SIZE

sized /ˈsaɪzd/ *adj* **:** having a specified size — used in combination ▪ a small-*sized* dog ▪ a modest-*sized* apartment

sizing *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a sticky substance that is used to make a material (such as paper) stiff or smooth or to attach something (such as wallpaper) to a surface — called also *size*

siz·zle /ˈsɪzəl/ *verb* **siz·zles**; **siz·zled**; **siz·zling** [*no obj*]

1 : to make a hissing sound like the sound water makes when it hits hot metal ▪ bacon *sizzling* in the pan

2 *chiefly US, informal* **:** to be very exciting, romantic, etc. ▪ Their romance *sizzled* throughout the whole summer. ▪ The book *sizzles* with excitement.

– **sizzle** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ I heard the *sizzle* of frying bacon.

siz·zler /ˈsɪzlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-zlers** [*count*] *US, informal*

1 : a very hot day ▪ It looks like tomorrow's going to be another *sizzler*.

2 : something that is very exciting, thrilling, sexy, etc. ▪ a *sizzler* of a movie

sizzling *adj, chiefly US, informal*

1 : very hot ▪ a *sizzling* summer

2 : very exciting, romantic, etc. ▪ a *sizzling* love affair

ska /ˈskɑ:/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a type of fast popular music that combines elements of traditional Caribbean rhythms and jazz

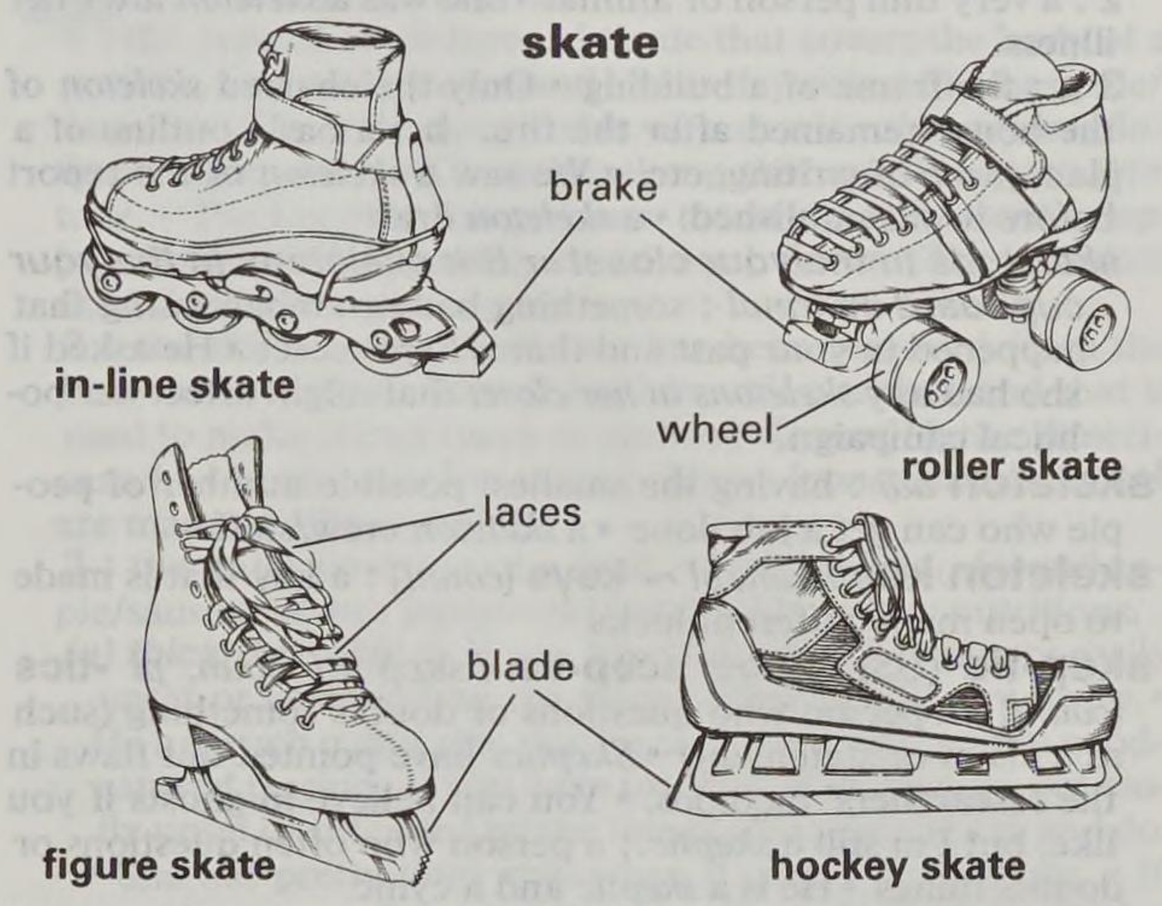
skank /ˈskæŋk/ *noun, pl* **skanks** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* + *impolite* **:** a person and especially a woman who is very sexually active or dresses in an overly sexual way ▪ She was dressed like a *skank*.

– **skanky** /ˈskæŋki/ *adj* **skank·i·er**; **-est**

[1]skate /ˈskeɪt/ *noun, pl* **skates** [*count*] **:** a kind of shoe with blades or wheels on the bottom that allow you to glide or roll on a surface: such as **a :** ICE SKATE **b :** ROLLER SKATE **c :** IN-LINE SKATE

get/put your skates on *Brit, informal* — used to tell someone to hurry

– compare [3]SKATE



[2]skate *verb* **skates**; **skat·ed**; **skat·ing**

1 : to move or glide over a surface on skates [*no obj*] hockey players *skating* into position ▪ Couples *skated* around the rink. [+ *obj*] She *skated* an excellent program in the competition.

2 [*no obj*] **:** to ride or perform tricks on a skateboard ▪ We *skate* at the park.

3 [*no obj*] **:** to move or glide quickly along a surface ▪ The bugs *skated* along the surface of the water.

skate over/around [*phrasal verb*] ***skate over/around (something)*** **:** to avoid talking about (something) especially because it is difficult to talk about or embarrassing ▪ He *skated over* the issue/question.

– **skat·er** /ˈskeɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ She's a very good *skater*. ▪ Olympic ice *skaters*

[3]skate *noun, pl* **skates** [*count, noncount*] **:** a type of fish that has a flat, wide body and a long narrow tail — compare [1]SKATE

[1]skate·board /ˈskeɪtˌboɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] **:** a short board that is on wheels and that a person stands on to move along a surface or to perform tricks

[2]skateboard *verb* **-boards**; **-board·ed**; **-board·ing** [*no obj*] **:** to ride or perform tricks on a skateboard ▪ He *skateboards* to school every day.

– **skate·board·er** /ˈskeɪtˌboɚdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-board·ers** [*count*]

– **skateboarding** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *Skateboarding* is not allowed in the parking lot.


skateboard

skate park *noun, pl* ~ **parks** [*count*] *chiefly US* **:** a place with special structures and surfaces on which people can roller-skate or skateboard

skating *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the activity or sport of gliding on skates or a skateboard ▪ No *skating* is allowed in the parking lot. ▪ We used to ***go skating*** on the pond every winter.

skating rink *noun, pl* ~ **rinks** [*count*] **:** an area or place that is used for skating

ske·dad·dle /skɪˈdædl/ *verb* **-dad·dles**; **-dad·dled**; **-dad·dling** [*no obj*] *informal* + *humorous* **:** to leave a place very quickly ▪ I've got to *skedaddle* or I'll be late.

skeet shooting /ˈski:t-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* **:** the sport of shooting at targets (called clay pigeons) that are thrown in the air

skein /ˈskeɪn/ *noun, pl* **skeins** [*count*] **:** a long piece of yarn or thread that is loosely wound — compare HANK

skel·e·tal /ˈskɛlətl/ *adj*

1 *technical* **:** of or relating to a skeleton ▪ *skeletal* muscles ▪ the *skeletal* system ▪ The archaeologist found *skeletal* remains.

2 : very thin ▪ She was *skeletal* after her illness.

[1]skel·e·ton /ˈskɛlətən/ *noun, pl* **-tons** [*count*]

S

1 a : the structure of bones that supports the body of a person or animal ▪ They found the fossil *skeleton* of a mastodon. **b** : a set or model of all the bones in the body of a person ▪ He hung a plastic *skeleton* on the door for Halloween. — see picture at HUMAN

2 : a very thin person or animal ▪ She was a *skeleton* after her illness.

3 a : the frame of a building ▪ Only the charred *skeleton* of the house remained after the fire. **b** : a basic outline of a plan, piece of writing, etc. ▪ We saw a *skeleton* of the report before it was published. ▪ a *skeleton* draft

skeletons in the/your closet *or Brit* ***skeletons in the/your cupboard*** *informal* : something bad or embarrassing that happened in your past and that is kept secret ▪ He asked if she had any *skeletons in her closet* that might affect her political campaign.

[2]skeleton *adj* : having the smallest possible number of people who can get a job done ▪ a *skeleton* crew/staff

skeleton key *noun, pl* ~ **keys** [*count*] : a key that is made to open many different locks

skep·tic *(US) or Brit* **scep·tic** /ˈskɛptɪk/ *noun, pl* **-tics** [*count*] : a person who questions or doubts something (such as a claim or statement) ▪ *Skeptics* have pointed out flaws in the researchers' methods. ▪ You can believe in ghosts if you like, but I'm still a *skeptic*. : a person who often questions or doubts things ▪ He is a *skeptic* and a cynic.

skep·ti·cal *(US) or Brit* **scep·ti·cal** /ˈskɛptɪkəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or expressing doubt about something (such as a claim or statement) ▪ She's highly *skeptical* of/about the researchers' claims. ▪ I'm *skeptical* that he can win. [=I doubt he can win] ▪ He says he can win, but I remain *skeptical*. ▪ When I said I'd finished my homework early, Mom looked *skeptical*.

– **skep·ti·cal·ly** *(US) or Brit* **scep·ti·cal·ly** /ˈskɛptɪkli/ *adv* ▪ People regarded the claims *skeptically*. ▪ She looked at me *skeptically*.

skep·ti·cism *(US) or Brit* **scep·ti·cism** /ˈskɛptəˌsɪzəm/ *noun* : an attitude of doubting the truth of something (such as a claim or statement) [*noncount*] She regarded the researcher's claims with *skepticism*. [*singular*] It's good to maintain a healthy *skepticism* about fad diets.

[1]sketch /ˈskɛʧ/ *noun, pl* **sketch·es** [*count*]

1 : a quick, rough drawing that shows the main features of an object or scene ▪ He made/drew a *sketch* of his house.

2 : a short description of something ▪ He wrote up a *sketch* of the plot. ▪ There is a biographical *sketch* of the author on the book's back cover. ▪ She gave us a ***thumbnail sketch*** [=short description] of the movie's plot.

3 : a short, funny performance ▪ a comedy *sketch*

[2]sketch *verb* **sketches**; **sketched**; **sketch·ing**

1 : to make a quick, rough drawing of (something) [+ *obj*] He *sketched* the trees outside his window. [*no obj*] He likes to sit outside and *sketch*. — often + *out* ▪ He *sketched out* the house's floor plans.

2 [+ *obj*] : to describe (something) briefly ▪ She *sketched* the plan for us. — often + *out* ▪ She *sketched out* the company's financial situation.

sketch in [*phrasal verb*] ***sketch in (something)*** *or* ***sketch (something) in*** : to add (something, such as details) to a drawing, description, etc. ▪ She looked over her picture and then *sketched in* a few more clouds. ▪ The author decided to *sketch in* some minor characters.

sketch·book /ˈskɛʧˌbʊk/ *noun, pl* **-books** [*count*] : a book filled with paper that is used for drawing

sketch·pad /ˈskɛʧˌpæd/ *noun, pl* **-pads** [*count*] : SKETCHBOOK

sketchy /ˈskɛʧi/ *adj* **sketch·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not complete or clear ▪ The details about the accident are still a little *sketchy*. ▪ *sketchy* information/reports ▪ I have only a *sketchy* idea of how it works.

2 : done quickly without many details ▪ a *sketchy* drawing

3 *US, informal* : likely to be bad or dangerous ▪ a *sketchy* neighborhood

– **sketch·i·ly** /ˈskɛʧəli/ *adv* ▪ a *sketchily* drawn figure

– **sketch·i·ness** /ˈskɛʧinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

skew /ˈskju:/ *verb* **skews**; **skewed**; **skew·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to change (something) so that it is not true or accurate ▪ They were accused of *skewing* the facts to fit their theory. ▪ A few unusual cases may have *skewed* the data. [=may have made the data show something that is not normal or typical]

2 : to make (something) favor a particular group of people in a way that is unfair ▪ He accused them of *skewing* the rules in their favor. — usually used as *(be) skewed*; usually + *toward* ▪ The tax cuts *are skewed toward* the wealthy.

skewed *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not true or accurate ▪ *skewed* facts ▪ The ratio seems *skewed*.

2 : not straight ▪ The line is *skewed*.

[1]skew·er /ˈskju:wɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a long pointed piece of metal or wood that is pushed through pieces of food to keep them together or hold them in place for cooking

[2]skewer *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-ering** [+ *obj*]

1 : to push a skewer through (food) ▪ *skewer* a marshmallow

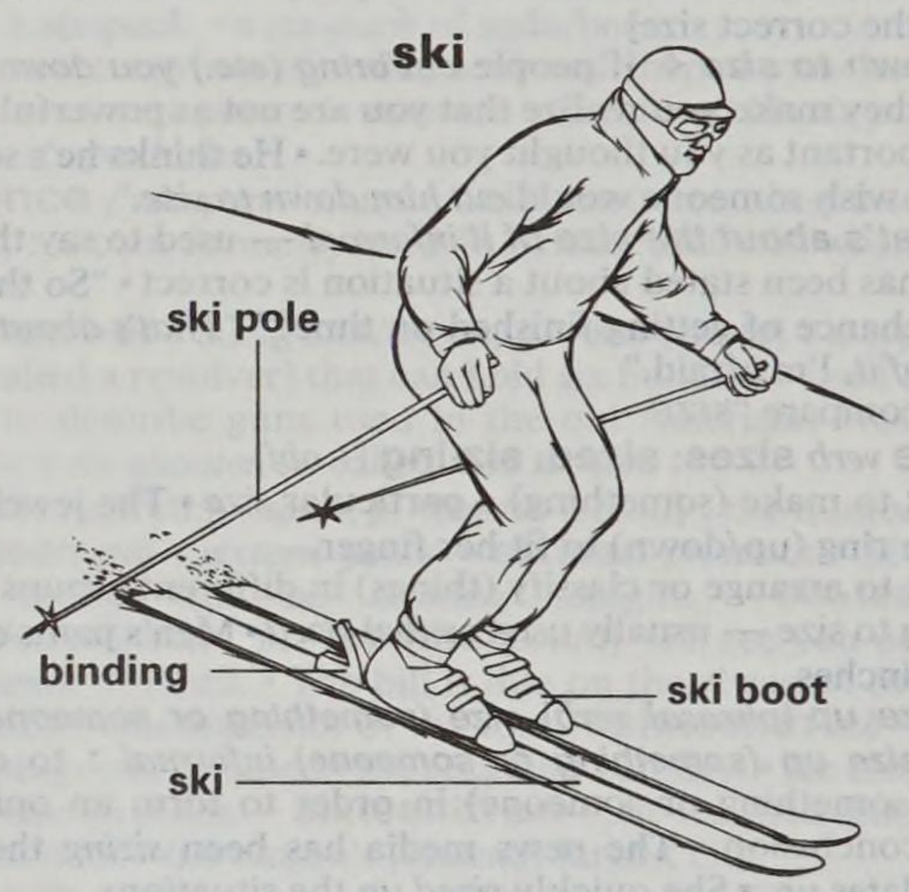
2 *chiefly US, informal* : to criticize (someone or something) very harshly ▪ Critics *skewered* the movie.

skew–whiff /ˌskju:ˈwɪf/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *Brit, informal* : not straight : CROOKED ▪ a slightly *skew-whiff* door — often used figuratively ▪ Their plans went a little *skew-whiff*.

[1]ski /ˈski:/ *noun, pl* **skis** [*count*]

1 : one of a pair of long narrow pieces of wood, metal, or plastic that curve upward slightly in front, are attached to shoes, and are used for gliding over snow

2 : WATER SKI



[2]ski *verb* **skies**; **skied**; **ski·ing** : to move or glide on skis over snow or water [*no obj*] He loves to *ski*. [+ *obj*] I have *skied* that mountain before. — see also WATER-SKI

– **ski·er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ My brother is a very good *skier*. ▪ *Skiers* love fresh snow.

[3]ski *adj, always used before a noun* : of, relating to, or used in skiing ▪ *ski* equipment/goggles ▪ a *ski* slope ▪ She is on her school's *ski* team. ▪ a *ski* instructor ▪ *ski* resorts/lodges

ski boot *noun, pl* ~ **boots** [*count*] : a boot or shoe made to be fastened to skis — see picture at SKI

[1]skid /ˈskɪd/ *verb* **skids**; **skid·ded**; **skid·ding** [*no obj*] : to slide along a road or other surface in an uncontrolled way ▪ The truck *skidded* on/across the icy road. ▪ The car *skidded* off the road and into the gully. ▪ He slammed on the brakes, and the car *skidded* to a halt. ▪ I *skidded* on the ice and fell.

[2]skid *noun, pl* **skids** [*count*]

1 : a sudden, uncontrolled sliding movement ▪ The car hit a patch of ice and ***went into a skid***. ▪ The police measured the ***skid marks*** [=marks made by a skidding vehicle] on the road.

2 : one of a pair of long narrow parts on which a helicopter or airplane rests — usually plural ▪ the *skids* of a helicopter

3 *US, sports* : a series of losses that happen one after the other : a losing streak ▪ This victory ends a five-game *skid*.

4 : PALLET 1 ▪ They loaded the packages onto a *skid*.

hit the skids *informal* : to begin to fail or get worse very suddenly and quickly ▪ After he was injured his career *hit the skids*. ▪ The stock market has *hit the skids*.

on the skids *informal* : failing or getting worse : in a bad state or situation that is likely to result in failure ▪ The company is *on the skids*. ▪ Her marriage was *on the skids*.

put the skids under *Brit, informal* : to make (something or someone) likely or certain to fail ▪ He scored the goal that *put the skids under* our hopes for victory.

skid row *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US, informal* : a poor part of a town or city where people who are homeless or who drink too much often go

on skid row *chiefly US, informal* : having no money, job,

home, etc., and not able to take care of yourself ▪ You'll end up *on skid row* if you don't stop drinking so much.

skiff /ˈskɪf/ *noun, pl* **skiffs** [*count*] : a small, light boat that is usually for only one person

skiing *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity or sport of gliding on skis ▪ cross-country/downhill *skiing* ▪ *Skiing* is my favorite winter activity. ▪ We are planning to ***go skiing*** tomorrow.

ski jump *noun, pl* ~ **jumps** [*count*] : a large, steep platform that slopes downward but curves upward slightly at the end so that skiers can glide down it and jump off the end
– **ski jumper** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] – **ski jumping** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He won a gold medal in Olympic *ski jumping*.

skilful *Brit spelling of* SKILLFUL

ski lift *noun, pl* ~ **lifts** [*count*] : a series of seats or handles that are attached to a moving cable and that are used to carry skiers up a mountain

skill /ˈskɪl/ *noun, pl* **skills** : the ability to do something that comes from training, experience, or practice [*noncount*] Poker is a game of luck and *skill*. ▪ I was impressed by her *skill* at writing. = I was impressed by her *skill* as a writer. ▪ The work is difficult and requires a lot of *skill*. [*count*] Cooking is a useful *skill*. ▪ He has excellent social *skills*. ▪ reading and writing *skills* — see also PEOPLE SKILLS

skilled /ˈskɪld/ *adj*
1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having the training, knowledge, and experience that is needed to do something : having a lot of skill ▪ *skilled* workers ▪ a very *skilled* and talented writer ▪ He is *skilled* at cooking.
2 *always used before a noun* : requiring training ▪ Carpentry is a *skilled* trade. — opposite UNSKILLED

skil•let /ˈskɪlət/ *noun, pl* **-lets** [*count*] *chiefly US* : FRYING PAN

skill•ful (*US*) *or Brit* **skil•ful** /ˈskɪlfəl/ *adj*
1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having the training, knowledge, and experience that is needed to do something well : having a lot of skill ▪ a *skillful* artist ▪ He is *skillful* at diplomacy. ▪ an artist *skillful* in the use of color
2 : showing or requiring skill ▪ the *skillful* manner in which the doctor and nurses treated the patient ▪ These issues require *skillful* handling.
– **skill•ful•ly** (*US*) *or Brit* **skil•ful•ly** *adv* ▪ The furniture was *skillfully* made. ▪ The manager handled the problem *skillfully*. – **skill•ful•ness** (*US*) *or Brit* **skil•ful•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *skillfulness* of a craftsman

skim /ˈskɪm/ *verb* **skims**; **skimmed**; **skim•ming**
1 [+ *obj*] : to remove a layer of something from the surface of a liquid ▪ I *skimmed* the fat from the broth. = I *skimmed* the broth to remove the fat. ▪ He *skimmed* the leaves from the pool. ▪ The cream is *skimmed* from the milk. ▪ The milk is *skimmed* before it is bottled. — see also SKIM MILK
2 : to look over or read (something) quickly especially to find the main ideas [+ *obj*] She only *skimmed* the reading assignment. [*no obj*] She only ***skimmed through/over*** the reading assignment.
3 [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to throw (a flat stone) along the surface of water so that it bounces ▪ He is really good at *skimming* [=(*US*) *skipping*] stones.
4 : to move quickly or lightly along, above, or near the surface of something [*no obj*] The ducks *skimmed* across/over the water before landing. [+ *obj*] The ducks *skimmed* the surface of the pond before landing.
skim off [*phrasal verb*] ***skim off (something) or skim (something) off*** : to take (something valuable) for yourself out of something else ▪ He *skimmed off* some of the profits.

ski mask *noun, pl* ~ **masks** [*count*] : a knitted fabric mask that covers your head, has openings for your eyes, mouth, and sometimes your nose, and is worn especially by skiers for protection from the cold

skim•mer /ˈskɪmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-mers** [*count*] : a spoon with holes in it that is used by cooks for skimming things

skim milk *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : milk from which all the cream and fat has been removed — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *skimmed milk*

skimp /ˈskɪmp/ *verb* **skimps**; **skimped**; **skimp•ing** [*no obj*] : to spend less time, money, etc., on something than is needed ▪ Parents shouldn't *skimp* when it comes to their child's safety. — often + *on* ▪ Don't *skimp on* sleep. ▪ The book doesn't *skimp on* details. [=the book provides plenty of details] ▪ The roof is already leaking because the builder *skimped on* materials. [=the builder bought cheap materials]

skimpy /ˈskɪmpi/ *adj* **skimp•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : very small in size or amount ▪ a *skimpy* portion ▪ *skimpy* evidence ▪ a *skimpy* dress [=a dress which does not cover very much of the body]
– **skimp•i•ly** /ˈskɪmpəli/ *adv* ▪ *skimpily* [=*scantily*] clad/dressed – **skimp•i•ness** /ˈskɪmpinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I dislike the *skimpiness* of that restaurant's portions.

[1]skin /ˈskɪn/ *noun, pl* **skins**
1 : the natural outer layer of tissue that covers the body of a person or animal [*noncount*] I have dry *skin*. ▪ She has pale/dark/fair *skin*. ▪ the rough *skin* of a shark ▪ *skin* creams/lotions ▪ *skin* cancer ▪ Choose makeup that matches your *skin* tone. ▪ The horrible things I saw ***made my skin crawl/creep*** [=made me feel disgusted, afraid, etc.] [*count*] These snakes shed their *skins* once a year.
2 : the skin of an animal that has been removed from the body often with its hair or feathers still attached and that is used to make things (such as clothes) [*count*] Native Americans had many uses for animal *skins*. [*noncount*] His boots are made of alligator *skin*.
3 : the outer covering of a fruit, vegetable, etc. [*count*] apple/sausage *skins* [*noncount*] Potato *skin* is very nutritious.
(a) thick/thin skin ✧ If you have *(a) thin skin*, you are easily upset or offended by the things other people say or do. ▪ He has such *a thin skin* that he can't even take a little good-natured teasing. If you have *(a) thick skin*, you are not easily upset or offended by the things other people say and do. ▪ She has pretty *thick skin* when it comes to criticism. ▪ If you want to perform publicly, you'll need to ***grow a thicker skin*** [=become less sensitive to criticism]
by the skin of your teeth *informal* : only by a small difference in time, space, or amount : just barely ▪ He escaped *by the skin of his teeth*. [=he just barely escaped] ▪ She only passed the test *by the skin of her teeth*. [=she almost did not pass the test]
get under your skin *informal* **1** : to irritate or upset you ▪ She really *gets under my skin*. **2** : to affect you emotionally even though you do not want or expect to be affected ▪ I used to hate the city, but after a while it kind of *got under my skin*. [=I grew to like it] ▪ The actress accepted the role because the character really *got under her skin*.
jump out of your skin *informal* ✧ If you almost/nearly (etc.) *jump out of your skin*, you are suddenly surprised or frightened very much by something. ▪ I didn't hear her come in, so I nearly *jumped out of my skin* when she spoke to me.
no skin off my nose *informal* — used to say that you do not care or do not have a strong opinion about something ▪ Go if you like—it's *no skin off my nose*.
save someone's skin see [1]SAVE
skin and bones *or* ***skin and bone*** *informal* : very thin in a way that is unattractive and unhealthy ▪ After the illness, he was *skin and bones*. ▪ The starving dog was ***nothing but skin and bones***
– **skin•less** /ˈskɪnləs/ *adj* ▪ *skinless* chicken breast

[2]skin *verb* **skins**; **skinned**; **skin•ning** [+ *obj*]
1 : to remove the skin of (an animal, fruit, or vegetable) ▪ The hunter *skinned* the rabbit and prepared it for cooking. ▪ *Skin* [=(more commonly) *peel*] the tomatoes/peppers.
2 : to scrape or rub off some of the skin from (a body part) ▪ I *skinned* my knee when I fell.
keep your eyes skinned see [1]EYE
skin (someone) alive *informal* : to punish (someone) severely ▪ Mom is going to *skin* me *alive* when she finds out about the broken window.

skin–deep /ˈskɪnˈdi:p/ *adj* : not very deep at all : relating to, affecting, or involving only the surface ▪ Beauty is only *skin-deep*. ▪ These reforms are more than *skin-deep*.

skin–dive *verb* **-dives**; **-dived**; **-div•ing** [*no obj*] : to swim underwater with special equipment (such as a face mask, snorkel, and flippers) but without a diving suit or air tank ▪ We plan to *skin-dive* while on vacation.
– **skin diver** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] – **skin diving** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We ***went skin diving*** while on vacation.

skin•flint /ˈskɪnˌflɪnt/ *noun, pl* **-flints** [*count*] *informal* + *disapproving* : a person who hates to spend money ▪ She is a penny-pinching *skinflint*.

skin•head /ˈskɪnˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] : a person with a shaved head; *especially* : a young white person who belongs to a gang whose members shave their heads and have racist beliefs

skinned /ˈskɪnd/ *adj* : having skin of a specified kind — used in combination ▪ pale-*skinned* ▪ dark-*skinned* ▪ smooth-*skinned*

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[1]skin•ny /ˈskɪni/ *adj* **skin•ni•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *informal* : very thin or too thin ▪ a *skinny* actress ▪ *skinny* arms/legs ***synonyms*** see [2]LEAN

[2]skinny *noun*
the skinny *US, informal* : the true information about someone or something that is not known by most people ▪ ***What's the skinny on*** their supposed breakup? ▪ Give me ***the inside/straight/real skinny***.

skin•ny–dip /ˈskɪniˌdɪp/ *verb* **-dips**; **-dipped**; **-dip•ping** [*no obj*] *informal* : to swim without wearing any clothes ▪ We used to *skinny-dip* in the lake.
– **skinny–dip** *noun, pl* **-dips** [*count*] ▪ They went for a *skinny-dip* in the lake. – **skin•ny–dip•per** /ˈskɪniˌdɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] – **skinny–dipping** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Let's ***go skinny-dipping***.

skint /ˈskɪnt/ *adj, Brit, informal* : having no money : BROKE ▪ I'm completely *skint*.

skin•tight /ˈskɪnˈtaɪt/ *adj* : very closely fitted to the body : very tight ▪ a *skintight* dress

[1]skip /ˈskɪp/ *verb* **skips**; **skipped**; **skip•ping**
1 [+ *obj*] : to not do (something that is usual or expected) ▪ He *skipped* the meeting. [=he didn't go to the meeting] ▪ I *skipped* breakfast, and now I'm really hungry. ▪ (*chiefly US*) They got in trouble for ***skipping school/class***. — see also *skip bail* at [1]BAIL
2 : to not discuss, read, do, or deal with (something) and go instead to the next thing : to pass over or leave out (something) [+ *obj*] I *skipped* the boring parts of the book. ▪ If you are having trouble with one of the questions on the test, *skip* it and come back to it later. ▪ She will *skip* a grade and go right from the fourth to the sixth grade next September. — often + *over* ▪ You can *skip over* the introduction if you want. [*no obj*] I don't like this song. Let's *skip* to the next one.
3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] **a** : to change quickly from one subject, place, etc., to another ▪ It's hard to understand him when he *skips* from topic to topic like that. ▪ The movie *skips* around in time. **b** ✧ If a CD, DVD, record, etc., *skips*, it fails to play part of a song or movie properly because it is damaged. ▪ The record keeps *skipping*.
4 [*no obj*] : to move forward in a light or playful way by taking short, quick steps and jumps ▪ The kids *skipped* happily down the street.
5 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to leave (a place) in a sudden and unexpected way especially to avoid trouble, punishment, etc. ▪ Police are afraid he might try to *skip* the country. ▪ They ***skipped town*** while awaiting trial.
6 *US* : to throw (a flat stone) along the surface of water so that it bounces [+ *obj*] She's really good at *skipping* [=(*Brit*) *skimming*] stones. [*no obj*] I got the rock to *skip* six times!
7 [*no obj*] *Brit* : to jump over a rope that is being swung near the ground for exercise or as a game ▪ The children are outside *skipping*. [=(*US*) *skipping rope, jumping rope*]
heart skips a beat see HEART
skip it *chiefly US, informal* — used to say that you do not want to do something, talk about something, etc. ▪ I meant to . . . oh, *skip it*. It's not important anyway.
skip out (*US*) *or Brit* ***skip off*** [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to leave a place quickly in a secret and improper way ▪ They *skipped out* before the check arrived. ▪ She *skipped out* with all the money. — often + *on* in U.S. English ▪ They *skipped out on* the bill/check. ▪ She *skipped out on* me and took all the money.
skip rope see [1]ROPE

[2]skip *noun, pl* **skips** [*count*]
1 : a short, quick step and jump forward ▪ a quick *skip*
2 *Brit* : a large metal container for putting trash in
a hop, skip, and (a) jump see [2]HOP

ski pole *noun, pl* ~ **poles** [*count*] : one of two long sticks that are used to control your movements and balance while you are skiing — see picture at SKI

[1]skip•per /ˈskɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] *informal*
1 : the captain of a ship or boat
2 *informal* : someone who leads a group; *especially* : the manager of a baseball team

[2]skipper *verb* **-pers**; **-pered**; **-per•ing** [+ *obj*] *informal*
1 : to be the captain of (a ship or boat) ▪ The boat was *skippered* by a skilled veteran sailor.
2 : to be the person who leads or manages (a team) ▪ He *skippered* the team to their latest World Series win.

skipping rope *noun, pl* ~ **ropes** [*count*] *Brit* : JUMP ROPE

[1]skir•mish /ˈskɚmɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **-mish•es** [*count*]
1 : a brief and usually unplanned fight during a war ▪ *Skirmishes* broke out between rebel groups. ▪ Violent *skirmishes* with the enemy continue despite talks of peace.
2 : a minor or brief argument or disagreement ▪ a political *skirmish*

[2]skirmish *verb* **-mishes**; **-mished**; **-mish•ing** [*no obj*] : to be involved in a skirmish ▪ Rebel groups are *skirmishing* with military forces. ▪ The presidential candidates *skirmished* over their economic plans.

[1]skirt /ˈskɚt/ *noun, pl* **skirts** [*count*]
1 a : a piece of clothing worn by women and girls that hangs from the waist down ▪ She was wearing a short/long *skirt*. — see color picture on page C14; see also MINISKIRT **b** : the part of a dress, coat, etc., that hangs from the waist down ▪ The *skirt* of her coat got caught in the car door. — sometimes plural ▪ He gathered up the *skirts* of his robe as he climbed the stairs. ▪ a dress with full *skirts*
2 : an outer covering that hangs down to protect something ▪ They put a protective *skirt* around the base of the machine.

[2]skirt *verb* **skirts**; **skirt•ed**; **skirt•ing**
1 : to avoid (something) especially because it is difficult or will cause problems [+ *obj*] The mayor *skirted* the issue by saying that a committee was looking into the problem. ▪ They tried to *skirt* the new regulations. [*no obj*] He tried to ***skirt around*** the question.
2 : to lie or go along the edge of (something) [+ *obj*] Pine trees *skirt* the northern edge of the pond. [*no obj*] The road ***skirts around*** the lake. ▪ We *skirted around* the edge of the city.

skirting board *noun, pl* ~ **boards** [*count, noncount*] *Brit* : BASEBOARD — called also (*Brit*) *skirting*

skit /ˈskɪt/ *noun, pl* **skits** [*count*] : a short, funny story or performance ▪ One of the funniest *skits* in the show was about cheerleading.

skit•ter /ˈskɪtɚ/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** [*no obj*] : to move quickly and lightly along a surface ▪ Dry leaves *skittered* over the sidewalk. ▪ Mice *skittered* across the floor.

skit•tish /ˈskɪtɪʃ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 *of an animal* : easily frightened or excited ▪ a *skittish* horse
2 : nervous or fearful about doing something ▪ We've been *skittish* about taking on such a large mortgage. ▪ *skittish* consumers/investors
3 *chiefly US* : tending to change often : not dependable or stable ▪ a *skittish* stock market
– **skit•tish•ly** *adv* – **skit•tish•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

skit•tle /ˈskɪtl/ *noun, pl* **skit•tles**
1 ***skittles*** [*noncount*] : a British game played by rolling a wooden ball toward a set of objects in order to knock over as many objects as possible
2 [*count*] : one of the objects that a player tries to knock over in a game of skittles

skive /ˈskaɪv/ *verb* **skives**; **skived**; **skiv•ing** *Brit, informal* : to avoid school or work by staying away or by leaving without permission — often + *off* [*no obj*] He works for his mother and feels he can *skive off* whenever he feels like it. [+ *obj*] She *skived off* school twice last month.
– **skiv•er** /ˈskaɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

Skiv•vies /ˈskɪviz/ *trademark, US* — used for men's underwear

skiv•vy /ˈskɪvi/ *noun, pl* **-vies** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a female servant who does work that is dirty and unpleasant ▪ I'm tired of being treated like a *skivvy*.

skul•dug•gery *or* **skull•dug•gery** /ˌskʌlˈdʌgəri/ *noun* [*noncount*] *old-fashioned* : secret or dishonest behavior or activity ▪ tales of espionage and *skulduggery*

skulk /ˈskʌlk/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **skulks**; **skulked**; **skulk•ing** [*no obj*] : to move or hide in a secret way especially because you are planning to do something bad ▪ A man was *skulking* around outside. ▪ She *skulked* into her sister's room.

skull /ˈskʌl/ *noun, pl* **skulls** [*count*] : the structure of bones that form the head and face of a person or animal ▪ He had a fractured *skull*. ▪ (*informal*) You need to ***get it into/through your thick skull*** [=you need to realize/understand] that you can't just sit there and expect everyone else to do your work for you! ▪ (*informal*) He can't seem to *get it through his skull* that I don't like him. — see picture at HUMAN

skull and cross•bones /ˌskʌlənˈkrɑːsˌboʊnz/ *noun* [*singular*] : a picture of a human skull above two crossed bones that was used on the flags of pirate ships in the past and is

now used as a warning label on containers of poisonous or dangerous substances

skull•cap /ˈskʌlˌkæp/ *noun, pl* **-caps** [*count*]
1 : a small, round cap that fits on top of the head and that is worn especially by Jewish men and Catholic clergymen
2 : a tight-fitting cap that is made of material that stretches

skunk /ˈskʌŋk/ *noun, pl* **skunks** [*count*]
1 : a small black-and-white North American animal that produces a very strong and unpleasant smell when it is frightened or in danger
2 *US, informal* **:** a very bad or unpleasant person ▪ Her brother's a low-down, dirty *skunk*.


skunk

skunk cabbage *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a North American plant that grows in wet, shady areas and that produces a strong odor

sky /ˈskaɪ/ *noun, pl* **skies :** the space over the Earth where the sun, moon, stars, and clouds appear [*count*] a starry *sky* ▪ the night/desert *sky* ▪ There wasn't a cloud in the *sky*. ▪ Dark clouds moved quickly across the *sky*. ▪ Hailstones suddenly fell out of the *sky*. ▪ The sun/moon was high in the *sky*. ▪ The forecast is for sunny/blue/gray/overcast *skies* tomorrow. ▪ partly cloudy *skies* [*noncount*] a patch of blue *sky*
praise (someone or something) to the skies see ¹PRAISE
take to the sky/skies *chiefly US* **:** to begin flying ▪ The new airliner will *take to the skies* next year.
the sky's the limit see ¹LIMIT
– see also PIE IN THE SKY

sky blue *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a pale to light blue color — see color picture on page C2

sky•box /ˈskaɪˌbɑːks/ *noun, pl* **-box•es** [*count*] *US* **:** an area with a roof and private seats near the top of a sports stadium

sky•cap /ˈskaɪˌkæp/ *noun, pl* **-caps** [*count*] *US* **:** a person whose job is to carry people's luggage at an airport

sky•div•ing /ˈskaɪˌdaɪvɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the sport of jumping from an airplane and falling through the sky before opening a parachute
– **sky•dive** /ˈskaɪˌdaɪv/ *verb* **-dives**; **-dived**; **-div•ing** [*no obj*] ▪ Have you ever *skydived*? – **sky•div•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

¹sky–high /ˈskaɪˈhaɪ/ *adj* **:** extremely high ▪ *sky-high* prices ▪ Her blood pressure is *sky-high*.

²sky–high *adv* **:** to a very high degree, level, or amount ▪ Stock prices rose *sky-high*. ▪ Rubble was piled *sky-high*.

sky•lark /ˈskaɪˌlɑːk/ *noun, pl* **-larks** [*count*] **:** a small bird of Europe, Asia, and northern Africa that sings while it flies

sky•light /ˈskaɪˌlaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-lights** [*count*] **:** a window in the roof of a house or on a ship's deck

sky•line /ˈskaɪˌlaɪn/ *noun, pl* **-lines** [*count*] **:** the outline of buildings, mountains, etc., against the background of the sky ▪ the New York City *skyline*

¹sky•rock•et /ˈskaɪˌrɑːkət/ *verb* **-ets**; **-et•ed**; **-et•ing** [*no obj*] **:** to increase quickly to a very high level or amount ▪ Costs/Sales have *skyrocketed*. ▪ *skyrocketing* prices ▪ His popularity *skyrocketed* after his latest movie.

²skyrocket *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*] **:** ¹ROCKET 3

sky•scrap•er /ˈskaɪˌskreɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] **:** a very tall building in a city

sky•ward /ˈskaɪwɚd/ *also chiefly Brit* **sky•wards** /ˈskaɪwɚdz/ *adv* **:** toward the sky **:** up into the sky ▪ Everyone looked *skyward* as the jets passed by. ▪ The bird soared *skyward*.

slab /ˈslæb/ *noun, pl* **slabs** [*count*]
1 : a thick, flat piece of a hard material (such as stone or wood) ▪ concrete *slabs* ▪ *slabs* of rock
2 : a thick, flat piece of food (such as bread or meat) ▪ a *slab* of bacon ▪ a thick *slab* of homemade bread

¹slack /ˈslæk/ *adj*
1 : not stretched or held in a tight position **:** LOOSE ▪ *slack* rope ▪ His broken arm hung *slack* at his side. ▪ The rope suddenly ***went slack***. ▪ Her jaw *went slack* [=fell open] in amazement.
2 : not busy **:** lacking the expected or desired activity ▪ The fall is our *slack* [=*slow*] season. ▪ a *slack* market
3 a : doing something poorly because you are not putting enough care or effort into it ▪ I've been a little *slack* [=*careless*] about taking my medication lately. **b :** done poorly and carelessly ▪ He accused the government of *slack* supervision of nuclear technology.
– **slack•ly** *adv* ▪ Streamers hung *slackly* from the walls. – **slack•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *slackness* of the rope ▪ His *slackness* at work has been noticed.

²slack *noun, pl* **slacks**
1 [*noncount*] **:** the part of a rope, chain, etc., that hangs loosely ▪ Take in/up the *slack* of the rope. — sometimes used figuratively to describe a part of something that is available but not used ▪ We left some *slack* in the budget so that we can hire more people if we have to.
2 *slacks* [*plural*] *chiefly US* **:** pants or trousers ▪ He was wearing a white shirt and (a pair of) cotton *slacks*. ▪ She wore ***dress slacks*** and a nice blouse.
give/cut (someone) some slack *informal* **:** to treat (someone) in a less harsh or critical way ▪ Would you *give/cut me some slack*? I'm doing the best I can.
pick/take up the slack **:** to provide or do something that is missing or not getting done ▪ When he didn't get the pay raise he was expecting, he had to take another job to *pick up the slack*. [=to make up for the money he was not making] ▪ The manager has to *take up the slack* when employees don't do their jobs correctly.

³slack *verb* **slacks**; **slacked**; **slack•ing** [*no obj*] **:** to give little or no effort or attention to work ▪ They need to stop *slacking* and get down to work.
slack off [*phrasal verb*] **1 :** to do something with less effort or energy than you did it with before ▪ I was exercising regularly last summer, but I've been *slacking off* recently. **2 :** to become less active, forceful, etc. ▪ Their business has been *slacking off* in recent months.

slack•en /ˈslækən/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing**
1 a [*no obj*] **:** to become slower or less active **:** to slow down ▪ Sales show no sign of *slackening*. ▪ The wind *slackened* (off) and the sky cleared. **b** [+ *obj*] **:** to make (something) slower or less active ▪ She *slackened* her speed/pace [=she slowed down] after she slipped on the ice.
2 : to become less tight or to make (something) less tight **:** LOOSEN [*no obj*] As he began to relax, his grip on the steering wheel *slackened*. [+ *obj*] He *slackened* his grip. ▪ The captain ordered us to *slacken* the sails.

slack•er /ˈslækɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal* **:** a person who avoids work and responsibilities ▪ The people I work with are a bunch of *slackers*.

¹slag /ˈslæg/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the material that is left when rocks that contain metal are heated to get the metal out ▪ a ***slag heap*** [=a large pile of slag] — compare ²SLAG

²slag *noun, pl* **slags** [*count*] *Brit slang, offensive* **:** a woman who has many sexual partners — compare ¹SLAG

³slag *verb* **slags**; **slagged**; **slag•ging**
slag off [*phrasal verb*] ***slag (someone) off*** *or* ***slag off (someone)*** *Brit slang* **:** to criticize (someone) harshly ▪ She often *slags off* other musicians to try to make herself look good.

slain *past participle of* SLAY

slake /ˈsleɪk/ *verb* **slakes**; **slaked**; **slak•ing** [+ *obj*] *literary* **:** to provide, do, or have what is required by (something) **:** SATISFY ▪ trying to *slake* his curiosity/lust
slake your thirst **:** to cause you to stop feeling thirsty **:** to quench your thirst ▪ They *slaked their thirst* with cold water.

sla•lom /ˈslɑːləm/ *noun, pl* **-loms** [*count, noncount*] **:** a race especially on skis over a winding course that is marked by flags — often used before another noun ▪ a *slalom* course/race ▪ *slalom* skiers/racers/skis

¹slam /ˈslæm/ *verb* **slams**; **slammed**; **slam•ming**
1 : to close (something) in a forceful way that makes a loud noise [+ *obj*] He *slammed* the door in my face. ▪ She *slammed* the drawer shut. [*no obj*] He stepped inside and let the door *slam* behind him. ▪ The window *slammed* shut.
2 [+ *obj*] **:** to set or throw (something) in a forceful way that makes a loud noise ▪ In her anger, she *slammed* the ball against the fence. — usually + *down* ▪ He *slammed* the books *down* on the table and ran outside. ▪ She *slammed down* the phone.
3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] **:** to hit something with a lot of force ▪ The car slid on the ice and *slammed* into a tree. ▪ Her arm *slammed* against the table.
4 [+ *obj*] *informal* **:** to criticize (someone or something) harshly ▪ Her decision is getting *slammed* in the press. — often + *for* ▪ Many people have *slammed* the company *for* not paying its workers decent wages.
slam on the brakes **:** to press down hard on the brakes of a

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car to make it stop suddenly ▪ He *slammed on the brakes* to avoid hitting the dog.

²slam *noun, pl* **slams** [*count*]

1 a : an act of closing something in a forceful way that makes a loud noise — usually singular ▪ He closed the book with a *slam*. **b** : a loud noise that is made when something is closed in a forceful way — usually singular ▪ I heard the *slam* of a car door in the driveway.

2 *chiefly US* : a competition in which people read their poetry out loud so that it can be judged by other people ▪ a poetry *slam* ▪ *slam* poets

– see also GRAND SLAM

slam dunk *noun, pl* ~ **dunks** [*count*]

1 *basketball* : ²DUNK

2 *US, informal* : something that is sure to happen or be successful ▪ The vote proved to be a *slam dunk* for our side with a 24 to 5 win. ▪ There's no doubt that he's guilty. The case is a *slam dunk*.

slam–dunk *verb* **-dunks**; **-dunked**; **-dunk·ing** *basketball* : to jump high in the air and push (the ball) down through the basket : DUNK [+ *obj*] He *slam-dunked* the ball. [*no obj*] At his height, it's not so hard to *slam-dunk*.

slam·mer /ˈslæmɚ/ *noun*

the slammer *informal* : a prison or jail ▪ He got 10 years *in the slammer*.

¹slan·der /ˈslændɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders**

1 [*noncount*] : the act of making a false spoken statement that causes people to have a bad opinion of someone ▪ She is being sued for *slander*. ▪ He was a target of *slander*. — compare LIBEL

2 [*count*] : a false spoken statement that is made to cause people to have a bad opinion of someone ▪ We've heard countless unsupported *slanders* about her.

– **slan·der·ous** /ˈslændərəs/ *adj* ▪ *slanderous* claims/attacks/allegations

²slander *verb* **-ders**; **-dered**; **-der·ing** [+ *obj*] : to make a false spoken statement that causes people to have a bad opinion of someone ▪ She was accused of *slandering* her former boss.

slang /ˈslæŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : words that are not considered part of the standard vocabulary of a language and that are used very informally in speech especially by a particular group of people ▪ American *slang* ▪ local/military/street *slang*

– **slang** *adj* ▪ a *slang* word/expression/term ▪ The word "phat" is *slang*. – **slangy** /ˈslæŋi/ *adj* ▪ *slangy* expressions

slang·ing match /ˈslæŋɪŋ-/ *noun, pl* ~ **matches** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : an angry argument in which people insult each other : SHOUTING MATCH

¹slant /ˈslænt/ *verb* **slants**; **slant·ed**; **slant·ing**

1 : to not be level or straight up and down [*no obj*] The floor *slants* [=*slopes*] down slightly. ▪ a *slanting* table ▪ His handwriting *slants* [=*leans*] to the left. ▪ The sunlight *slanted* down through the leaves and branches of the trees. [+ *obj*] She *slanted* her hat a little to the right.

2 [+ *obj*] : to present (something, such as a news story) in a way that favors a particular group, opinion, etc. ▪ They deliberately *slanted* the story to make themselves look good. — often used as *(be) slanted* ▪ The media coverage of the strike *was slanted* against the union.

– **slanted** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Her attic bedroom has *slanted* ceilings. ▪ a *slanted* roof/floor ▪ The news program claimed to be objective but was very *slanted*. [=*biased*]

²slant *noun, pl* **slants**

1 [*singular*] : a direction, line, or surface that is not level or straight up and down ▪ The computer keyboard is positioned ***at a slant*** so that typing is more comfortable for the wrists. ▪ He sliced the carrots ***on a/the slant***

2 [*count*] : a way of thinking about, describing, or discussing something — usually singular ▪ The book offers a new *slant* on the history of the country. ▪ The latest evidence puts an entirely different *slant* on the case. ▪ His writings have a liberal/religious *slant*.

¹slap /ˈslæp/ *verb* **slaps**; **slapped**; **slap·ping**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to hit (someone or something) with the front or back of your open hand ▪ She *slapped* him across/in the face. ▪ She *slapped* his face. ▪ He *slapped* me on the back and said "Good job!" ▪ He called the dog by *slapping* his hand against his thigh. **b** : to hit something with a sound like the sound made when your hand slaps something [*no obj*] Waves were *slapping* against the side of the boat. [+ *obj*] Gentle waves *slapped* the side of the raft.

2 [+ *obj*] : to put (something) on a surface quickly or forcefully — + *down* or *on* ▪ He *slapped* the book *down* on the desk. ▪ She *slapped down* her cards and shouted "I win!" ▪ He *slapped* a fresh coat of paint *on* (the wall). ▪ I grabbed a slice of bread and *slapped on* some peanut butter.

3 [+ *obj*] *sports* : to hit (something) with a forceful swing of your arms, hands, etc. ▪ (*ice hockey*) He *slapped* the puck into the net. ▪ (*baseball*) She *slapped* a single to right field.

slap around [*phrasal verb*] ***slap (someone) around*** *also* ***slap around (someone)*** *informal* : to hit or slap (someone) many times ▪ The children screamed when they saw him *slapping* her *around*. [=beating her up]

slap on [*phrasal verb*] ***slap (something) on*** *or* ***slap on (something)*** *informal* : to add (something, such as an extra charge) to an amount ▪ The hotel *slapped* an extra $100 *on* his bill to cover the damage. ▪ The judge *slapped on* an additional fine. — see also ¹SLAP 2 (above)

slap together [*phrasal verb*] ***slap together (something)*** *or* ***slap (something) together*** *informal* : to create (something) by putting parts together in a quick or careless way ▪ I *slapped* a sandwich *together* as I was running out the door. ▪ The company *slapped together* a Web site and then waited for the customers to come pouring in.

slap with [*phrasal verb*] ***slap (someone) with (something)*** *US, informal* : to punish (someone) with (a fine, lawsuit, etc.) ▪ They were *slapped with* a lawsuit. ▪ The judge *slapped* the company *with* a fine for polluting the river.

²slap *noun, pl* **slaps** [*count*]

1 : a hit with the front or back of your open hand ▪ I was so angry that I felt like giving him a *slap*.

2 : a loud sound made when something hits a flat surface ▪ I could hear the *slap* of the waves against the side of the boat.

a slap in the face : a surprising act that offends or insults someone ▪ Her decision to leave the company to work for our competitors was *a slap in the face*.

a slap on the back : the act of slapping someone's back usually to express praise or approval ▪ He gave me *a slap on the back* and said "Good job!"

a slap on the wrist : a mild punishment that is given to someone who should be punished more severely ▪ Even though he was proven guilty, he got away with *a slap on the wrist*. ▪ The fine was just *a slap on the wrist*.

³slap *adv, informal* : exactly or directly ▪ I walked *slap* into the post. ▪ Her apartment is *slap* in the middle of the city. = Her apartment is ***slap bang*** in the middle of the city.

slap·dash /ˈslæpˌdæʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : quick and careless ▪ *slapdash* repairs ▪ The writing is *slapdash*.

slap·hap·py /ˈslæpˌhæpi/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal*

1 : PUNCH-DRUNK ▪ a *slaphappy* boxer ▪ We were all a bit *slaphappy* after staying up all night to finish the report.

2 : happy and careless ▪ She has a *slaphappy* attitude about her work.

slap shot *noun, pl* ~ **shots** [*count*] *ice hockey* : a shot that is made by swinging your stick with a lot of force

slap·stick /ˈslæpˌstɪk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : comedy that involves physical action (such as falling down or hitting people) — often used before another noun ▪ *slapstick* comedy

slap–up /ˈslæpˌʌp/ *adj, always used before a noun, Brit, informal, of a meal* : excellent and very large ▪ a *slap-up* dinner

¹slash /ˈslæʃ/ *verb* **slash·es**; **slashed**; **slash·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to make a long cut in (something) with a knife or other sharp weapon ▪ Someone *slashed* his car's tires. ▪ He threatened to *slash* the man's throat. **b** : to make (a path) by cutting plants ▪ She *slashed* a path through the underbrush. ▪ They ***slashed their way through*** the jungle.

2 : to reduce (something) by a large amount ▪ The company has *slashed* prices to increase sales. ▪ Funding for the program was *slashed*.

slash at [*phrasal verb*] ***slash at (someone or something)*** : to attack (someone or something) violently with a knife or other sharp weapon ▪ He *slashed at* me with a knife.

²slash *noun, pl* **slashes**

1 [*count*] : a thin and usually long cut made with a knife or other sharp object ▪ There was a horrible *slash* on his arm.

2 [*count*] : a quick movement with a sharp knife or weapon to cut someone or something ▪ He cut my cheek with a quick *slash* of the knife.

3 [*count*] : a patch or line of bright light or color ▪ *slashes* of sunlight on a wall ▪ a dark painting with a *slash* of red

4 [*count*] : the mark / that is used to mean "or" (as in *and/or*), "and or" (as in *bottles/cans*), or "per" (as in *kilometers/hour*) or as a division sign in fractions (as in ¾) — called also *slash mark*, (*Brit*) *oblique*

5 [*singular*] *Brit slang* : an act of urinating ▪ He got out of the car to ***have/take a slash***.

slash–and–burn *adj*
1 : done by cutting down and burning trees and plants in order to clear an area of land and grow crops on it for usually a brief time ▪ *slash-and-burn* agriculture
2 : using extremely harsh methods : RUTHLESS ▪ *slash-and-burn* tactics/politics

slash•er /ˈslæʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who kills people with a knife or other sharp weapon ▪ a *slasher* movie/film [=a movie in which many people are violently murdered by a slasher]

slat /ˈslæt/ *noun, pl* **slats** [*count*] : a thin, narrow strip of wood, plastic, or metal ▪ the *slats* of a venetian blind ▪ The fence has two broken *slats*.
– **slat•ted** /ˈslætəd/ *adj* ▪ *slatted* blinds

[1]slate /ˈsleɪt/ *noun, pl* **slates**
1 [*noncount*] : a type of hard rock that splits easily into thin layers ▪ Some school blackboards are made of *slate*.
2 [*count*] : a small sheet of slate in a wooden frame that was used in schools in the past for writing on with chalk — see also BLANK SLATE
3 [*count*] : a piece of slate that is used with others to cover a roof or wall ▪ roofing *slates* ▪ The house has a *slate* roof.
4 [*count*] *US* : a list of people who are trying to win an election ▪ The party has fielded an impressive *slate* of candidates this year.
clean slate see [1]CLEAN
wipe the slate clean see [1]WIPE

[2]slate *verb* **slates**; **slat•ed**; **slat•ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to arrange or plan for something to happen, someone to be chosen, etc. — usually used as *(be) slated* ▪ The new art museum *is slated* [=*is scheduled*] to open next spring. ▪ She *is slated* to become the company's next president. — often + *for* ▪ Her latest album *is slated for* release in July. — compare [3]SLATE

[3]slate *verb* **slates**; **slated**; **slating** [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : to criticize (someone or something) very harshly ▪ The film/book was *slated* by most critics. — compare [2]SLATE

slate blue *noun* [*noncount*] : a grayish-blue color — see color picture on page C2
– **slate blue** *adj*

slate gray (*US*) *or Brit* **slate grey** *noun* [*noncount*] : a bluish-gray color — see color picture on page C2
– **slate gray** (*US*) *or Brit* **slate grey** *adj*

slath•er /ˈslæðɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cover something with a thick layer of a liquid, cream, etc. ▪ We ate lobster *slathered* with/in butter ▪ She *slathered* her skin with sunscreen. = She *slathered* sunscreen on her skin.

slat•tern /ˈslætɚn/ *noun, pl* **-terns** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : an untidy, dirty woman
– **slat•tern•ly** /ˈslætɚnli/ *adj* ▪ a *slatternly* housewife

[1]slaugh•ter /ˈslɑːtɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to kill (an animal) for food ▪ *slaughter* cattle
2 : to kill (many people) in a very violent way ▪ Hundreds of people were *slaughtered* [=*massacred*] by the invaders.
3 *informal* : to defeat (someone or something) easily or completely ▪ Our team got *slaughtered* yesterday. ▪ They *slaughtered* us.

[2]slaugh•ter *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the act of killing animals for their meat ▪ Thousands of cows are sent to (the) *slaughter* every day.
2 : the violent killing of a large number of people ▪ the *slaughter* of innocent people — see also MANSLAUGHTER
like a lamb to the slaughter see [1]LAMB

slaugh•ter•house /ˈslɑːtɚˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous•es** [*count*] : a building where animals are killed for their meat — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *abattoir*

Slav /ˈslɑːv/ *noun, pl* **Slavs** [*count*] : a person from eastern Europe who speaks a Slavic language

[1]slave /ˈsleɪv/ *noun, pl* **slaves** [*count*]
1 : someone who is legally owned by another person and is forced to work for that person without pay ▪ freed/escaped/former *slaves* ▪ He treats her like a *slave*. ▪ Do it yourself! I'm not your *slave*!
2 *disapproving* : a person who is strongly influenced and controlled by something — + *to* or *of* ▪ She's a *slave to* fashion. ▪ a *slave of* desire

[2]slave *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **slaves**; **slaved**; **slav•ing** [*no obj*] : to work very hard ▪ I *slaved* all morning to get the work done on time. ▪ I spent all day ***slaving over a hot stove***. [=I spent all day cooking] ▪ She's been ***slaving away at*** her homework.

slave driver *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*]
1 : someone who is in charge of slaves and makes them work
2 *disapproving* : someone who makes people work very hard ▪ The new boss is a real *slave driver*.

slave•hold•er /ˈsleɪvˌhoʊldɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a person who owns slaves
– **slave•hold•ing** /ˈsleɪvˌhoʊldɪŋ/ *adj* ▪ *slaveholding* towns

slave labor (*US*) *or Brit* **slave labour** *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : work that is done by slaves or by people who are treated like slaves ▪ prisoners being forced to do *slave labor* ▪ a *slave labor* camp
2 : slaves doing work ▪ The pyramids were built by *slave labor*.

[1]sla•ver /ˈslævɚ/ *verb* **-vers**; **-vered**; **-ver•ing** [*no obj*] : to allow liquid to drip out of the mouth : DROOL ▪ The dog *slavered* [=(more commonly) *slobbered*] over his food.

[2]slav•er /ˈsleɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a person who was involved in buying and selling slaves in the past
2 : a ship that was used to carry slaves from one place to another in the past

slav•ery /ˈsleɪvəri/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the state of being a slave ▪ She was ***sold into slavery***.
2 : the practice of owning slaves ▪ the abolition of *slavery*

slave state *noun, pl* ~ **states** [*count*] : a state of the U.S. in which slavery was legal until the American Civil War

slave trade *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity or business of buying and selling slaves — used especially to refer to the business of buying and selling people as slaves before the American Civil War

[1]Slav•ic /ˈslɑːvɪk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a group of related languages that includes Russian, Bulgarian, Czech, Polish, etc.

[2]Slavic *adj* : of or relating to the Slavs or their languages ▪ *Slavic* people/languages/lands/folklore

slav•ish /ˈsleɪvɪʃ/ *adj, disapproving* : copying or following someone or something completely without any attempt to be original or independent ▪ a politician and his *slavish* followers ▪ *slavish* obedience/imitation ▪ He has been criticized for his *slavish* devotion/adherence to the rules.
– **slav•ish•ly** *adv* ▪ He *slavishly* copies everything his older brother does. – **slav•ish•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

Sla•von•ic /slə'vɑːnɪk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : SLAVIC
– **Slavonic** *adj*

slaw /ˈslɑː/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal* : COLESLAW

slay /ˈsleɪ/ *verb* **slays**; **slew** /ˈsluː/ *also* **slayed**; **slain** /ˈsleɪn/; **slay•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a *literary* : to kill (someone or something) especially in a battle or war ▪ The knight *slew* the dragon. **b** *US* : to kill (someone) — used especially in newspaper stories and headlines; usually used as *(be) slain* ▪ The victims *were slain* in their homes. ▪ The headline read "Three *Slain* in Bank Robbery."
2 *chiefly US, informal* + *old-fashioned* : to delight or amuse (someone) very much ▪ That guy *slays* me. [=that guy kills me; I think he's very funny]
– **slay•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] – **slaying** *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] *chiefly US* ▪ Police have arrested a man in connection with three *slayings* that happened last month.

sleaze /ˈsliːz/ *noun, pl* **sleaz•es**
1 [*noncount*] *somewhat informal* : behavior that is dishonest or immoral ▪ political *sleaze* and corruption ▪ The newspaper editorial addresses the ***sleaze factor*** [=*dishonesty*] in political campaigns.
2 [*count*] *US, informal* : a dishonest or immoral person ▪ He's a real *sleaze*.

sleaze•bag /ˈsliːzˌbæg/ *noun, pl* **-bags** [*count*] *informal* : a dishonest or immoral person ▪ She was involved with some *sleazebag*. ▪ a *sleazebag* lawyer

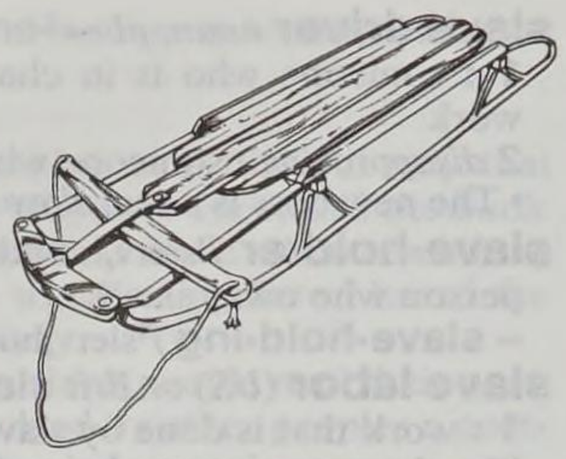
sleaze•ball /ˈsliːzˌbɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-balls** [*count*] *informal* : a dishonest or immoral person ▪ He is a lying *sleazeball*.

slea•zy /ˈsliːzi/ *adj* **slea•zi•er**; **-est** *informal*
1 : dishonest or immoral ▪ a *sleazy* lawyer/trick
2 : dirty and in bad condition from being neglected ▪ a *sleazy* neighborhood
3 : not decent or socially respectable ▪ *sleazy* nightclubs/tabloids ▪ a dancer in a *sleazy* outfit
– **slea•zi•ness** /ˈsliːzinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sled /ˈsled/ *noun, pl* **sleds** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a small vehicle that has a flat bottom or long, narrow strips of metal or wood on the bottom and that is used for moving over snow

S

or ice — called also (*Brit*) *sledge*; compare SLEIGH, TOBOGGAN; see also DOGSLED



sled

²sled *verb* **sleds**; **sled·ded**; **sled·ding** [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to ride on a sled especially down a hill ▪ We went *sledding* [=(*Brit*) *sledging*] on the hill.
– **sled·der** *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count*]

sled dog *noun, pl* ~ **dogs** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a dog that is trained to pull a sled — called also (*Brit*) *sledge dog*

¹sledge /ˈslɛʤ/ *noun, pl* **sledg·es** [*count*] *Brit* : ¹SLED

²sledge *verb* **sledges**; **sledged**; **sledg·ing** [*no obj*] *Brit* : ²SLED

sledge·ham·mer /ˈslɛʤˌhæmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-mers** [*count*] : a large, heavy hammer with a long handle — often used figuratively ▪ The news hit me like a *sledgehammer*. [=I was shocked by the news]

sleek /ˈsli:k/ *adj* **sleek·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : straight and smooth in design or shape ▪ the *sleek* lines of a sports car ▪ a *sleek*, modern building
2 : smooth and shiny ▪ *sleek*, dark hair
3 : stylish and attractive ▪ a *sleek* young executive
– **sleek·ly** *adv* ▪ a *sleekly* modern building – **sleek·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

¹sleep /ˈsli:p/ *verb* **sleeps**; **slept** /ˈslɛpt/; **sleep·ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to rest your mind and body by closing your eyes and becoming unconscious ▪ I couldn't *sleep* last night. I was awake all night long. ▪ I usually try to *sleep* for at least eight hours every night. ▪ Did you *sleep* soundly/well last night? ▪ I *slept* badly/poorly. ▪ We were *sleeping* peacefully when a sudden loud noise woke us up. ▪ I can never *sleep* on airplanes. ▪ He ***has trouble sleeping***. [=finds it difficult to fall asleep] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ New York is the city that never *sleeps*. [=a city that is full of activity all night]
2 [+ *obj*] : to have enough space for (a specified number of people) to sleep in it ▪ The tent *sleeps* five adults.
let sleeping dogs lie see ¹DOG
sleep around [*phrasal verb*] *informal* + *disapproving* : to have sex with many different people ▪ I heard he *sleeps around*.
sleep away [*phrasal verb*] ***sleep away (something) or sleep (something) away*** *chiefly US* : to spend (a period of time) sleeping ▪ Don't *sleep* your day *away*.
sleep a wink *informal* : to sleep for even a very brief time — used in negative statements ▪ I *didn't/couldn't sleep a wink* [=didn't/couldn't sleep at all] last night.
sleep in [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to sleep past the time when you usually get up ▪ On Sundays, we always *sleep in*.
sleep like a baby/log *informal* : to sleep very well ▪ After a long day of skiing, I *slept like a baby/log* last night.
sleep off [*phrasal verb*] ***sleep (something) off or sleep off (something)*** *informal* : to sleep until the effects of alcohol, medication, etc., are no longer felt ▪ She was *sleeping off* the anesthesia. ▪ He had too much to drink, and I'm letting him ***sleep it off***.
sleep on it *informal* : to think more about something overnight and make a decision about it later ▪ You've heard my offer. Why don't you *sleep on it* and let me know what you decide.
sleep over [*phrasal verb*] : to stay overnight at another person's house ▪ My mother said that you could *sleep over* on Saturday. — see also SLEEPOVER
sleep through [*phrasal verb*] ***sleep through (something)*** : to sleep without being awakened by (something, such as a loud noise) ▪ She *slept* (right) *through* the thunderstorm.
sleep tight : to sleep deeply and well ▪ Good night. *Sleep tight*.
sleep together [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to have sex with each other ▪ She found out that her husband and his secretary were *sleeping together*.
sleep with [*phrasal verb*] ***sleep with (someone)*** *informal* : to have sex with (someone) ▪ She found out that her husband was *sleeping with* his secretary.

²sleep *noun*
1 [*noncount*] : the natural state of rest during which your eyes are closed and you become unconscious ▪ I just need to get some *sleep*. ▪ How much *sleep* did you get last night? ▪ He was diagnosed with a ***sleep disorder***. [=a medical problem that prevents him from sleeping normally] ▪ Her roommate talks/walks ***in her sleep***. ▪ The baby cried himself ***to sleep***. [=cried until he fell asleep] ▪ She sang the baby *to sleep*. [=she sang to the baby until it fell asleep] — see also REM SLEEP
2 [*singular*] : a period of sleep especially of a particular kind ▪ The noise woke her from a deep/light *sleep*. ▪ Sometimes all you need to feel better is ***a good night's sleep***. [=a full night of sleep] ▪ (*Brit*) I think I'll go to my bedroom and ***have a sleep***.
3 [*noncount*] *informal* : the dry substance that sometimes forms in the corners of your eyes while you are sleeping ▪ He woke up and rubbed the *sleep* out of his eyes.
get to sleep : to succeed in beginning to sleep : to fall asleep ▪ It took me almost an hour to *get to sleep* last night. ▪ I woke up in the middle of the night, but I eventually ***got back to sleep***. [=started sleeping again]
go to sleep **1** : to begin sleeping ▪ She lay down on the couch and *went* (right) *to sleep*. ▪ Tell the kids it's time to *go to sleep*. [=*go to bed*] ▪ After the party, I just wanted to *go to sleep*. **2** ✧ If a part of your body (such as a foot or leg) *goes to sleep*, it is not able to feel anything for a brief time, usually because you have kept it in an awkward position for too long. ▪ I have to move because my foot is *going to sleep*.
in your sleep ✧ If you can do something *in your sleep*, you can do it very easily because you have done it many times before. ▪ She could bake those cookies *in her sleep*. ▪ I can drive that route *in my sleep*.
lose sleep over : to worry about (something) so much that you cannot sleep — usually used in negative statements ▪ I'm disappointed about their decision, but I'm *not losing any sleep over* it. ▪ I *wouldn't lose sleep over* it if I were you.
put to sleep **1** ***put (an animal) to sleep*** : to give (a sick or injured animal) drugs that will make it die without pain ▪ We had to *put* my cat *to sleep* last week. **2** ***put (someone) to sleep*** **a** *informal* : to use a drug to make (someone) unconscious before a medical operation : to give (someone) anesthesia before a medical operation ▪ The doctor *put* the patient *to sleep*. **b** : to get (someone) ready to sleep for the night ▪ Did you *put* the kids *to sleep*? [=did you put the kids to bed?] **c** : to make someone fall asleep from boredom ▪ That movie practically *put* me *to sleep*. ▪ Her lectures used to *put* him *to sleep*.

sleep·away /ˈsli:pəˌweɪ/ *adj, always used before a noun, US* : providing beds and rooms so people can stay overnight for a number of nights ▪ We sent the kids off to ***sleepaway camp*** for the week.

sleep·er /ˈsli:pɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 a : a person who sleeps in a particular way ▪ a light *sleeper* [=someone who does not sleep well and wakes up easily] ▪ a heavy *sleeper* [=someone who sleeps well and does not wake up easily] ▪ a sound *sleeper* **b** : someone who is asleep ▪ *Sleepers* were awakened by the sound of a loud crash.
2 a : a place or piece of furniture that can be used for sleeping — usually used before another noun ▪ the *sleeper* cab of a truck ▪ Our guests will use the ***sleeper sofa***. [=a sofa that folds out to form a bed] **b** : SLEEPING CAR
3 *chiefly US, informal* : someone or something that suddenly becomes successful in a way that was not expected ▪ He may turn out to be the *sleeper* in this year's election. ▪ The movie was the summer's *sleeper*. ▪ The movie became the ***sleeper hit*** of the summer.
4 : a spy who lives and works for a long time like an ordinary person among the people he or she is spying on — often used before another noun ▪ a *sleeper* agent ▪ The police discovered a ***sleeper cell*** [=a small organized group of spies] that had been operating in the city for years.
5 *US* : a piece of clothing that covers the entire body including usually the feet and that is worn by a baby or small child
6 *Brit* : one of the heavy beams to which the rails of a railway are attached : TIE

sleeping bag *noun, pl* ~ **bags** [*count*] : a warm, long bag that is used for sleeping outdoors or in a tent — see picture at CAMPING

sleeping car *noun, pl* ~ **cars** [*count*] : a railroad car with beds for people to sleep in — called also *sleeper*

sleeping partner *noun, pl* ~ **-ners** [*count*] *Brit* : SILENT PARTNER

sleeping pill *noun, pl* ~ **pills** [*count*] : a pill that contains a drug which helps a person sleep

sleeping sickness *noun* [*noncount*] : a tropical disease that causes fever, sleepiness, and usually death

S

sleep•less /ˈsli:pləs/ *adj*
1 *always used before a noun* : without sleep ▪ a *sleepless* night
2 *not used before a noun* : not able to sleep ▪ He lay *sleepless* in bed.
– **sleep•less•ly** *adv* ▪ He lay *sleeplessly*. – **sleep•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He suffers from *sleepnessness*. [=*insomnia*]

sleep•over /ˈsli:pˌoʊvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-overs** [*count*] : a party where one or more people (especially children) stay overnight at one person's house ▪ Our daughter is having a *sleepover* for her friends tomorrow. — see also *sleep over* at [1]SLEEP

sleep•walk /ˈsli:pˌwɑ:k/ *verb* **-walks**; **-walked**; **-walk•ing** [*no obj*] : to walk around while you are asleep
– **sleep•walk•er** /ˈsli:pˌwɑ:kɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] – **sleepwalking** *noun* [*noncount*]

sleepy /ˈsli:pi/ *adj* **sleep•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : tired and ready to fall asleep ▪ She felt *sleepy* and went to bed.
2 : quiet and not active or busy ▪ a *sleepy* little town
– **sleep•i•ly** /ˈsli:pəli/ *adv* ▪ "Yes," she murmured *sleepily*. – **sleep•i•ness** /ˈsli:pinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sleepy•head /ˈsli:piˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : a sleepy person — used especially to address someone (such as a child) ▪ Are you ready for bed, *sleepyhead*?

[1]**sleet** /ˈsli:t/ *noun* [*noncount*] : frozen or partly frozen rain ▪ The snow turned to *sleet* and made driving very dangerous.

[2]**sleet** *verb* **sleets**; **sleet•ed**; **sleet•ing** [*no obj*] — used with *it* to say that sleet is falling ▪ *It's sleeting* outside. [=sleet is falling from the sky]

sleeve /ˈsli:v/ *noun, pl* **sleeves** [*count*]
1 : the part of a shirt, jacket, etc., that covers all or part of your arm ▪ a shirt with long/short *sleeves* — see color picture on page C15; see also SHIRTSLEEVE
2 a : a part that fits over or around something to protect it or to hold its parts together ▪ The joint is covered with a metal *sleeve*. ▪ a plastic document *sleeve* **b** : JACKET 2b ▪ a record/CD *sleeve*
an ace up your sleeve see [1]ACE
have/keep (something) up your sleeve *informal* : to have/keep a secret method, trick, etc., that you can use when it is needed ▪ The coach always ***keeps a few tricks up his sleeve*** ▪ They still ***have some surprises up their sleeves***
laugh up your sleeve see [1]LAUGH
on your sleeve *informal* : in a way that can be clearly seen ▪ Many politicians wear religion *on their sleeves*. [=show their religious beliefs in a very open way] ▪ He ***wears his emotions/heart on his sleeve*** [=his emotions are easy to see]
roll up your sleeves see [1]ROLL
– **sleeved** /ˈsli:vd/ *adj* ▪ a long-*sleeved* shirt – **sleeve•less** /ˈsli:vləs/ *adj* ▪ a *sleeveless* dress

sleeve notes *noun* [*plural*] *Brit* : LINER NOTES

sleigh /ˈsleɪ/ *noun, pl* **sleighs** [*count*] : a large, open vehicle that is usually pulled by a horse over snow or ice

sleight of hand /ˈslaɪt-/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : quick or deceptive hand movements that are used especially to perform magic tricks ▪ He performs *sleight of hand* with cards and books of matches.
2 : the act of tricking or deceiving someone in a clever way ▪ Investigative journalists exposed the company's financial *sleight of hand*.

slen•der /ˈslɛndɚ/ *adj* **slen•der•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : thin especially in an attractive or graceful way ▪ She has a *slender* figure. ▪ Deer have *slender* legs. **b** : very narrow : not wide ▪ a flower with a *slender* stem ▪ an animal with a long, *slender* snout
2 : small or limited in amount or size ▪ The President has a *slender* [=*narrow, slim*] lead in the polls. = The President leads by a *slender* margin in the polls. ▪ (*formal*) young people of *slender* means [=young people who do not have much money]
– **slen•der•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

slept *past tense and past participle of* [1]SLEEP

sleuth /ˈslu:θ/ *noun, pl* **sleuths** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : someone who looks for information to solve crimes : DETECTIVE ▪ a clever *sleuth*
– **sleuth•ing** /ˈslu:θɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He did some *sleuthing* to see if he could turn up any clues.

S level *noun, pl* **S levels** [*count*] *Brit* : the highest of three tests in a particular subject that students in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland take usually at the age of 18 ▪ She got an A in her *S levels* in math, physics, and chemistry. — called also *Scholarship level*; compare A LEVEL, O LEVEL

[1]**slew** *past tense of* SLAY

[2]**slew** /ˈslu:/ *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : a large number *of* people or things ▪ A whole *slew of* people [=a lot of people] were waiting. ▪ He has written a *slew of* books.

[3]**slew** *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **slews**; **slewed**; **slew•ing** : to turn or slide in another direction very quickly [*no obj*] His car *slewed* [=*skidded, veered*] sideways off the road. [+ *obj*] He *slewed* the telescope three degrees south.

[1]**slice** /ˈslaɪs/ *noun, pl* **slic•es** [*count*]
1 a : a thin piece of food that is cut from something larger ▪ a *slice* of bread ▪ thin *slices* of roast beef **b** : a piece that is cut from a pie, cake, etc. ▪ They sell pizza by the *slice*. [=they sell individual pieces cut from a pizza] ▪ a *slice* of pie **c** : a piece that is cut from a piece of fruit ▪ *slices* of melon/cantaloupe
2 *informal* **a** : a part of something ▪ A good *slice* [=*portion*] of the population saw the game on TV. **b** : an example of something ▪ The Fourth of July parade was a real *slice of* Americana.
3 *sports* : a shot in golf and other games that curves to the side instead of going straight ▪ He hit a *slice* into the right rough.
a slice of life : something (such as a story or movie) that shows what ordinary life is like ▪ The story is/shows/presents a ***slice of life*** in a small Midwestern town. — see also SLICE-OF-LIFE
a slice of the action see ACTION
a slice of the cake see [1]CAKE
a slice of the pie see PIE

[2]**slice** *verb* **slices**; **sliced**; **slic•ing**
1 a : to cut something with a sharp object (such as a knife) [+ *obj*] She *sliced* the lemon in half. ▪ He *sliced* the board in two. [=he cut the board into two pieces] ▪ He *sliced* open his finger while cleaning the fish. [*no obj*] The knife *sliced* through the cake easily. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ His jokes *sliced* [=*cut*] through the tension in a room. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cut (something) into pieces or slices ▪ She *sliced* the bread/tomato/pie. — often + *up* ▪ He *sliced up* a banana.
2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) smaller by removing part of it ▪ The university *sliced* [=*cut*] the research budget in half.
3 *sports* : to hit or kick (a ball or shot) in a way that causes it to curve : to hit a slice [+ *obj*] (*golf*) She *sliced* her drive into the rough. [*no obj*] (*golf*) The ball *sliced* into the rough.
4 : to move quickly and easily through something (such as air or water) [*no obj*] — usually + *through* ▪ The ship's hull *sliced through* the waves. [+ *obj*] The conductor *sliced* the air with his arms.
any way you slice it *or* ***no matter how you slice it*** *US, informal* — used to say that the truth of a statement is not changed or affected by the way you describe or think about a situation ▪ Losing is disappointing *no matter how you slice it*. [=losing is always disappointing] ▪ *Any way you slice it*, online commerce is here to stay.
slice and dice *chiefly US* : to divide something into many small parts especially so you can use the result for your own purposes ▪ You can *slice and dice* the data any way you want.
slice off [*phrasal verb*] ***slice off (something)*** *or* ***slice (something) off*** : to remove (something) by cutting : to cut off (something) with a sharp object (such as a knife) ▪ *Slice off* the excess fat after you cook the steak. — often used figuratively ▪ The salesperson *sliced* 10 percent *off* of the cost of the car.
the best/greatest thing since sliced bread *informal* — used to describe something or someone that you think is very good, useful, etc. ▪ He thinks wireless Internet access is *the greatest thing since sliced bread*.
– **sliced** *adj* ▪ thinly *sliced* beef ▪ *sliced* bread – **slic•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a bread *slicer*

slice–of–life *adj, always used before a noun* : showing what ordinary life is like ▪ a *slice-of-life* drama

[1]**slick** /ˈslɪk/ *adj* **slick•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : very smooth and slippery ▪ Be careful as you drive home—the roads are *slick*.
2 : clever in usually a dishonest or deceptive way ▪ a *slick* salesman ▪ big corporations and their *slick* lawyers

S

3 a : skillful and clever ▪ The new kid had some *slick* moves on the basketball court. **b** : very good : of the highest quality ▪ The students did a *slick* job of promoting the concert. ▪ The video game has *slick* graphics. ▪ a *slick* Broadway-style production

– **slick·ly** *adv* ▪ very *slickly* done – **slick·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]slick *verb* **slicks**; **slicked**; **slick·ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) smooth and slippery ▪ The rain *slicked* the roads. ▪ rain-*slicked* roads

slick back/down [*phrasal verb*] ***slick back/down (hair) or slick (hair) back/down*** : to pull (hair) back and make it look smooth or shiny by using water or some wet substance (such as hair gel) ▪ He climbed out of the pool and *slicked back* his hair. ▪ He had long sideburns and dark *slicked-back* hair.

[3]slick *noun, pl* **slicks** [*count*]

1 : a thin layer of liquid that makes a surface very slippery; *especially* : OIL SLICK

2 : a smooth tire that is used in car racing ▪ racing *slicks*

slick·er /ˈslɪkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a long, loose raincoat — see also CITY SLICKER

[1]slide /ˈslaɪd/ *verb* **slides**; **slid** /ˈslɪd/; **slid·ing**

1 a : to move smoothly along a surface [*no obj*] The door *slides* open easily. ▪ The firefighters *slid* down the pole to their trucks. [+ *obj*] He *slid* the bottle across the table. ▪ *Slide* your finger along the seam. ▪ She *slid* the paper under the door. **b** [*no obj*] : to move over ice or snow smoothly and often in a way that cannot be controlled ▪ He *slid* across the ice. ▪ Cars were slipping and *sliding* all over the roads during the snowstorm.

2 [*no obj*] : to slip and fall ▪ Her purse *slid* out of her hands. ▪ The strap of her dress kept *sliding* down/off.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** : to move or pass smoothly and easily into or out of something [*no obj*] She *slid* into the booth beside us. ▪ He *slid* into [=began doing] his impersonation of the president. [+ *obj*] He *slid* the key into his pocket. ▪ He always finds a way to *slide* in a reference to his new book. **b** : to move so you or your movements are not noticed [*no obj*] They *slid* [=*slipped*] out of the room when nobody was looking. [+ *obj*] He quietly *slid* the money into my hand.

4 [*no obj*] : to become gradually worse over time ▪ His parents are concerned that their son's grades have started to *slide*. [=*worsen*] ▪ Sales figures have been *sliding* [=*declining*] for the last three quarters. ▪ The restaurant's new management is really letting the quality of the food *slide*.

5 [*no obj*] *baseball* : to dive toward a base to avoid being tagged out ▪ He *slid* into second base.

let (something) slide *informal* : to do nothing about (something, such as another person's mistake or bad behavior) : to ignore (something) ▪ You were late this morning. I'll *let it slide* this time, but don't let it happen again. ▪ It may be best to ***let things slide*** this time.

[2]slide *noun, pl* **slides** [*count*]

1 : a movement to a lower or worse state or condition : DECLINE — usually singular ▪ The recent *slide* in the stock market has made investors nervous. ▪ The book describes her *slide into* depression. ▪ the *slide* in television ratings ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) Her career has been ***on the slide*** [=*on the decline*] for a couple of years.

2 : an act of moving along or over a surface by sliding — usually singular ▪ The car hit a patch of ice and went into a *slide*. [=began sliding] — see also LANDSLIDE, MUDSLIDE, ROCKSLIDE

3 : a structure with a slippery surface that children slide down ▪ a playground *slide* — see picture at PLAYGROUND; see also WATERSLIDE

4 *baseball* : the act of diving towards a base to avoid being tagged out ▪ a *slide* into home plate

5 : a small piece of film with an image on it that can be shown on a wall or screen by using a special machine (called a projector) ▪ They showed us *slides* from their vacation in Europe. ▪ a *slide* presentation/show/projector

6 : a small, thin, and usually rectangular piece of glass that holds an object to be looked at under a microscope ▪ She sent the *slides* to the lab.

7 : a part of a musical instrument or a machine that is moved backward or forward ▪ He oiled the *slide* of his trombone. ▪ The *slide* mechanism on the machine was broken.

8 *Brit* : BARRETTE

slid·er /ˈslaɪdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 *baseball* : a fast pitch that curves slightly in the air

2 : something that slides

slide rule *noun, pl* ~ **rules** [*count*] : an old-fashioned instrument that is like a ruler with a middle piece that slides back and forth and that is used to do calculations

sliding door *noun, pl* ~ **doors** [*count*] : a door that opens and closes by sliding sideways instead of by swinging on hinges

sliding scale *noun, pl* ~ **scales** [*count*] : a system in which the amount that people are required to pay in fees, taxes, etc., changes according to different situations or conditions — usually singular ▪ Patients at the clinic pay on a *sliding scale* based on their income.

[1]slight /ˈslaɪt/ *adj* **slight·er**; **-est**

1 : very small in degree or amount ▪ *slight* adjustments/errors ▪ a *slight* odor/cold/fever ▪ There is a *slight* chance of rain. ▪ Her head is tilted at a *slight* angle in the picture. ▪ The medication didn't have the *slightest* effect. [=did not have any effect] ▪ If you have even the *slightest* doubt, then don't do it. ▪ There is not the *slightest* danger [=there is no danger] of that happening.

2 : thin and not very strong or muscular ▪ a *slight* woman

not in the slightest : not at all : not in the least ▪ "Does it bother you?" "*Not in the slightest.*"

[2]slight *verb* **slights**; **slight·ed**; **slight·ing** [+ *obj*] : to offend or insult (someone) : to treat (someone) with disrespect ▪ I'm sure he didn't mean to *slight* you. ▪ He was *slighted* by his colleagues.

– **slight** *noun, pl* **slights** [*count*] ▪ a deliberate *slight* ▪ The remark was not intended to be a *slight* on his character.

– **slighting** *adj* ▪ He made *slighting* references to her book. ▪ a *slighting* remark

slight·ly /ˈslaɪtli/ *adv* : in a very small amount or degree : a little ▪ I got only a *slightly* better grade when I retook the test. ▪ I'm *slightly* confused. ▪ The sauce has a *slightly* bitter taste. ▪ The price has increased *slightly*. ▪ Keep your knees *slightly* bent. ▪ He seemed to move ***ever so slightly*** closer. [=he moved closer only by a very small amount]

slightly built : thin and not very strong or muscular ▪ a *slightly built* girl

[1]slim /ˈslɪm/ *adj* **slim·mer**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : thin in an attractive way ▪ She looked *slim* and fit for her age. ▪ He has a *slim* build. ▪ I was a lot *slimmer* in those days.

2 : small in amount, size, or degree ▪ a *slim* majority ▪ They have only a *slim* chance of winning. ▪ "What are their chances of winning?" "***Slim to none***." [=they have almost no chance of winning]

– **slim·ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ He was tall and *slimly* built.

– **slim·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]slim *verb* **slims**; **slimmed**; **slim·ming**

1 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) thinner ▪ She started exercising to *slim* her thighs.

2 [*no obj*] *Brit* : [2]DIET ▪ I'll skip dessert; I'm *slimming*.

slim down [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to lose weight : to become thinner ▪ She's been trying to *slim down*. ▪ He looks like he's really *slimmed down* since last year. **2** ***slim down (something) or slim (something) down*** : to make (something) smaller : REDUCE ▪ We have to *slim down* the company's advertising budget.

slime /ˈslaɪm/ *noun, pl* **slimes**

1 [*noncount*] : a thick, slippery liquid ▪ Green *slime* covers the surface of the pond.

2 *US, informal* : a very bad, unpleasant, or dishonest person [*noncount*] That guy's *slime*. ▪ She thinks men are *slime*. [*count*] — usually singular ▪ That guy's a real *slime*.

slime·ball /ˈslaɪmˌbɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-balls** [*count*] *informal* : a very bad, unpleasant, or dishonest person ▪ He's a real *slimeball* for leaving her.

slim·line /ˈslɪmˌlaɪn/ *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly Brit* : smaller or thinner in size than usual ▪ a *slimline* CD case

slim·mer /ˈslɪmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : a person who is trying to lose weight : DIETER

[1]slimming *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : making you look thinner ▪ That dress is *slimming* on you. ▪ Black suits are *slimming*.

2 *always used before a noun* : intended to help people lose weight ▪ a controversial *slimming* [=(more commonly) *diet*] drug ▪ *slimming* exercises

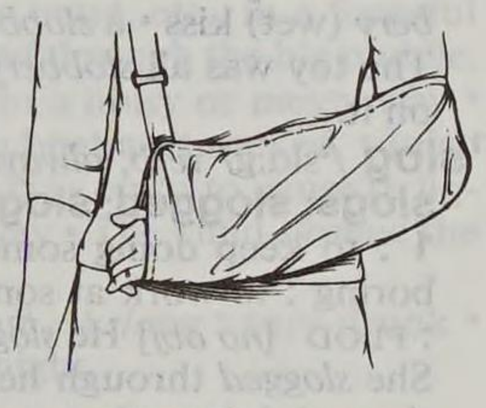
[2]slimming *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : the act of losing weight ▪ I know I'm in need of a little *slimming*.

slimy /ˈslaɪmi/ *adj* **slim·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : covered with slime ▪ a *slimy* rock/worm **b** : resembling slime ▪ *slimy* mud ▪ a *slimy* gel
2 *informal* : very dishonest, bad, or immoral ▪ a *slimy* businessman/politician ▪ *slimy* business practices
3 *informal* : causing disgust : OFFENSIVE ▪ Get your *slimy* fingers off my jacket.
– **slim·i·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sling /ˈslɪŋ/ *verb* **slings**; **slung** /ˈslʌŋ/; **sling·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to throw (something) with a forceful sweeping motion ▪ She *slung* the bag over her shoulder. ▪ The protesters started *slinging* [=*flinging*] stones at the police. — often used figuratively ▪ They *slung* [=*hurled*] insults at each other. ▪ He was *slung* [=*thrown*] into jail for the night. — see also MUDSLINGING
2 : to hang (something) loosely ▪ He *slung* a hammock between two trees. — often used as *(be) slung* ▪ His guitar *was slung* around his neck. ▪ a low-*slung* belt
sling your hook *Brit, informal* : to go away : LEAVE ▪ She angrily told him to *sling his hook*.

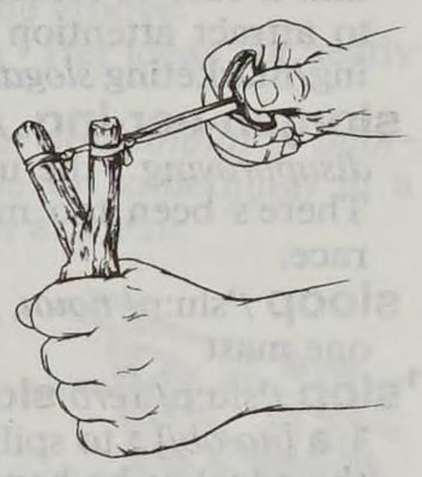
[2]sling *noun, pl* **slings** [*count*]
1 : something that is used to lift, carry, or support something: such as **a** : a piece of cloth that hangs around your neck and is used to support an injured arm or hand ▪ He has to keep his arm ***in a sling***. **b** : a long strap attached to something ▪ a leather rifle *sling* **c** : a large piece of cloth that is worn usually around your neck and that forms a bag which is used to hold a baby close to you **d** : a large net, rope, chain, etc., that is used to lift heavy things ▪ We attached the *sling* to the crane.


sling

2 : a strap usually with a pocket in the middle that is used to throw something (such as a stone)
slings and arrows : the problems and criticisms that are experienced in someone's life ▪ Politicians must be willing to endure/suffer the *slings and arrows* of public life.

sling·back /ˈslɪŋˌbæk/ *noun, pl* **-backs** [*count*] : a woman's shoe that is open at the back and has a thin strap that goes around the heel

sling·shot /ˈslɪŋˌʃɑːt/ *noun, pl* **-shots** [*count*] *US* : a Y-shaped stick with an elastic band attached to it that is used for shooting small stones — called also (*Brit*) *catapult*


slingshot

slink /ˈslɪŋk/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **slinks**; **slunk** /ˈslʌŋk/ *also US* **slinked**; **slink·ing** [*no obj*] : to move in a way that does not attract attention especially because you are embarrassed, afraid, or doing something wrong ▪ I thought I saw someone *slinking* [=*sneaking*] around outside. ▪ He *slinked* away in shame.

slinky /ˈslɪŋki/ *adj* **slink·i·er**; **-est**
1 : fitting closely to the body in a sexy way ▪ a *slinky* black dress ▪ The dancers wore *slinky* costumes.
2 : slow in a sexually attractive way ▪ the song's *slinky* rhythm ▪ *slinky* dance movements

[1]slip /ˈslɪp/ *verb* **slips**; **slipped**; **slip·ping**
1 [*no obj*] : to slide out of the proper position ▪ The ring was too big and *slipped* off my finger. ▪ The engine's belt continued to *slip*. ▪ The hammer *slipped* out of my hands. ▪ The knife *slipped* and she cut herself. ▪ My foot *slipped* on the stair and I fell.
2 [*no obj*] : to lose your balance especially on a slippery surface ▪ She *slipped* and fell. — often + *on* ▪ He *slipped on* the stairs. ▪ Be careful not to *slip on* the ice.
3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move easily across or over something [*no obj*] The drawer should just *slip* [=*slide*] into place. ▪ The bib *slips* over the baby's head. [+ *obj*] Help me *slip* the cover over the piano.
4 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move into or out of a place without being noticed ▪ Someone was able to *slip* through security. ▪ We'll *slip* out the back door. — see also SLIP AWAY (below)
5 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to put on or take off a piece of clothing quickly or easily ▪ He stood up and *slipped* on his jacket. ▪ He *slipped* off his shoes. ▪ Let me just *slip* into my bathrobe. ▪ You should *slip* out of those wet clothes.
6 [+ *obj*] **a** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to put or place (something) somewhere in a quiet or secret way ▪ He *slipped* the key into his pocket. ▪ Someone *slipped* a drug into his drink. ▪ He managed to ***slip in*** [=*include*] a few jokes during his speech. **b** : to give (something) to someone in a quiet or secret way ▪ He *slipped* the envelope to his secretary. = He *slipped* his secretary the envelope.
7 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to happen or pass without being noticed by someone or something ▪ Time keeps *slipping* away. ▪ Her birthday *slipped* by without us knowing. ▪ Despite all our efforts, some errors do *slip* past us. ▪ We didn't want to let the opportunity ***slip through our fingers***. [=we did not want to let the opportunity pass without taking advantage of it]
8 [*no obj*] **a** : to go from one state or condition to another ▪ She was *slipping* out of consciousness. — often + *into* ▪ The patient *slipped into* a coma. ▪ The word has *slipped into* disuse. ▪ The actor *slipped into* character. [=the actor began to behave, speak, etc., like the character he was playing] **b** : to move into a lower or worse state or condition ▪ The stock market has *slipped* to its lowest level in a month. ▪ I can't believe he beat me. I must be *slipping*. ▪ Test scores *slipped* [=*declined*] this year.
9 [+ *obj*] **a** : to escape (someone) : to get away from (someone) ▪ The thief *slipped* his pursuers. **b** : to get free from (something) ▪ The dog *slipped* its collar.
10 [+ *obj*] *medical* : to have (a part of your body) move out of its normal position especially in a joint ▪ I *slipped* a disc.
let (something) slip *or* ***let slip (something)*** : to say (something that you did not want to say) by mistake ▪ He *let slip* that he's looking for a better job. ▪ Don't *let* it *slip* that we hadn't planned on inviting her.
slip away [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to pass out of existence ▪ The afternoon quietly *slipped away*. ▪ They saw their four-run lead *slip away*. ▪ Their grandmother *slipped away* [=*died*] in her sleep last night. **2** : to leave a place without being noticed ▪ They *slipped away* from the party right after dinner.
slip out [*phrasal verb*] : to be said by mistake ▪ I didn't intend to tell them. It just *slipped out*.
slip through/between the cracks see [2]CRACK
slip through the net see [1]NET
slip up [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to make a mistake ▪ Make sure you don't *slip up* again.
slip your mind/memory *informal* : to be forgotten ▪ Her birthday completely *slipped my mind*. [=I completely forgot about her birthday]

[2]slip *noun, pl* **slips** [*count*]
1 a : a small piece of paper ▪ He wrote the number on a ***slip of paper***. **b** : a piece of paper that has a specified use or purpose ▪ a deposit *slip* ▪ a betting *slip* ▪ a rejection *slip* — see also PINK SLIP, SALES SLIP
2 : a mistake ▪ a careless *slip* ▪ Their performance was very good except for a few minor *slips*. — see also A SLIP OF THE TONGUE (below), FREUDIAN SLIP
3 : a movement to a lower or worse state or condition : DECLINE — usually singular ▪ a ratings *slip* = a *slip* in the ratings
4 : the act of losing your balance and falling especially on a slippery surface — usually singular ▪ The bruise is from a *slip* on the ice.
5 : a piece of woman's underwear that is like a thin dress or skirt and that is worn under a dress or skirt ▪ Her *slip* was showing. ▪ You will need a ***half slip*** [=a slip that only covers you from the waist down] for that dress. — see color picture on page C13
6 : a place for a ship or boat in the water between two piers ▪ She guided her boat into one of the *slips*.
a slip of the tongue : something that is said by mistake ▪ *a careless slip of the tongue*
give (someone) the slip *informal* : to escape (someone) : to get away from (someone) ▪ The intruder ran from the police and *gave them the slip*.
– compare [3]SLIP, [4]SLIP

[3]slip *noun* [*singular*] *old-fashioned* : a young, thin person or animal — + *of* ▪ He was a mere *slip of* a boy. [=he was just a small boy] ▪ She was a wee *slip of* a thing. — compare [2]SLIP, [4]SLIP

[4]slip *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : thin, wet clay that is used in pottery — compare [2]SLIP, [3]SLIP

slip·case /ˈslɪpˌkeɪs/ *noun, pl* **-cas·es** [*count*] : a hard protective box for books or magazines that is open at one end

S

slip•cov•er /ˈslɪpˌkʌvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a loose, removable cloth cover for a piece of furniture ▪ We put a *slipcover* on the sofa.

slip•knot /ˈslɪpˌnɑːt/ *noun, pl* **-knots** [*count*] : a knot that can slide along the rope around which it is made and that is tightened by pulling on one end

slip–on /ˈslɪpˌɑːn/ *noun, pl* **-ons** [*count*] : a shoe that does not have ties, buckles, etc., and that you can put on or take off very easily ▪ a pair of *slip-ons* ▪ *slip-on* sandals

slip•page /ˈslɪpɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-pag•es** *formal*

1 : a movement downward : an act of moving into a lower or worse condition or state [*count*] price *slippages* ▪ a *slippage* [=*decrease*] in sales [*noncount*] There has been some *slippage* in the stock's price/value. [=the price/value of the stock has gone down]

2 : the act of sliding or slipping [*noncount*] The boot's sole prevents *slippage*. [*count*] an accidental *slippage*

slipped disc *also chiefly US* **slipped disk** *noun, pl* ~ **discs** *also chiefly US* ~ **disks** [*count*] *medical* : an injury to the spine in which one of the connecting parts between the bones slips out of its proper position and causes back pain

slip•per /ˈslɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] : a light, soft shoe that is easily put on and taken off and that is worn indoors — called also (*Brit*) *carpet slipper*; see picture at SHOE

slip•pery /ˈslɪpəri/ *adj* **slip•per•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : difficult to stand on, move on, or hold because of being smooth, wet, icy, etc. ▪ The trails were muddy and *slippery*. ▪ The floor looks *slippery*. ▪ Fish are *slippery* to hold. ▪ The sign cautions: "***Slippery when wet***."

2 : not easy to understand or identify in an exact way ▪ a *slippery* definition ▪ *slippery* concepts/notions

3 *informal* : not able to be trusted : TRICKY ▪ *slippery* politicians

– **slip•per•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

slippery slope *noun* [*singular*] : a process or series of events that is hard to stop or control once it has begun and that usually leads to worse or more difficult things ▪ His behavior will lead him down a *slippery slope* to ruin.

slip road *noun, pl* ~ **roads** [*count*] *Brit* : a short road that is used to get on or off a major road or highway : an on-ramp or off-ramp

slip•shod /ˈslɪpˈʃɑːd/ *adj* : very careless or poorly done or made ▪ *slipshod* construction ▪ He did a *slipshod* job. ▪ Her scholarship is *slipshod* at best.

slip•stream /ˈslɪpˌstriːm/ *noun, pl* **-streams** [*count*] *technical* : an area of low air pressure that is immediately behind a vehicle that is moving very fast and that other vehicles can ride in to go faster with less effort ▪ The motorcycle was riding the truck's *slipstream*.

slip•up /ˈslɪpˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] : a careless mistake ▪ We were late because of a *slipup* in the schedule.

[1]slit /ˈslɪt/ *verb* **slits**; **slit**; **slit•ting** [+ *obj*] : to make a long, narrow cut or opening in (something) with a sharp object ▪ I *slit* the bag open at the top. ▪ The bag of seeds had been *slit* open. ▪ Someone tried to *slit* his throat. [=someone tried to kill him by cutting his throat] ▪ She tried to ***slit her wrists***. [=to kill herself by cutting her wrists]

[2]slit *noun, pl* **slits** [*count*] : a long, narrow cut or opening in something ▪ You could see through the *slit* in the fence. ▪ The skirt has a *slit* on one side. ▪ a dress with a *slit* skirt

slith•er /ˈslɪðɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to move by sliding your entire body back and forth ▪ The snake *slithered* through the garden. ▪ To get under the porch, I lay on my stomach and *slithered* like a snake.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move smoothly, quietly, or secretly like a snake [*no obj*] She *slithered* quietly into the room. [+ *obj*] He *slithered* his hand around her waist.

slith•ery /ˈslɪðəri/ *adj* **slith•er•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having an unpleasantly slippery surface, feeling, or quality ▪ *slithery* reptiles

2 : having a flowing and smooth look or way of moving ▪ She wore a sexy, *slithery* dress.

[1]sliv•er /ˈslɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a small, thin piece that has been cut, torn, or broken from something larger — often + *of* ▪ My son has a *sliver* [=*splinter*] *of* wood in his finger. ▪ Just a *sliver* [=a very thin slice] *of* cake for me, please. — often used figuratively ▪ A *sliver of* light peeked through the curtains. ▪ a *sliver of* hope

[2]sliver *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to cut or break (something) into small, thin pieces ▪ The vase (*was*) *slivered* into thousands of shards when she dropped it.

– **slivered** *adj* ▪ *slivered* almonds

slob /ˈslɑːb/ *noun, pl* **slobs** [*count*] *informal*

1 *disapproving* : a person who is lazy and dirty or messy ▪ He's a disgusting *slob*.

2 : an ordinary person ▪ Some ***poor slob*** got robbed.

slob•ber /ˈslɑːbɚ/ *verb* **-bers**; **-bered**; **-ber•ing** [*no obj*] : to let saliva or liquid flow from your mouth : DROOL ▪ Her baby just *slobbered* on the blanket. ▪ The puppy *slobbered* all over me.

slobber over [*phrasal verb*] ***slobber over (someone or something)*** *informal* : to show that you like (someone or something) in an excessive and uncontrolled way ▪ His friends were *slobbering* (all) *over* his new sports car.

– **slobber** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I have dog *slobber* [=*saliva*] all over me.

slob•bery /ˈslɑːbəri/ *adj* : full of drool or saliva ▪ a big, *slobbery* (wet) kiss ▪ a *slobbery* dog : covered in drool or saliva ▪ The toy was all *slobbery* because the dog had been chewing on it.

[1]slog /ˈslɑːg/ *verb, always followed by a preposition or adverb* **slogs**; **slogged**; **slog•ging** *informal*

1 : to keep doing something even though it is difficult or boring : to work at something in a steady, determined way : PLOD [*no obj*] He *slogged* away at the paperwork all day. ▪ She *slogged* through her work. [+ *obj*] She *slogged* her way through her work.

2 : to walk slowly usually with heavy steps : PLOD [*no obj*] We've been *slogging* along for hours. ▪ He *slogged* through the deep snow. [+ *obj*] They *slogged* their way through the snow.

slog it out *Brit, informal* : to fight or compete until one side wins : to slug it out

– **slog•ger** *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*]

[2]slog *noun* [*singular*] *informal*

1 : a long period of hard work or effort ▪ It will be a long, hard *slog* before everything is back to normal.

2 : a long, difficult walk ▪ It was a long *slog* up the mountain.

slo•gan /ˈsloʊgən/ *noun, pl* **-gans** [*count*] : a word or phrase that is easy to remember and is used by a group or business to attract attention ▪ political/campaign *slogans* ▪ advertising/marketing *slogans*

slo•gan•eer•ing /ˌsloʊgəˈnɪrɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *usually disapproving* : the use of slogans in advertising or politics ▪ There's been too much *sloganeering* in this year's mayoral race.

sloop /ˈsluːp/ *noun, pl* **sloops** [*count*] : a small sailboat with one mast

[1]slop /ˈslɑːp/ *verb* **slops**; **slopped**; **slop•ping**

1 a [*no obj*] : to spill from a container ▪ Water *slopped* (over the edge) as he handed her the glass. **b** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to splash or spill (a liquid) ▪ She *slopped* coffee on her sweater. ▪ Huge waves *slopped* water into the boat.

2 [+ *obj*] *US* : to feed slop to (an animal) ▪ *slop* the pigs

slop around/about [*phrasal verb*] *Brit, informal* : to move or act in a lazy or relaxed way : to spend time resting or relaxing ▪ He *slopped around* the house all day.

[2]slop *noun, pl* **slops**

1 : food that is fed to pigs and other animals [*noncount*] The pigs are fed *slop*. [*plural*] The pigs ate the *slops*.

2 [*noncount*] *informal* : soft, wet food that is very unappealing ▪ I won't eat that *slop*!

3 [*noncount*] *chiefly US, informal* : something that is worthless, foolish, etc. ▪ The movie is just a lot of sentimental *slop*. [=*garbage*]

[1]slope /ˈsloʊp/ *noun, pl* **slopes** [*count*]

1 a : ground that slants downward or upward : ground that slopes ▪ They climbed the steep *slope*. ▪ a slight/gentle *slope* **b** : an area of land on a mountain that is used for skiing ▪ a ski *slope* — often plural ▪ Let's ***hit the slopes***. [=let's go skiing] ▪ I love being ***on the slopes***. [=I love skiing]

2 : an upward or downward slant ▪ What is the angle of the *slope*? ▪ You can adjust the *slope* of the ramp. ▪ a *slope* of 30 degrees

– see also SLIPPERY SLOPE

[2]slope *verb* **slopes**; **sloped**; **slop•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to not be level : to have a downward or upward slant ▪ The ground *sloped* downward. ▪ *sloping* mountainsides

2 : to not be straight : to lean or slant to the left or right ▪ His handwriting *slopes* to the left.

slope off [*phrasal verb*] *Brit, informal* : to leave a place quietly or secretly ▪ He *sloped off* to bed.

slop•py /ˈslɑːpi/ *adj* **slop•pi•er**; **-est**

1 : not careful or neat : showing a lack of care, attention, or effort ▪ a *sloppy* effort/essay ▪ *sloppy* handwriting ▪ Your work has been very *sloppy* lately.

2 *informal* : romantic in a foolish or exaggerated way ▪ a *sloppy* love song

3 : containing or involving a lot of liquid or too much liquid ▪ *sloppy* food ▪ a *sloppy* mixture/kiss

– **slop•pi•ly** /ˈslɑːpəli/ *adv* – **slop•pi•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

sloppy joe /ˈslɑːpiˈʤoʊ/ *noun, pl* ~ **joes** [*count*] *US* : ground beef that is cooked in a thick, spicy sauce and usually served on a bun

slosh /ˈslɑːʃ/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **slosh•es**; **sloshed**; **slosh•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to walk through water, mud, etc., in a forceful and noisy way ▪ The children *sloshed* through the big puddle.

2 a [*no obj*] *of a liquid* : to move in a noisy or messy way ▪ Water *sloshed* in the bottom of the boat as it rocked. ▪ Juice *sloshed* over the rim of her glass. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (a liquid) to move in a noisy or messy way ▪ The child *sloshed* the water in the tub.

sloshed /ˈslɑːʃt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *slang* : very drunk ▪ They were/got totally *sloshed* last night.

[1]slot /ˈslɑːt/ *noun, pl* **slots** [*count*]

1 : a long, thin opening ▪ a box with a *slot* in the top ▪ He put three quarters into the machine's (coin) *slot*.

2 a : a period of time that is available or used for a particular occurrence, event, etc. ▪ The doctor has an open *slot* at 2 p.m. ▪ The network moved my favorite TV show to a different ***time slot***. **b** : a place or position in an organization, group, etc. ▪ They offered him a regular *slot* on the newspaper's editorial page. ▪ We need someone to fill an open *slot* in the marketing department.

3 *US* : SLOT MACHINE — usually plural ▪ He likes to play the *slots*.

[2]slot *verb* **slots**; **slot•ted**; **slot•ting**

1 [+ *obj*] : to put (something) into a space which is made for it ▪ He *slotted* the piece of wood into the groove.

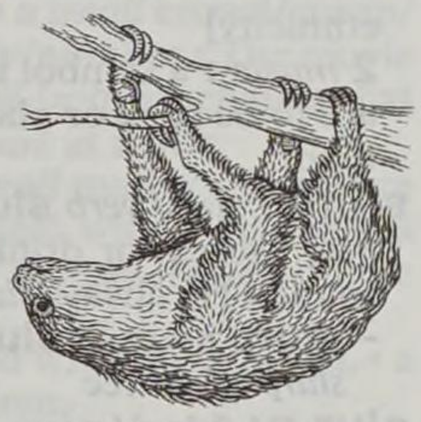
2 [*no obj*] : to fit easily into something ▪ Her ideas *slot* neatly into the theory.

slot in [*phrasal verb*] ***slot (someone or something) in*** *informal* : to find a place for (someone or something) in a schedule, plan, etc. ▪ I can *slot* you *in* at 2 p.m.

sloth /ˈslɑːθ/ *noun, pl* **sloths**

1 [*noncount*] *formal* : the quality or state of being lazy : LAZINESS ▪ the sins/vices of gluttony and *sloth*

2 [*count*] : a type of animal that lives in trees in South and Central America and that moves very slowly



sloth

sloth•ful /ˈslɑːθfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : LAZY ▪ a *slothful* person ▪ *slothful* behavior/habits

slot machine *noun, pl* ~ **-chines** [*count*]

1 : a machine used for gambling that starts when you put coins into it and pull a handle or press a button — called also (*informal*) *one-armed bandit*, (*Brit*) *fruit machine*

2 *Brit* : VENDING MACHINE

slotted *adj* : having a slot or slots ▪ a ***slotted spoon*** [=a spoon that has narrow holes in it so that liquid can pass through]

[1]slouch /ˈslaʊʧ/ *verb* **slouch•es**; **slouched**; **slouch•ing** [*no obj*] : to walk, sit, or stand lazily with your head and shoulders bent forward ▪ Sit up straight. Please don't *slouch*. ▪ She *slouched* into the room. ▪ The boy was *slouching* over his school books.

[2]slouch *noun, pl* **slouches**

1 [*singular*] : a way of walking, sitting, or standing with the head and shoulders bent forward ▪ She walks with a *slouch*.

2 [*count*] *informal* : a lazy or worthless person ▪ (*chiefly US*) They're just a bunch of lazy *slouches*. — usually used in the phrase ***no slouch*** to say that someone is very good at a particular job, activity, etc. ▪ She's *no slouch* when it comes to cooking. [=she's a very good cook] ▪ He's *no slouch* as a director.

[1]slough /ˈslʌf/ *verb* **sloughs**; **sloughed**; **slough•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to lose a dead layer of (skin) ▪ Snakes *slough* (off) their skin annually.

2 : to get rid of (something unwanted) — usually + *off* ▪ We have to *slough off* our fears and face the challenge that confronts us.

[2]slough /ˈsluː, *Brit* ˈslaʊ/ *noun, pl* **sloughs**

1 [*singular*] : a sad or hopeless condition — usually + *of* ▪ a *slough of* depression/frustration/sadness

2 [*count*] : an area of soft, wet ground or deep mud ▪ a *slough* of mud

slov•en•ly /ˈslʌvənli/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : messy or untidy ▪ *slovenly* clothes ▪ a *slovenly* man ▪ He dressed in a *slovenly* manner. ▪ *slovenly* habits

2 : done in a careless way : SLOPPY ▪ *slovenly* thinking/grammar

– **slov•en•li•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]slow /ˈsloʊ/ *adj* **slow•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : not moving quickly : not able to move quickly ▪ a *slow*, old dog ▪ a *slow* runner/pace/speed **b** : not happening quickly : taking more time than is expected or wanted ▪ a *slow* growth/increase/process ▪ Bureaucracy is always *slow*. **c** : not operating quickly ▪ a *slow* computer **d** : not doing something quickly ▪ The buyers were *slow* to act, and the house was sold to someone else. : not able to do something quickly ▪ a *slow* reader/learner **e** : not allowing someone or something to move quickly ▪ a *slow* racetrack/route

2 : not easily able to learn and understand things ▪ He was a quiet boy who seldom spoke, and some people thought he was a little *slow*.

3 : not very busy or interesting ▪ a *slow* market ▪ Business is *slow* during the summer. ▪ The first few chapters are *slow*, but after that it gets better.

4 *of a clock or watch* : showing a time that is earlier than the correct time ▪ The clock is (five minutes) *slow*.

5 *photography* : not allowing photographs to be taken very quickly or when there is very little light ▪ *slow* film

a slow start ✧ Someone or something that has *a slow start* is not successful at first but does well eventually. ▪ Despite *a slow start* at the box office, the movie's popularity has increased steadily. ▪ The team ***got off to a slow start*** this season but is playing well now.

do a slow burn see [2]BURN

slow off the mark see [1]MARK

– **slow•ish** /ˈsloʊɪʃ/ *adj* – **slow•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]slow *adv* **slower**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : in a slow way or at a low speed ▪ go/move/walk/drive *slow* ▪ My computer is working *slow*. — opposite FAST

[3]slow *verb* **slows**; **slowed**; **slow•ing**

1 a [*no obj*] : to begin to move at a lower speed ▪ The car *slowed* and gradually came to a stop. — often + *down* or *up* ▪ The car *slowed down* a little as it approached the intersection. ▪ I *slowed up* and let the others catch up with me. **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a car) move at a lower speed ▪ The extra weight *slowed* the truck. — often + *down* or *up* ▪ *Slow* the car *down* so that I can read the sign. ▪ The extra weight *slowed up* the truck.

2 a [*no obj*] : to become slower ▪ a *slowing* economy — often + *down* or *up* ▪ Business *slowed down/up* after the holidays. **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) slower — often + *down* or *up* ▪ They tried to *slow down/up* the process somewhat.

slow down [*phrasal verb*] : to stop being very active, talking very fast, etc. ▪ You've been working too hard. You need to *slow down* and take it easy for a while. ▪ *Slow down*! You're talking so fast I can hardly understand you.

– **slowing** *noun* [*singular*] There has been a *slowing* of job growth in recent months. [*noncount*] There has been some *slowing* of the economy.

slow•coach /ˈsloʊˌkoʊʧ/ *noun, pl* **-coach•es** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : SLOWPOKE

slow•down /ˈsloʊˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs** [*count*] : a decrease in the speed at which something is moving or happening ▪ an economic *slowdown* ▪ The business had a *slowdown* after the holidays.

slow lane *noun, pl* ~ **lanes**

1 [*count*] : a section of a highway for cars that are traveling at slower speeds ▪ He's a nervous driver and always stays in the *slow lane*.

2 [*singular*] : a situation in which someone or something is not advancing as quickly as others or is not as successful as others ▪ His career is still stuck in the *slow lane*.

S

slow•ly /'sloʊli/ *adv* [*more ~; most ~*] : in a slow way or at a low speed ▪ go/walk/drive *slowly* ▪ working/talking/moving *slowly* ▪ Things are *slowly* getting better.

slowly but surely : by making slow but definite progress — used to stress that something is happening or being done even though it is not happening or being done quickly ▪ We're getting the work done, *slowly but surely*.

slow motion *noun* [*noncount*] : a way of showing action that has been filmed or photographed at a speed that is slower than the actual speed ▪ The scene was shot ***in slow motion***. ▪ They showed the goal *in slow motion*.

– slow–mo•tion /'sloʊ'moʊʃən/ *adj* ▪ a *slow-motion* replay ▪ *slow-motion* photography

slow•poke /'sloʊˌpoʊk/ *noun, pl* **-pokes** [*count*] *US, informal* : a person who moves, acts, or works very slowly ▪ We're going to be late if that *slowpoke* doesn't hurry up. — called also (*Brit*) *slowcoach*

slow–wit•ted /'sloʊ'wɪtəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : slow to learn or understand things ▪ a *slow-witted* child — opposite QUICK-WITTED

sludge /'slʌʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : thick, soft, wet mud
2 : a soft, thick material that is produced in various industrial processes (such as in the treatment of sewage)
3 : a thick material that can form in the oil in an engine and cause engine problems

– sludgy /'slʌʤi/ *adj* **sludg•i•er**; **-est** ▪ *sludgy* ground

[1]slug /'slʌg/ *noun, pl* **slugs** [*count*]
1 : a small, soft creature that is like a snail without a shell ▪ a garden *slug*
2 *US, informal* : a lazy person ▪ He's such a *slug*.
– compare [2]SLUG, [3]SLUG



slug

[2]slug *noun, pl* **slugs** [*count*]
1 *US* : a small piece of metal that is fired from a gun : BULLET ▪ a .45 *slug*
2 *US, informal* : a disc shaped like a coin that is used illegally instead of a coin in a machine
3 *informal* : a small amount of liquor taken in one swallow — usually + *of* ▪ a *slug of* whiskey
– compare [1]SLUG, [3]SLUG

[3]slug *noun, pl* **slugs** [*count*] *US* : a hard punch with the fist ▪ a *slug* to the jaw — compare [1]SLUG, [2]SLUG

[4]slug *verb* **slugs**; **slugged**; **slug•ging** [*no obj*] *informal* : to hit (someone or something) hard with your fist, a bat, etc. ▪ He said something nasty, and she *slugged* him. ▪ (*baseball*) He *slugged* two home runs in yesterday's game.

slug it out *informal* : to fight or compete over something until one side wins ▪ The companies are *slugging it out* in court.

slug•ger /'slʌgɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*] : someone who hits someone or something hard: such as **a** : a boxer who punches hard **b** *baseball* : a batter who hits many home runs

slug•gish /'slʌgɪʃ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : moving slowly or lazily ▪ a *sluggish* lizard/stream ▪ The game picked up after a *sluggish* start.

– slug•gish•ly *adv* ▪ The water flowed *sluggishly*. **– slug•gish•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sluice /'slu:s/ *noun, pl* **sluic•es** [*count*]
1 : an artificial passage for water to flow through with a gate for controlling the flow
2 : a device (such as a floodgate) used for controlling the flow of water

[2]sluice *verb* **sluices**; **sluiced**; **sluic•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to wash or spray (something or someone) with a stream of water ▪ He *sluiced* (down) the floor.
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to flow or pour down heavily ▪ Rain came *sluicing* down.

[1]slum /'slʌm/ *noun, pl* **slums**
1 [*count*] : an area of a city where poor people live and the buildings are in bad condition ▪ a city *slum* ▪ He grew up in the *slums* of New York.
2 [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : a very untidy place ▪ His house is a *slum*.

[2]slum *verb* **slums**; **slummed**; **slum•ming** [*no obj*] *informal* : to spend time in places or conditions that are much worse than your usual places or conditions ▪ She's never been one to *slum* around (in cheap hotels). ▪ He had no problem ***slumming (it)*** in cheap hotels. ▪ He sometimes likes to ***go slumming*** in bars around the city.

[1]slum•ber /'slʌmbɚ/ *verb* **-bers**; **-bered**; **-ber•ing** [*no obj*] *literary* : SLEEP ▪ The children quietly *slumbered*.

[2]slumber *noun, pl* **-bers** *literary* : SLEEP [*count*] a dreamless *slumber* [*noncount*] She fell into deep *slumber*.

slumber party *noun, pl ~* **-ties** [*count*] *US* : a party where one or more people (usually girls) stay overnight at one person's house : SLEEPOVER ▪ My 12-year-old daughter is having a *slumber party* tonight.

slum•lord /'slʌmˌloɚd/ *noun, pl* **-lords** [*count*] *chiefly US, disapproving* : a person who owns a building with apartments that are in bad condition and rents them to poor people

[1]slump /'slʌmp/ *verb* **slumps**; **slumped**; **slump•ing** [*no obj*]
1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** : to sit or fall down suddenly and heavily ▪ She fainted and *slumped* to the floor. ▪ Exhausted, he *slumped* down into the chair. **b** : to move down or forward suddenly ▪ His shoulders *slumped* forward in disappointment.
2 : to decrease suddenly and by a large amount ▪ Real estate prices *slumped* during the recession.

– slumped *adj* ▪ The driver of the car was found *slumped* over the steering wheel unconscious. ▪ He was/sat *slumped* in front of the TV all afternoon.

[2]slump *noun, pl* **slumps** [*count*]
1 : a sudden decrease in prices, value, amount, etc. ▪ a market *slump* — often + *in* ▪ a *slump in* real estate prices
2 : a period of time when an economy is doing poorly ▪ The economy's been in a *slump* since last year.
3 *US, sports* : a period of time when a team or player is doing poorly ▪ They've been in a *slump* ever since they traded their best player. ▪ He's in a batting *slump*.

slung *past tense and past participle of* [1]SLING

slunk *past tense and past participle of* SLINK

[1]slur /'slɚ/ *verb* **slurs**; **slurred**; **slur•ring**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to say (something) in an unclear way especially because you are drunk or tired ▪ She was *slurring* her words. ▪ His speech was *slurred*. **b** [*no obj*] *of speech* : to become unclear especially because you are drunk or tired ▪ His speech/words *slurred* as he got drunker
2 [+ *obj*] : to say critical and unfair things about (someone or someone's character) ▪ They tried to *slur* him by lying about his war record. ▪ They tried to *slur* his character/reputation.
3 [+ *obj*] *music* : to sing or play musical notes so that each one runs smoothly into the next one

[2]slur *noun, pl* **slurs** [*count*]
1 : an insulting remark about someone or someone's character ▪ a racial/ethnic *slur* [=an insult based on someone's race/ethnicity]
2 *music* : a symbol in music that is used to show that notes are to be sung or played smoothly with no break in between them

slurp /'slɚp/ *verb* **slurps**; **slurped**; **slurp•ing** [+ *obj*] *informal* : to eat or drink (something) noisily or with a sucking sound ▪ He always *slurps* his soup/tea.

– slurp *noun, pl* **slurps** [*count*] — usually singular ▪ a quick *slurp* of coffee

slur•ry /'slɚri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count, noncount*] : a thick mixture of water and another substance (such as mud or lime)

slush /'slʌʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : partly melted snow ▪ a sidewalk covered with *slush*
2 *informal* : something that is thought to be silly because it is too romantic or emotional ▪ The movie is just a lot of romantic/sentimental *slush*.

– slushy /'slʌʃi/ *adj* **slush•i•er**; **-est** ▪ *slushy* snow

slush fund *noun, pl ~* **funds** [*count*] : an amount of money that is kept secretly for illegal or dishonest purposes ▪ a political *slush fund* ▪ a secret *slush fund* for paying bribes

slut /'slʌt/ *noun, pl* **sluts** [*count*] *informal + offensive* : a woman who has many sexual partners

– slut•ty /'slʌti/ *adj* **slut•ti•er**; **-est** ▪ a *slutty* woman ▪ *slutty* clothes

sly /'slaɪ/ *adj* **sli•er** *or* **sly•er**; **sli•est** *or* **sly•est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 : clever in a dishonest way ▪ a *sly* con man ▪ a *sly* scheme
2 : showing that you know a secret ▪ a *sly* wink/glance/smile

on the sly *informal* : in a secret way ▪ They've been meeting each other *on the sly*. [=*secretly*]

– sly•ly *adv* ▪ He winked *slyly*. **– sly•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

sm. *abbr* small

S–M *or* **S/M** /ˌɛsənd'ɛm/ *abbr* sadomasochism

[1]smack /ˈsmæk/ *verb* **smacks**; **smacked**; **smack·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to slap or hit (someone or something) hard ▪ He *smacked* the child on the bottom. ▪ I was so angry I felt like *smacking* someone.
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to set or hit (something) on or against something else so that it makes a loud noise ▪ She *smacked* the plate down on the table. ▪ He accidentally *smacked* his head against the shelf.
3 *US, informal* : to kiss (someone) loudly ▪ His aunt likes to *smack* him on the cheek every time she comes over.
smack of [*phrasal verb*] ***smack of (something)*** : to seem to contain or involve (something unpleasant) ▪ That suggestion *smacks of* hypocrisy.
smack your lips : to close and open your lips noisily especially before or after eating or drinking ▪ She *smacked her lips* (together) and announced that dinner was delicious.

[2]smack *noun, pl* **smacks** [*count*]
1 : a hard slap or hit ▪ He gave the child a *smack* on the bottom.
2 : a loud noise that is made when something hits something else in a forceful way ▪ The dictionary fell to the floor with a *smack*.
3 *informal* : a loud kiss ▪ She gave him a *smack* on the cheek.
– compare [3]SMACK, [5]SMACK, [6]SMACK

[3]smack *noun* [*noncount*] : a small, noticeable amount *of* a particular thing ▪ a *smack* [=*hint, trace*] *of* vanilla flavor ▪ There's a *smack of* condescension in the book's tone.
— compare [2]SMACK, [5]SMACK, [6]SMACK

[4]smack *adv, informal* : exactly or directly ▪ She dropped the book *smack* in the middle of the table. ▪ The ball hit me *smack* in the face.

[5]smack *noun* [*noncount*] *slang* : HEROIN — compare [2]SMACK, [3]SMACK, [6]SMACK

[6]smack *noun, pl* **smacks** [*count*] *Brit* : a small fishing boat — compare [2]SMACK, [3]SMACK, [5]SMACK

smack–dab /ˈsmækˈdæb/ *adv, US, informal* : exactly or directly ▪ They planted a tree *smack-dab* in the center of the lawn.

smack·er /ˈsmækɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal*
1 : a U.S. dollar or British pound — usually plural ▪ I won 1,000 *smackers* gambling.
2 : a loud kiss ▪ She gave him a *smacker* right on the lips.

[1]small /ˈsmɑːl/ *adj* **small·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : little in size ▪ They live in a *small* house. ▪ a *small* glass of soda ▪ She moved to a *smaller* town. ▪ The toy is *small* enough to fit in my pocket. ▪ He has *small* hands. ▪ This room is a little *smaller* than that one.
2 : few in number or little in amount ▪ a *small* crowd/group/company/party/school ▪ a *small* supply/number ▪ The movie was a *small* success. ▪ There is a *small* [=*slight*] chance that they can still win. — see also *small hours* at HOUR
3 : not very important : MINOR ▪ a *small* matter ▪ There are still a few *small* details we have to deal with. ▪ It's only a *small* mistake. ▪ The change had only a *small* impact on the community.
4 : very young ▪ I loved the playground when I was *small*. ▪ a *small* boy ▪ They have two *small* children.
5 : involving or including few people, things, etc. ▪ She works for a *small* company. ▪ *small* businesses/dealers/investors ▪ a *small* advertising campaign ▪ a *small* fund-raiser
6 : LOWERCASE ▪ The first letter is a capital, but the rest are *small*.
7 : very soft and quiet ▪ a *small* voice
8 : foolish or ashamed ▪ He's just trying to make you feel *small*. ▪ He felt very *small* to be caught cheating.
a big fish in a small pond see [1]FISH
in no small measure : to a great degree : largely or mostly ▪ A child's happiness is due *in no small measure* [=*in no small part*] to its parents.
(it's a) small world see [1]WORLD
not (in) the smallest bit see [1]BIT
– **small·ish** /ˈsmɑːlɪʃ/ *adj* – **small·ness** /ˈsmɑːlnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]small *noun, pl* **smalls** [*count*] : something that is sold in a small size : something that is smaller than other things of the same kind ▪ These shirts are all *smalls*. ▪ "What size ice-cream cones do you want?" "We'll take three larges and a *small*."
the small of the/your back : the lower part of your back that is smaller and narrower than the rest ▪ I felt a sharp pain in *the small of my back*.

small ad *noun, pl* ~ **ads** [*count*] *Brit* : [2]CLASSIFIED

small arms *noun* [*plural*] : weapons (such as handguns and rifles) that are fired while being held in one hand or both hands

small beer *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit, informal* : SMALL POTATOES

small change *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : coins that are not worth a lot of money ▪ a pocket full of *small change*
2 *informal* **a** : an amount of money that is not large or important ▪ The fine is a lot of money to some people, but to him it's *small change*. **b** : something or someone that is not important ▪ My problems are *small change* compared to yours. ▪ He wasn't a major criminal. He was strictly *small change*.

small–claims court *noun, pl* ~ **courts** [*count*] *law* : a court where legal disputes over small amounts of money are settled

small fry *noun, pl* ~ **fries** *informal*
1 *US* **a** [*count*] : a child — usually singular ▪ I remember going to the beach when I was just a *small fry*. **b** [*noncount*] : CHILDREN ▪ fun activities for the *small fry*
2 [*noncount*] : people or things that are not important ▪ Big businesses are not concerned with the *small fry*.

small·hold·ing /ˈsmɑːlˌhoʊldɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a small farm
– **small·hold·er** /ˈsmɑːlˌhoʊldɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

small intestine *noun, pl* ~ **-tines** [*count*] : the long, narrow upper part of the intestine in which food is digested after it leaves the stomach — see picture at HUMAN; compare LARGE INTESTINE

small–mind·ed /ˈsmɑːlˈmaɪndəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving*
1 : not interested in new or different ideas : not willing to accept the opinions of other people ▪ *small-minded* people
2 : typical of a small-minded person ▪ a *small-minded* attitude
– **small–mind·ed·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

small potatoes *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal* : someone or something that is not important or impressive ▪ Last week's storm was *small potatoes* compared to the blizzard we had two years ago. ▪ These changes are *small potatoes*. [=(*Brit, informal*) *small beer*]

small·pox /ˈsmɑːlˌpɑːks/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a serious disease that causes fever and a rash and often death ✧ *Smallpox* is now very rare.

small print *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : FINE PRINT

small–scale /ˈsmɑːlˈskeɪl/ *adj*
1 : involving few people or things ▪ a *small-scale* production ▪ *small-scale* manufacturing
2 : covering or involving a small area ▪ a *small-scale* network ▪ a *small-scale* map

small screen *noun*
the small screen : TELEVISION ▪ a movie made for *the small screen*

small talk *noun* [*noncount*] : informal, friendly conversation about unimportant subjects ▪ They made *small talk* while waiting for the meeting to start.

small–time /ˈsmɑːlˈtaɪm/ *adj* : not very important or successful : PETTY ▪ *small-time* racketeering ▪ a *small-time* thief

small–town /ˈsmɑːlˌtaʊn/ *adj* : of or relating to a small town ▪ *small-town* values/life/charm : coming from or living in a small town ▪ a *small-town* girl — compare BIG-CITY

smarmy /ˈsmɑɚmi/ *adj* **smarm·i·er**; **-est** *informal + disapproving* : behaving in a way that seems polite, kind, or pleasing but is not genuine or believable ▪ a *smarmy* salesman/politician ▪ *smarmy* politeness

[1]smart /ˈsmɑɚt/ *adj* **smart·er**; **-est**
1 *chiefly US* **a** : very good at learning or thinking about things : INTELLIGENT ▪ He's a *smart* [=*bright, clever*] guy. ▪ Poodles are said to be *smart* dogs. — see also STREET-SMART **b** : showing intelligence or good judgment : WISE ▪ That was a *smart* investment. ▪ Taking that job was a ***smart move***. [=a good decision]
2 *informal + disapproving* : behaving or talking in a rude or impolite way : showing a lack of respect for someone ▪ Don't ***get smart*** with me. [=don't be rude to me] ▪ He gave her a *smart* answer.
3 : very popular : stylish and fashionable — somewhat old-fashioned in U.S. English ▪ one of the *smartest* restaurants in town ▪ He hangs out with ***the smart set***. [=the popular and usually rich people]

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4 : very neat and clean — somewhat old-fashioned in U.S. English ▪ What a *smart* [=*beautiful, charming*] little kitchen you have! ▪ He looks *smart* [=(*US*) *sharp*] in his new suit.
5 : very quick and energetic ▪ I gave him a *smart* slap on the head. ▪ We continued along at a very *smart* pace.
6 : controlled by computers and able to do things that seem intelligent ▪ *smart* bombs/weapons
smart money — used to say who or what is expected to win, be successful, etc. ▪ ***The smart money is on*** Jones to win the election. [=people think that Jones will win the election]
– **smart•ly** *adv* ▪ She slapped him *smartly*. ▪ He was *smartly* dressed. – **smart•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

²smart *verb* **smarts**; **smart•ed**; **smart•ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to feel a sudden sharp pain ▪ "Ouch! That *smarts*!" ▪ Her eyes were *smarting* from the smoke.
2 : to be upset about something — usually used as *(be) smarting* ▪ He's still *smarting* at/from/over losing the match last month.
smart off [*phrasal verb*] *US, informal* : to say rude and irritating things to someone ▪ Ignore her, she is just *smarting off* again.

³smart *adv* **smart•er**; **-est** : in a smart way : SMARTLY ▪ He plays *smart* and the fans appreciate that. ▪ I dress *smarter* than she does. ▪ ***Play it smart*** during the contract negotiations and you'll get more vacation time.

smart–al•eck /'smɑɚtˌælɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ecks** [*count*] *informal + disapproving* : a person who says things that are clever or funny but that are also disrespectful or rude ▪ He's a nice kid but sometimes he can be a real *smart-aleck*. ▪ Don't be such a *smart-aleck*.
– **smart–aleck** *or* **smart–al•ecky** /'smɑɚtˌælɪki/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ *smart-aleck* remarks ▪ a *smart-alecky* comment

smart–arse /'smɑɚtˌɑɚs/ *noun, pl* **-ars•es** [*count*] *Brit, informal + impolite* : SMART-ALECK
– **smart–arse** *or* **smart–arsed** /'smɑɚtˌɑɚst/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ *smart-arse* remarks

smart–ass /'smɑɚtˌæs/ *noun, pl* **-ass•es** [*count*] *US, informal + impolite* : SMART-ALECK ▪ Quit being a *smart-ass* and behave yourself.
– **smart–ass** *or* **smart–assed** /'smɑɚtˌæst/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *smart-assed* remark ▪ a *smart-ass* attitude

smart card *noun, pl* **~ cards** [*count*] : a plastic card (such as a credit card) that has a small computer chip for storing information

smart•en /'smɑɚtn̩/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing**
smarten up [*phrasal verb*] **1** *US* **a** : to become more intelligent or aware : to become smarter ▪ He told me to *smarten up* and pay attention to the teacher. ▪ He'd better *smarten up* [=*wise up*] or he'll get fired. **b** ***smarten (someone or something) up*** *or* ***smarten up (someone or something)*** : to make (someone or something) smarter or more aware ▪ Someone needs to *smarten* him *up* before he gets in trouble. **2** ***smarten (someone or something) up*** *or* ***smarten up (someone or something)*** : to make (someone or something) neat and attractive ▪ They *smartened* [=*spruced*] themselves *up* for the party. ▪ They *smartened up* the room for the party.

smart–mouth /'smɑɚtˌmaʊθ/ *or* **smart–mouthed** /'smɑɚtˌmaʊθt/ *adj, US, informal + disapproving* : saying rude or disrepectful things ▪ *smart-mouth* comments ▪ a bunch of *smart-mouthed* kids
– **smart–mouth** *noun, pl* **-mouths** [*count*] ▪ He's a real *smart-mouth*.

smarts /'smɑɚts/ *noun* [*plural*] *US, informal* : INTELLIGENCE ▪ He's got the *smarts* [=*brains, know-how*] to do the job. — see also STREET SMARTS

smarty *or* **smart•ie** /'smɑɚti/ *noun, pl* **smart•ies** [*count*] *US, informal*
1 : SMART-ALECK ▪ Don't be such a *smarty*.
2 : a smart person ▪ She's a real *smarty* and does her job very well.

smarty–pants /'smɑɚtiˌpænts/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal + disapproving* : a person who talks and behaves like someone who knows everything ▪ Go ahead, *smarty-pants*, tell us about your grade point average. ▪ Don't be such a *smarty-pants*. [=*know-it-all*]

¹smash /'smæʃ/ *verb* **smash•es**; **smashed**; **smash•ing**
1 : to break (something) into many pieces : to shatter or destroy (something) [+ *obj*] He *smashed* the vase with a hammer. ▪ The ball *smashed* the window. [*no obj*] The vase fell and *smashed* to pieces. ▪ The window *smashed* [=*shattered*] when the baseball hit it.
2 a : to hit (something) violently and very hard [+ *obj*] She *smashed* [=*crushed*] her finger in the door. [*no obj*] He *smashed* into the wall. ▪ The car *smashed* [=*crashed*] into the rail. **b** [+ *obj*] : to hit (a ball) downward and very hard in tennis and other games ▪ She *smashed* the ball deep into the opposite corner.
3 [+ *obj*] : to destroy or beat (someone or something) easily or completely ▪ We *smashed* our opponents. ▪ He *smashed* the world record. [=he broke the world record by a large amount]
4 [+ *obj*] : to crash (a vehicle) ▪ He *smashed* his car. — often + *up* in U.S. English ▪ She *smashed up* her new car.
smash down [*phrasal verb*] ***smash (something) down*** *or* ***smash down (something)*** : to hit (something) hard so that it breaks and falls down ▪ Police *smashed down* the door.
smash in [*phrasal verb*] ***smash (something) in*** *or* ***smash in (something)*** : to hit (something) hard so that you break it or make a hole in it ▪ I *smashed in* the window. ▪ I was so mad I felt like *smashing* his face *in*.
smash up [*phrasal verb*] ***smash (something) up*** *or* ***smash up (something)*** : to break and destroy (something) in a deliberate way ▪ Vandals broke in and *smashed* the place *up*. — see also ¹SMASH 4 (above), SMASHUP
– **smash•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

²smash *noun, pl* **smash•es** [*count*]
1 : someone or something that is very successful or popular ▪ The new movie is a *smash*. ▪ She was a *smash* at the party. ▪ His new song promises to be a ***smash hit***.
2 : the sound made when something hits a surface very violently ▪ The vase fell to the ground with a loud *smash*.
3 : a hard downward hit in tennis or other games ▪ She hit an overhand *smash* that won the match.
4 *Brit* : CRASH, SMASHUP ▪ a car *smash*

smash–and–grab *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly Brit* — used to describe a robbery that is done by breaking a window of a car, store, etc., and stealing whatever you can take quickly ▪ a *smash-and-grab* robbery/thief

smashed /'smæʃt/ *adj*
1 : broken to pieces ▪ a *smashed* window
2 *not used before a noun* [*more ~; most ~*] *slang* : very drunk ▪ He had a few too many beers and was *smashed*.

smash•ing /'smæʃɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *old-fashioned* : very good or impressive ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) You look *smashing* in that dress. = That dress looks *smashing* on you. ▪ The play was a *smashing* success. [=a very great success]

smash•up /'smæʃˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *informal* : an accident that badly damages or destroys a vehicle : CRASH ▪ a four-car *smashup*

smat•ter•ing /'smætərɪŋ/ *noun* [*singular*] : a small amount *of* something ▪ She only knows a *smattering of* German. ▪ a *smattering of* applause

¹smear /'smiɚ/ *noun, pl* **smears** [*count*]
1 : a dirty mark, spot, streak, etc., made by touching or rubbing something ▪ There was a *smear* [=*smudge*] on the mirror.
2 *medical* : a very small sample of something (such as skin or blood) that someone examines with a microscope ▪ The blood *smear* revealed malaria. — see also PAP SMEAR
3 : an untrue story about a person that is meant to hurt that person's reputation ▪ a deliberate *smear* — often used before another noun ▪ a *smear* campaign ▪ His opponent did a *smear* job on him.

²smear *verb* **smears**; **smeared**; **smear•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) dirty by rubbing it with something else ▪ The children *smeared* the window with fingerprints.
2 [+ *obj*] : to spread (something) over a surface ▪ She *smeared* jam on her toast. ▪ Butter was *smeared* all over the counter. ▪ The axle was *smeared* [=*covered*] with grease. ▪ children with paint-*smeared* faces
3 a [*no obj*] : to spread or drip in an untidy way ▪ Her mascara *smeared* when she cried. ▪ The ink *smeared* [=*smudged*] when she folded the letter. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to spread or drip in an untidy way ▪ Water *smeared* [=*smudged*] the ink so I could barely read the letter.
4 [+ *obj*] : to make untrue statements about someone in order to hurt that person's reputation ▪ political opponents *smearing* each other ▪ They deliberately tried to *smear* him by telling lies about his war record. ▪ They tried to *smear* his reputation.

smear test *noun, pl* ~ **tests** [*count*] *Brit, medical* : PAP SMEAR

[1]smell /ˈsmɛl/ *noun, pl* **smells**

1 [*count*] **a** : the quality of a thing that you can sense with your nose : ODOR ▪ the distinctive *smell* of onions ▪ the *smell* [=*scent*] of her perfume **b** : an unpleasant odor ▪ What is that *smell*?

2 [*noncount*] : the ability to notice or recognize odors : the ability to smell things ▪ Dogs have a keen sense of *smell*.

3 [*singular*] : an act of smelling something ▪ One *smell* [=*whiff*] of this perfume and you will fall in love with it.

[2]smell *verb* **smells**; **smelled** *or Brit* **smelt** /ˈsmɛlt/; **smell·ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to use your nose to sense smells ▪ She leaned over and *smelled* the flowers. ▪ She *smelled* [=*sniffed*] the milk to see if it was sour. **b** : to be able to use your nose to sense smells [*no obj*] I have a cold right now so I can't *smell*. [+ *obj*] I can't *smell* anything because I'm so stuffed up. **c** *not used in progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] : to notice something because of its smell ▪ I could *smell* dinner cooking. ▪ I think I *smell* gas.

2 a [*linking verb*] : to have a particular smell ▪ This car *smells* like mold. ▪ That soup *smells* good. — sometimes + *of* ▪ He *smelled of* alcohol. **b** *not used in progressive tenses* [*no obj*] : to have a bad smell ▪ Whew, what *smells*? ▪ These sneakers *smell*. [=*stink*]

3 a [+ *obj*] : to sense or detect (something) : to think that (something) is going to happen ▪ Can't you *smell* the profits? ▪ As the end of the game got closer, our team began to *smell* victory. [=began to sense/feel that victory was very near] ▪ I ***smell trouble*** [=I think there's going to be trouble] **b** [*no obj*] : to appear or seem to have a certain quality ▪ Something doesn't *smell* [=*seem*] right about this deal.

come out/up smelling like a rose see [2]ROSE

smell a rat see [1]RAT

smell out [*phrasal verb*] ***smell (something) out*** *or* ***smell out (something)*** : to find (something) by smelling it ▪ Police have trained the dogs to *smell out* [=*sniff out*] drugs.

(stop and) smell the roses see [2]ROSE

smelling salts *noun* [*plural*] : a chemical that has a strong smell and that is used to wake people up after they faint

smelly /ˈsmɛli/ *adj* **smell·i·er**; **-est** : having a bad smell ▪ I don't like *smelly* cheese. ▪ *smelly* sneakers ▪ *smelly* [=*stinky*] feet

[1]smelt /ˈsmɛlt/ *noun, pl* **smelts** *or* **smelt** [*count*] : a type of small fish that can be eaten

[2]smelt *verb* **smelts**; **smelt·ed**; **smelt·ing** [+ *obj*] : to melt rock that contains metal in order to get the metal out ▪ the process used for *smelting* iron ore

[3]smelt *Brit past tense and past participle of* [2]SMELL

smelt·er /ˈsmɛltɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a machine used for smelting metal

smid·gen *also* **smid·geon** *also chiefly Brit* **smid·gin** /ˈsmɪʤən/ *or US* **smidge** /ˈsmɪʤ/ *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : a small amount ▪ I'll just have a *smidgen* of ice cream. ▪ a *smidgen* of dignity ▪ Could you move just a *smidge* [=*bit*] to the left?

[1]smile /ˈsmajəl/ *noun, pl* **smiles** [*count*] : an expression on your face that makes the corners of your mouth turn up and that shows happiness, amusement, pleasure, affection, etc. ▪ He greeted me with a big *smile*. ▪ I like your *smile*. ▪ She gave me a *smile*. [=she smiled at me] ▪ a polite *smile* ▪ a *smile* of pleasure/satisfaction

all smiles : happy and smiling ▪ She was *all smiles* as she opened her birthday presents.

wipe that/the smile off someone's face see [1]WIPE

[2]smile *verb* **smiles**; **smiled**; **smil·ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to make a smile : to make the corners of your mouth turn up in an expression that shows happiness, amusement, pleasure, affection, etc. ▪ The photographer asked us to *smile* for the camera. ▪ She *smiled* when she saw him. ▪ She hasn't had much to *smile* about lately. [=she hasn't had much reason to feel happy lately] ▪ He ***smiled to himself*** [=he smiled or felt happy] as he looked at the photos. — often + *at* ▪ She *smiled at* me. ▪ I had to *smile at* his silly comments.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to show or express (something, such as approval, encouragement, etc.) by a smile ▪ Both parents *smiled* their approval. ▪ I *smiled* my encouragement. **b** : to say (something) with a smile ▪ "Nice job," she *smiled*.

smile on/upon [*phrasal verb*] ***smile on/upon (someone or something)*** : to make (someone or something) have good luck or success ▪ Fortune *smiled upon* us. [=we were lucky] ▪ Lady Luck *smiled on* me and I won the jackpot.

[1]smil·ey /ˈsmaɪli/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : happy and cheerful : smiling a lot ▪ She's a very *smiley* kid.

[2]smiley *noun, pl* **smil·ies** [*count*] : SMILEY FACE

smiley face *noun, pl* ~ **faces** [*count*] : a symbol used in typing, writing, or drawing that represents a person smiling ▪ He ended his e-mail with a *smiley face*. ▪ The teacher drew a *smiley face* on the student's homework. ▪ a *smiley-face* button

smil·ing·ly /ˈsmaɪlɪŋli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : with a smile : while smiling ▪ "May I help you?" he asked *smilingly*. ▪ The waiter *smilingly* described the specials.

smirk /ˈsmɚk/ *verb* **smirks**; **smirked**; **smirk·ing** [*no obj*] : to smile in an unpleasant way because you are pleased with yourself, glad about someone else's trouble, etc. ▪ She tried not to *smirk* when they announced the winner. — often + *at* ▪ She *smirked at* the thought of how this would hurt him.

– **smirk** *noun, pl* **smirks** [*count*] ▪ He had a big *smirk* on his face when he told me the news.

smite /ˈsmaɪt/ *verb* **smites**; **smote** /ˈsmoʊt/; **smit·ten** /ˈsmɪtn̩/ *or* **smote**; **smit·ing** [+ *obj*] *literary* + *old-fashioned*

1 : to hurt, kill, or punish (someone or something) ▪ He vowed that he would *smite* his enemy. ▪ Misfortune *smote* him and all his family.

2 : to hit (someone or something) very hard ▪ He *smote* the ball mightily.

smith /ˈsmɪθ/ *noun, pl* **smiths** [*count*] : a person who makes things (such as tools or horseshoes) with iron : BLACKSMITH ▪ Ancient *smiths* developed the techniques needed to make metal tools. — see also GOLDSMITH, GUNSMITH, SILVERSMITH

smith·er·eens /ˌsmɪðəˈriːnz/ *noun* [*plural*] *informal* : small broken pieces : tiny bits ▪ The car was ***blown to smithereens*** [=was completely destroyed by an explosion] ▪ The vase was ***smashed to smithereens***. ▪ An explosion here could *blow* us all *to smithereens*.

smithy /ˈsmɪθi/ *noun, pl* **smith·ies** [*count*]

1 : the place where a blacksmith works ▪ They tore down the old *smithy* behind the general store.

2 : SMITH ▪ In earlier times, the town *smithy* [=*blacksmith*] would repair pots and wagon wheels.

smit·ten /ˈsmɪtn̩/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : in love with someone or something ▪ From the moment he saw her, he was *smitten*. — usually + *by* or *with* ▪ He was *smitten with* her from the moment he laid eyes on her. ▪ I was *smitten by* his good looks. ▪ consumers *smitten with* the latest gadgets

2 : suddenly affected by something (such as a strong emotion or a serious illness) — usually + *by* or *with* ▪ He was *smitten by* disaster. ▪ She was *smitten with* terror.

– see also SMITE

smock /ˈsmɑːk/ *noun, pl* **smocks** [*count*]

1 : a light and loose long shirt usually worn over your regular clothing to protect it from getting dirty ▪ an artist's *smock* ▪ The children's *smocks* were covered with paint. — called also (*Brit*) *overall*

2 : a long shirt usually worn by women

smock·ing /ˈsmɑːkɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of decoration for clothing that is made of many small folds that are sewn into place

smog /ˈsmɑːg/ *noun* [*noncount*] : fog mixed with smoke : a cloud of dirty air from cars, factories, etc., that is usually found in cities

smog·gy /ˈsmɑːgi/ *adj* **smog·gi·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : having a lot of smog ▪ *smoggy* cities

[1]smoke /ˈsmoʊk/ *noun, pl* **smokes**

1 [*noncount*] : the cloud of black, gray, or white gases and dust that is produced by burning something ▪ *Smoke* from the campfire stung my eyes. ▪ cigarette *smoke* ▪ We could see black *smoke* from the house fire. ▪ I smell *smoke*. ▪ *smoke* inhalation — see also SECONDHAND SMOKE

2 a [*count*] *informal* : a cigarette, cigar, etc. : something that people smoke ▪ Hey, (have you) got a *smoke*? ▪ Can I bum a few *smokes* off you? **b** [*singular*] : the act of smoking a cigarette, cigar, etc. ▪ He went outside ***for a smoke***. = He went outside ***to have a smoke***. [=to smoke a cigarette, cigar, etc.]

blow smoke *chiefly US, informal* : to lie about something : to say things that are not true in order to fool or impress people ▪ Don't listen to him. He's just *blowing smoke*.

go up in smoke **1** : to burn up completely ▪ All their possessions *went up in smoke*. [=burned in a fire] **2** *informal*

S

: to end or disappear completely ▪ When she hurt her back, all her dreams of being a dancer *went up in smoke*.

where there's smoke, there's fire (*chiefly US*) *or* ***there's no smoke without fire*** — used to say that if people are saying that someone has done something wrong there is usually a good reason for what they are saying ▪ "Do you believe those rumors about the mayor?" "Well, you know what they say, *where there's smoke, there's fire*."

[2]smoke *verb* **smokes; smoked; smok·ing**

1 : to suck the smoke from a cigarette, cigar, pipe, etc., into your mouth and lungs and then exhale it [+ *obj*] I caught her *smoking* a cigarette. ▪ He was thrown out of school for *smoking* marijuana. [*no obj*] She *smokes* and drinks, but I don't. ▪ Do you mind if I *smoke* in here? — see also CHAIN-SMOKE, SMOKING

2 [+ *obj*] : to produce smoke ▪ That old car *smokes* when you start it up. ▪ the *smoking* remains of a fire ▪ Olive oil has a high ***smoking point***. [=it does not begin to produce smoke until it is heated to a high temperature]

3 [+ *obj*] : to use smoke to flavor and preserve (food, such as meat, cheese, or fish) ▪ We *smoke* our hams over hickory. — see also SMOKED

4 [+ *obj*] *US, informal* **a** : to beat (someone or something) completely : DEFEAT ▪ They *smoked* the competition. ▪ We got *smoked*. **b** : to hit (a ball) very hard and fast ▪ (*baseball*) He *smoked* a line drive into left field. ▪ (*tennis*) She *smoked* a forehand down the line.

put/stick that in your pipe and smoke it see [1]PIPE

smoke like a chimney *chiefly US, informal* : to smoke a lot of cigarettes, cigars, etc. ▪ She still *smokes like a chimney* despite warnings from her doctor.

smoke out [*phrasal verb*] ***smoke (someone or something) out*** *or* ***smoke out (someone or something)*** : to force (someone or something) to leave a place by filling the place with smoke ▪ The hunters tried to *smoke* the foxes *out* of the den. — often used figuratively ▪ She's determined to *smoke out* [=*find out*] the truth about what really happened.

smoke alarm *noun, pl* ~ **alarms** [*count*] : a device that makes a loud and harsh noise when smoke fills a room — called also *smoke detector*

smoke and mirrors *noun* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : something that seems good but is not real or effective and that is done especially to take attention away from something else that is embarrassing or unpleasant ▪ The new proposal brings no real changes—it's all just *smoke and mirrors*.

smoke bomb *noun, pl* ~ **bombs** [*count*] : a bomb that produces a lot of smoke when it explodes ▪ Police threw *smoke bombs* at the rioters.

smoked *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : treated with smoke to add flavor and prevent spoiling ▪ *smoked* ham/mozzarella/salmon

2 : covered by a gray film : tinted gray ▪ *smoked* glass/windows

smoke detector *noun, pl* ~ **-tors** [*count*] : SMOKE ALARM

smoke–filled room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] : a room or place where secret decisions are made by a small group of powerful people ▪ political deals made in *smoke-filled rooms*

smoke–free *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] — used to describe a place where people are not allowed to smoke ▪ We guarantee a *smoke-free* working environment.

smoke grenade *noun, pl* ~ **-nades** [*count*] *chiefly US* : SMOKE BOMB

smoke·house /'smoʊkˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous·es** [*count*] : a building where meat or fish is given flavor and kept from spoiling by the use of smoke ▪ Hams hung from the rafters of the *smokehouse*.

smoke·less /'smoʊkləs/ *adj* : not producing or containing smoke ▪ *smokeless* powder ▪ a *smokeless* cigarette

smokeless tobacco *noun* [*noncount*] : tobacco that is placed in the mouth between the cheek and the gum instead of being smoked

smok·er /'smoʊkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who smokes cigarettes, cigars, etc. ▪ She's a heavy *smoker*.

2 : a piece of equipment used for smoking foods

smoke screen *noun, pl* ~ **screens** [*count*]

1 : something that you do or say to hide something or to take attention away from something ▪ His campaign promises were just a *smoke screen*. ▪ The truth was hidden behind a *smoke screen* of lies.

2 : a cloud of thick smoke that is used to hide ships, soldiers, etc.

[1]smoke·stack /'smoʊkˌstæk/ *noun, pl* **-stacks** [*count*] : a tall chimney on a factory, ship, etc., for carrying smoke away — called also (*Brit*) *chimney stack*

[2]smokestack *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly US* : of or relating to companies that manufacture products in large factories ▪ She invested in *smokestack* stocks. ▪ Car manufacturing and other *smokestack industries* need to adapt to the global economy.

smoking /'smoʊkɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of smoking a cigarette, cigar, pipe, etc. ▪ There is no *smoking* allowed in this restaurant. ▪ When did you start *smoking*? ▪ Would you like to be seated in the ***smoking section***? [=an area where smoking is allowed] ▪ You need to ***quit/stop smoking***. — see also NONSMOKING, PASSIVE SMOKING

smoking gun *noun, pl* ~ **guns** [*singular*] : a piece of evidence that clearly proves who did something or shows how something happened ▪ This document is the *smoking gun* that proves that he was lying.

smoking jacket *noun, pl* ~ **-ets** [*count*] : a loose jacket or robe worn especially in the past by men at home

smoky *also* **smok·ey** /'smoʊki/ *adj* **smok·i·er; -est**

1 : filled with smoke ▪ a *smoky* bar ▪ *smoky* rooms

2 : having a flavor, taste, or appearance of smoke ▪ a *smoky*, full-bodied wine ▪ *smoky* eyes ▪ Her dress was a *smoky* blue.

3 : very attractive or sexy ▪ Her *smoky* voice drew me in. ▪ She gave him a *smoky* look.

– **smok·i·ness** /'smoʊkinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

smol·der (*US*) *or Brit* **smoul·der** /'smoʊldɚ/ *verb* **-ders; -dered; -der·ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to burn slowly without flames but usually with smoke ▪ The remains of the campfire *smoldered*. ▪ *smoldering* ruins ▪ a *smoldering* fire

2 *literary* **a** : to feel a strong emotion but keep it hidden ▪ He *smoldered* with lust. ▪ Her eyes *smoldered* with anger. **b** : to be felt strongly by someone without being directly shown or expressed ▪ Anger *smoldered* in my heart. ▪ Their discontent *smoldered* [=*simmered*] for years.

3 : to be attractive in a sexy way ▪ He gave her a *smoldering* look. [=he looked at her in a very sexy way]

smooch /'smu:ʧ/ *verb* **smooch·es; smooched; smooch·ing** *informal* : to kiss [*no obj*] They *smooched* while sitting on the porch swing. [+ *obj*] She *smooched* him while they were on the porch swing.

– **smooch** *noun, pl* **smooches** [*count*] ▪ Give me a big *smooch* [=*kiss*] on the cheek before you go.

[1]smooth /'smu:ð/ *adj* **smooth·er; -est**

1 a : having a flat, even surface : not rough : not having any bumps, ridges, or uneven parts ▪ *smooth* skin ▪ They groomed the ski trail so it was *smooth*. ▪ The river rocks had been worn *smooth* by the water. ▪ The surface is ***(as) smooth as silk***. [=very smooth] **b** *of a liquid mixture* : not having any lumps : mixed together so there are no lumps ▪ Whisk the flour into the gravy until it is *smooth*. ▪ The milkshake was *smooth* and creamy.

2 : happening or done without any problems ▪ With the aid of observers, the election process was a *smooth* one. ▪ Our trip was *smooth* and uneventful.

3 a : even and regular without sudden movements ▪ the *smooth* movements of a swimmer ▪ She has a nice, *smooth* golf swing. **b** : not having or causing sudden, violent movements ▪ His new car has a *smooth* ride. ▪ Our flight was very *smooth*. — opposite ROUGH

4 *informal* : relaxed, confident, and pleasant in a way that may be intended to deceive people ▪ I don't trust him—he's just too *smooth*. ▪ He has a *smooth* manner. ▪ He's a real ***smooth talker***. [=he says flattering things] ▪ She's a ***smooth operator***. [=a person who is smooth] — see also SMOOTHIE

5 a : not sharp, bitter, or unpleasant in taste or smell ▪ The wine was full and *smooth*. ▪ a *smooth* cup of coffee **b** : pleasant to hear or listen to ▪ He has a rich, *smooth* voice.

smooth sailing see SAILING

take the rough with the smooth see [3]ROUGH

– **smooth·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]smooth *verb* **smoothes; smoothed; smooth·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (something) smooth ▪ He *smoothed* his tie and headed out the door. ▪ The coin's date had been *smoothed* away over time. — often + *back* or *down* ▪ She *smoothed back* her hair. ▪ *Smooth* the surface *down* with sandpaper. — see also SMOOTH OUT (below)

2 : to remove problems or difficulties from a situation ▪

They ***smoothed the way*** for a quick end to the dispute. [=they made it easier to achieve a quick end to the dispute] ▪ She has helped ***smooth a path*** [=has helped make it easier] for more women to run for office.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to spread (something) over a surface (such as your skin) : to apply (something) by rubbing it on a surface ▪ *Smooth* the cream on after your shower. ▪ *Smooth* the wax over the wood before polishing. ▪ She *smoothed* on some moisturizer before she put on her makeup. ▪ He *smoothed* ointment over the cut.

smooth away [*phrasal verb*] ***smooth (something) away*** *or* ***smooth away (something)*** : to make (problems, difficulties, etc.) less serious : to remove (problems, difficulties, etc.) ▪ We'll help *smooth away* any legal trouble.

smooth out [*phrasal verb*] ***smooth (something) out*** *or* ***smooth out (something)*** **1** : to make (something) smooth or flat ▪ Help me *smooth out* the tablecloth. ▪ The ground was rocky, so we *smoothed out* the path with cedar chips.

2 : to make (something) easier by removing or dealing with problems ▪ We will *smooth out* the election process by next year. ▪ She tried to ***smooth things out*** [=end an argument or disagreement] with her daughter-in-law, but the damage was done.

smooth over [*phrasal verb*] ***smooth (something) over*** *or* ***smooth over (something)*** : to make (a disagreement, problem, difficulty, etc.) seem less serious than it really is ▪ Don't worry about missing the application deadline—we'll *smooth* that *over* with the office. ▪ She *smoothed over* the objections to his candidacy.

smooth•ie *or* **smoothy** /ˈsmuːði/ *noun, pl* **-ies** [*count*]

1 : a person who has a relaxed, polite, and confident way of speaking and behaving but who may not seem honest or sincere ▪ He's a real *smoothie* around women.

2 : a thick, cold drink that is made of fruit mixed with milk, yogurt, or juice ▪ fruit *smoothies*

smooth•ly /ˈsmuːðli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : in a smooth way: such as **a** : without any problems or difficulties ▪ The whole trip went very *smoothly*. ▪ As long as things go *smoothly*, she'll be fine. **b** : without delays or sudden starts or stops ▪ The accident has been cleaned up and traffic is flowing *smoothly* once again. ▪ The software enables you to move *smoothly* from one screen to the next. **c** : with confidence and ease : in a relaxed and confident way ▪ She made the jump shot *smoothly* and easily. ▪ "Don't worry," she said *smoothly*, "Just leave it all to me."

smooth–talking *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : talking in a friendly and pleasant way that is not completely honest or sincere ▪ a *smooth-talking* salesman ▪ *smooth-talking* politicians

s'more /ˈsmoɚ/ *noun, pl* **s'mores** [*count*] *US* : a sweet food that is made by putting a melted marshmallow and a piece of chocolate between two crackers

smor•gas•bord /ˈsmoɚgəsˌboɚd/ *noun* [*singular*]

1 : a meal with many different foods that are placed on a large table so that people can serve themselves : BUFFET

2 : a large mixture of many different things ▪ We were presented with a *smorgasbord* [=*variety*] of options.

smote *past tense and past participle of* SMITE

smoth•er /ˈsmʌðɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to kill (someone) by covering the face so that breathing is not possible ▪ He tried to *smother* her with a pillow.

2 : to cover (something) in order to keep it from growing or spreading ▪ She *smothered* the fire with a blanket. — often used figuratively ▪ She *smothered* her son with love/affection. [=she gave her son a lot of love and affection in a way that prevented him from feeling free to live his own life]

3 : to try to keep (something) from happening : to try to stop doing (something) ▪ I tried to *smother* [=*stifle, suppress*] a yawn.

4 : to cover (something or someone) thickly or completely ▪ She *smothers* her pancakes in/with syrup. [=she puts a lot of syrup on her pancakes] ▪ The potatoes were *smothered* in gravy. ▪ She *smothered* him with/in kisses. [=she kissed him many times]

smoulder *Brit spelling of* SMOLDER

[1]smudge /ˈsmʌʤ/ *noun, pl* **smudg•es** [*count*] : a dirty mark, spot, streak, etc. ▪ His hand left a grimy *smudge* on the wall.

– **smudgy** /ˈsmʌʤi/ *adj* **smudg•i•er**; **-est**

[2]smudge *verb* **smudges**; **smudged**; **smudg•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to make a dirty mark, spot, streak, etc., on (something) ▪ Don't *smudge* the picture with your dirty hands! ▪ His face was *smudged* with grease.

2 a [*no obj*] : to become blurry and unclear by being touched or rubbed ▪ Charcoal drawings *smudge* easily. **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) blurry or unclear by touching or rubbing it ▪ Be careful not to *smudge* [=*smear*] the ink.

smug /ˈsmʌg/ *adj* **smug•ger**; **smug•gest** *disapproving* : having or showing the annoying quality of people who feel very pleased or satisfied with their abilities, achievements, etc. ▪ It's OK to celebrate your success, but try not to be too *smug* about it. ▪ You can wipe that *smug* look off your face. ▪ a *smug* smile/expression

– **smug•ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ She smiled *smugly*.
– **smug•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

smug•gle /ˈsmʌgəl/ *verb* **smug•gles**; **smug•gled**; **smug•gling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to move (someone or something) from one country into another illegally and secretly ▪ He was arrested for *smuggling* drugs into the country. ▪ They *smuggled* immigrants across the border. ▪ The paintings had been *smuggled* out of the country before the war. ▪ *smuggled* goods

2 *informal* : to take or bring (something) secretly ▪ We *smuggled* his favorite sandwich past the nurse.

– **smug•gler** /ˈsmʌglɚ/ *noun, pl* **-glers** [*count*] ▪ drug *smugglers*

smut /ˈsmʌt/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* + *disapproving* : language, pictures, or stories that deal with sex in a way that is offensive ▪ *Smut* is not allowed in this house. ▪ obscenity laws that aimed to stamp out *smut*

smut•ty /ˈsmʌti/ *adj* **smut•ti•er**; **-est** *informal* + *disapproving* : relating to sex in a way that is offensive ▪ *smutty* jokes/humor ▪ a *smutty* magazine

[1]snack /ˈsnæk/ *noun, pl* **snacks** [*count*] : a small amount of food eaten between meals ▪ He had a *snack* of chips and dip. ▪ between-meal *snacks* ▪ I didn't have time for lunch so I just grabbed a quick/light *snack*. ▪ peanuts, potato chips, and other ***snack foods***

[2]snack *verb* **snacks**; **snacked**; **snack•ing** [*no obj*] *informal* : to eat a small amount of food between meals : to eat a snack ▪ She tries not to *snack* between meals. ▪ I'll just *snack* on an apple if I'm hungry.

snack bar *noun, pl* ~ **bars** [*count*] : a public place where small meals and snacks are served usually at a counter ▪ There's a *snack bar* at the pool where we can get nachos.

sna•fu /snæˈfuː/ *noun, pl* **-fus** [*count*] *chiefly US, somewhat informal* : a problem that makes a situation difficult or confusing ▪ a major scheduling *snafu*

[1]snag /ˈsnæg/ *noun, pl* **snags** [*count*]

1 : an unexpected problem or difficulty ▪ We ***hit a snag*** with our travel plans. = We ***ran into a snag*** with our travel plans. [=we had a problem with our travel plans]

2 : a sharp or broken part of something that sticks out from a smooth surface ▪ I caught my sleeve on a *snag* and tore it.

3 : a thread that sticks out from a piece of cloth ▪ My sweater has a *snag* where I caught it on a nail.

4 : a dead tree or tree stump that is still standing up ▪ After the fire, there were a few *snags* still smoldering.

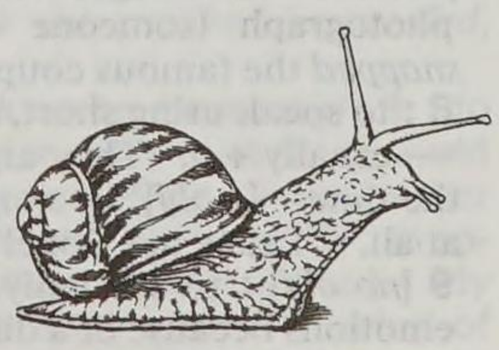
[2]snag *verb* **snags**; **snagged**; **snag•ging** [+ *obj*]

1 : to catch and tear (something) on something sharp ▪ I *snagged* my favorite sweater on a nail.

2 *US, informal* : to catch, capture, or get (something or someone) by quick action or good luck ▪ The shortstop *snagged* the grounder. ▪ The police *snagged* the suspect as he was trying to run away. ▪ I managed to *snag* the information I needed from/off the Internet. ▪ Can I *snag* a ride from/with you?

snail /ˈsneɪl/ *noun, pl* **snails** [*count*] : a small animal that lives in a shell that it carries on its back, that moves very slowly, and that can live in water or on land

at a snail's pace : very slowly ▪ The work is progressing *at a snail's pace*.



snail

snail mail *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* + *humorous* : ordinary mail that is delivered by a postal system : mail that is not e-mail ▪ She still uses *snail mail* for paying bills. ▪ I can be contacted by e-mail and *snail mail*.

[1]snake /ˈsneɪk/ *noun, pl* **snakes** [*count*]

1 : an animal that has a long, thin body and no arms or legs ▪

a poisonous *snake* — see also GARTER SNAKE, RATTLESNAKE

2 *chiefly US, informal* : a bad person who tells lies and betrays other people ▪ He's a dirty *snake*! ▪ I thought she was my friend, but she turned out to be ***a snake in the grass***

3 : a long thin tool that is used to clear out blocked pipes — called also *plumber's snake*



snake

– snake•like /ˈsneɪkˌlaɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

²snake *verb* **snakes**; **snaked**; **snak•ing** : to move like a snake : to follow a twisting path with many turns [*no obj*] The road *snakes* through the mountains. ▪ Cables *snaked* across the floor. [+ *obj*] Technicians *snaked* cables through the set. ▪ He *snaked* his way through the crowd.

snake•bit /ˈsneɪkˌbɪt/ *also* **snake•bitten** /ˈsneɪkˌbɪtn̩/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *US slang* : having bad luck : very unlucky ▪ The team was *snakebit* this year, winning only 1 game out of 10. ▪ He's so *snakebit* that nothing he does comes out right.

snake•bite /ˈsneɪkˌbaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-bites** [*count, noncount*] : the wound you get when a snake bites you

snake charmer *noun, pl* **~ -ers** [*count*] : someone who appears to make snakes move by playing music to them

snake oil *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US, informal + disapproving* : something that is sold as medicine but that is not really useful or helpful in any way ▪ *snake oil* remedies — often used figuratively ▪ He thinks politicians are just a bunch of *snake oil* salesmen. [=dishonest people]

snake•skin /ˈsneɪkˌskɪn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : leather made from the skin of a snake ▪ boots made of *snakeskin* = *snakeskin* boots

snaky /ˈsneɪki/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : moving like a snake ▪ the dancer's *snaky* movements

2 *chiefly US* : long, thin, or twisting like a snake ▪ a *snaky* river ▪ His hair was long and *snaky*.

– snak•i•ly /ˈsneɪkəli/ *adv*

¹snap /ˈsnæp/ *verb* **snaps**; **snapped**; **snap•ping**

1 : to break quickly with a short, sharp sound [*no obj*] The branch *snapped* and fell to the ground. ▪ The cable suddenly *snapped*. ▪ The earpiece of his glasses *snapped* off. [+ *obj*] She *snapped* the twig in two. ▪ The boy *snapped* the wing off his toy airplane.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move into a specified position with a short, sharp sound [*no obj*] The trap *snapped* shut. ▪ The bent tree *snapped* back into an upright position. ▪ The pieces *snap* [=*click*] easily into place. [+ *obj*] I *snapped* the lid shut. ▪ She *snapped* the pieces together.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to close (something) with a fastener and especially with a snap ▪ She *snapped* her handbag shut. ▪ He *snapped* (up) his jacket.

4 [+ *obj*] : to turn (something) *on* or *off* with a switch ▪ *snap on/off* the lights

5 : to make a short, sharp sound or to cause (something) to make a short, sharp sound [*no obj*] A fire *snapped* [=*crackled*] in the wood stove. [+ *obj*] The driver *snapped* [=*cracked*] the whip to get the horses moving. ▪ a bored student *snapping* her chewing gum

6 : to use your thumb and fingers to make a short, sharp sound [+ *obj*] People ***snapped their fingers*** to the beat. ▪ He *snapped his fingers* to get the waiter's attention. [*no obj*] People in the audience *snapped* to the beat.

7 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to take (a photograph) ▪ tourists *snapping* pictures ▪ The images were *snapped* by a satellite camera. : to photograph (someone or something) ▪ A photographer *snapped* the famous couple leaving a London club last week.

8 : to speak using short, angry sentences or phrases [*no obj*] — usually + *at* ▪ They argued and *snapped at* each other all the time. [+ *obj*] She *snapped* that I was lucky to have a job at all. ▪ "Leave me alone!" he *snapped*.

9 [*no obj*] : to suddenly no longer be able to control your emotions because of a difficult situation, circumstance, etc. ▪ She *snapped* under the pressure of the job. ▪ He just *snapped* and started swearing at everybody.

10 : to move with a quick, short movement or to cause (something) to move with a quick, short movement [*no obj*] Flags *snapped* in the wind. [+ *obj*] When you're throwing, *snap* your wrist as you release the ball.

11 [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to cause the end of (a series of wins, losses, successes, etc.) ▪ They *snapped* [=*broke*] a 10-game losing streak. [=they won a game after losing 10 games] ▪ His hitting streak was *snapped* at 18 games.

12 [+ *obj*] *American football* : to pass (the ball) back to a teammate and especially to the quarterback by passing it between your legs at the start of a play ▪ The center *snapped* [=*hiked*] the ball.

13 [*no obj*] : to try to bite someone or something suddenly and quickly — usually + *at* ▪ The dog *snapped at* a fly.

snap out of [*phrasal verb*] ***snap out of (something)*** *or* ***snap (someone) out of (something)*** *informal* : to stop being in or to cause (someone) to stop being in (an unhappy condition or mood, a daydream, etc.) ▪ I don't know how to get her to *snap out of* her depression. [=to stop being depressed] ▪ The sound of a door slamming *snapped me out of* my daydream. ▪ Come on, ***snap out of it*** You can't let your breakup get you so depressed.

snap to attention ✧ A soldier who *snaps to attention* moves quickly to a position of standing silently with the body stiff and straight, the feet together, and both arms at the sides. The phrase is also used figuratively. ▪ The children *snapped to attention* [=suddenly stopped moving around, talking, etc.] when the teacher clapped his hands.

snap to it *informal* : to start working harder or more quickly ▪ You'll have to *snap to it* if you want to finish on time.

snap up [*phrasal verb*] ***snap (something or someone) up*** *or* ***snap up (something or someone)*** : to buy or take (something or someone) quickly or eagerly ▪ Shoppers came to the store to *snap up* bargains after the holidays. ▪ When they see your work history, they'll *snap* you *up*! [=hire you immediately]

²snap *noun, pl* **snaps**

1 [*count*] : a sudden, short, sharp sound caused by something breaking or moving into a new position — usually singular ▪ We could hear the *snap* of twigs beneath our feet. ▪ the *snap* of the alligator's jaws

2 [*count*] : the act of snapping your fingers or the sound made when you snap your fingers ▪ I've trained the dog to come to me with a *snap* of my fingers.

3 [*count*] *US* : a device that fastens something by closing or locking with a short, sharp sound ▪ The *snap* of the bracelet broke.; *especially* : a set of two metal or plastic pieces that fit tightly together when you press them ▪ pockets with *snaps* — called also *(Brit) popper, (Brit) press stud*



snap

4 [*count*] : a thin, hard cookie — see also GINGERSNAP

5 [*singular*] *US, informal* : something that is very easy to do : CINCH ▪ The software is a *snap* to install. = Installing the software is a *snap*. ▪ The recipes are a *snap* (to prepare).

6 [*singular*] *US, informal* : a small amount of time ▪ I'll be ready in a *snap*. [=*jiffy*]

7 [*count*] : a sudden brief period of a specified kind of weather ▪ We had a ***cold snap*** [=a brief period of very cold weather] last week.

8 [*count*] : a quick, short movement ▪ She pulled the rope taut with a *snap* [=*flick*] of her wrist.

9 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : SNAPSHOT ▪ family *snaps* [=informal photographs of family members that are taken quickly]

10 [*count*] *American football* : the act of snapping the ball back to a teammate and especially to the quarterback at the start of a play ▪ the first *snap* of the game ▪ The quarterback fumbled the *snap*. [=fumbled the ball when it was snapped to him]

11 [*noncount*] *Brit* : a card game in which players put down cards in a pile and try to be the first to say "snap" when two cards that are the same have been played

³snap *adj, always used before a noun* : done or made suddenly or without careful thought ▪ a *snap* judgment/decision ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) a *snap* election

⁴snap *interj, Brit* — used to express surprise when two things are alike ▪ *Snap*! I ate spaghetti last night, too.

snap bean *noun, pl* **~ beans** [*count*] : any of several types of beans whose long green seed cases are eaten as a vegetable when they are young and tender

snap•drag•on /ˈsnæpˌdrægən/ *noun, pl* **-ons** [*count*] : a tall plant that has many usually pink, white, red, or yellow flowers

snap pea *noun, pl* **~ peas** [*count*] : SUGAR SNAP PEA

S

snap•per /ˈsnæpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers**
1 [*count, noncount*] : a type of fish that lives in the ocean and that is eaten as food ▪ red *snapper*
2 [*count*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : PHOTOGRAPHER
3 [*count*] : SNAPPING TURTLE
4 [*count*] *American football* : the player who passes the ball to another player at the start of a play

snapping turtle *noun, pl* ~ **turtles** [*count*] : a large American turtle that has strong jaws and that is sometimes used for food — called also *snapper*

snap•pish /ˈsnæpɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly US* : feeling or showing irritation ▪ a *snappish* mood/remark ▪ The shoppers were *snappish* and rude.
– **snap•pish•ly** *adv* ▪ "I've been waiting for you," he said *snappishly*.

snap•py /ˈsnæpi/ *adj* **snap•pi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal*
1 a : exciting or lively ▪ *snappy* colors ▪ a *snappy* tune **b** : moving or able to move quickly ▪ a *snappy* pace ▪ a car with a *snappy* engine
2 : fashionable or stylish ▪ a *snappy* [=*sharp*] dresser ▪ a *snappy* [=*snazzy*] bow tie
3 : clever and funny ▪ a *snappy* [=*witty*] joke/remark ▪ The show is well-acted, and the dialogue is *snappy*.
4 : feeling or showing irritation : SNAPPISH ▪ He got pretty *snappy* about it. ▪ She was awfully *snappy* with me.
make it snappy *or Brit* ***look snappy*** *informal* : to act, move, or go quickly : HURRY UP ▪ Clean your room, and *make it snappy*! [=do it quickly]
– **snap•pi•ly** /ˈsnæpəli/ *adv* ▪ *snappily* written essays ▪ *snappily* dressed

snap•shot /ˈsnæpˌʃɑːt/ *noun, pl* **-shots** [*count*]
1 : an informal photograph that is taken quickly ▪ family *snapshots* — often + *of* ▪ *snapshots of* the baby
2 : a quick view or a small amount of information that tells you a little about what someone or something is like — often + *of* ▪ Television news presents only *snapshots of* the war. ▪ We get a *snapshot of* 18th-century Japan in his letters.

[1]snare /ˈsneɚ/ *noun, pl* **snares** [*count*]
1 : a device that has a loop (called a noose) which gets smaller when the end of it is pulled and that is used to catch animals : a kind of trap ▪ a rabbit *snare*
2 : a position or situation from which it is difficult to escape ▪ people caught in the *snare* of drug addiction
3 : SNARE DRUM

[2]snare *verb* **snares**; **snared**; **snar•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to catch (an animal) in a snare ▪ They caught fish and *snared* seabirds. — often used figuratively ▪ Police *snared* the thief outside the bank. **b** : to cause (something) to become caught in something (such as a net or trap) ▪ Unfortunately, the nets also *snare* turtles. — usually used as *(be/get) snared* ▪ Thousands of turtles *get snared* [=*ensnared*] in the nets each year. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ another politician *snared* [=*caught, entangled*] in another scandal
2 : to win or get (something) by skillful action or good luck ▪ I was lucky enough to *snare* [=(more commonly) *snag*] a job with a good salary and benefits. ▪ They *snared* first place in the contest. ▪ trying to *snare* business from competitors
3 *US, sports* : to catch (a thrown or hit ball) usually by jumping ▪ The shortstop *snared* a high throw from the outfield.

snare drum *noun, pl* ~ **drums** [*count*] : a drum of a medium size that is played with special sticks (called drumsticks) — called also *snare*; see picture at PERCUSSION

[1]snarl /ˈsnɑrəl/ *noun, pl* **snarls** [*count*]
1 : a twisted knot of hairs, thread, etc. : TANGLE ▪ a brush that smoothes out *snarls* ▪ *snarls* of string/rope
2 : a situation in which you can no longer move or make progress ▪ a traffic *snarl* ▪ The project has been plagued by legal/bureaucratic *snarls*.
– compare [4]SNARL

[2]snarl *verb* **snarls**; **snarled**; **snarl•ing** : to become twisted together : to form a snarl or snarls [*no obj*] Her hair *snarls* very easily. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Traffic *snarled* at the intersection after the accident. [+ *obj*] The rope had become *snarled* around the post. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The accident *snarled* traffic.
snarl up [*phrasal verb*] ***snarl (something) up*** *or* ***snarl up (something)*** *chiefly Brit* : to stop (something or someone) from moving or making progress ▪ Traffic was *snarled up* because of the parade. — see also SNARL-UP
– compare [3]SNARL

[3]snarl *verb* **snarls**; **snarled**; **snarling**
1 [*no obj*] : to growl and show the teeth — usually + *at* ▪ The dog *snarled at* the postman.
2 : to say something in an angry or annoyed way [+ *obj*] "Get back to work," she *snarled*. — often + *at* ▪ He *snarled* insults *at* other drivers. [*no obj*] The stranger *snarled at* her.
– compare [2]SNARL

[4]snarl *noun, pl* **snarls** [*count*] : an act of growling and showing the teeth — usually singular ▪ The dog gave a *snarl* when I reached for its bone. — compare [1]SNARL

snarl–up *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a situation in which you can no longer move or make progress ▪ a traffic *snarl-up* [=*snarl*]

[1]snatch /ˈsnætʃ/ *verb* **snatch•es**; **snatched**; **snatch•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to take (something) quickly or eagerly ▪ She *snatched* [=*grabbed*] the ball out of the air and ran down the court. ▪ An eagle swooped down and *snatched* one of the hens. — often + *up* ▪ She *snatched up* the last copy of the book. — often used figuratively ▪ trying to *snatch* a few moments of rest ▪ The company *snatched* him *up* [=hired him] as soon as he graduated from college.
2 : to take (something or someone) suddenly from a person or place often by using force ▪ A man *snatched* [=*stole*] the old woman's purse. ▪ Kidnappers *snatched* [=*abducted*] the girl from her bedroom. ▪ She *snatched* the toy from his hands. — sometimes + *away* ▪ She *snatched* her brother's toy *away*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He *snatched* 30 rebounds in one game. ▪ His life was *snatched away* (from him) by a tragic accident. [=he died in a tragic accident]
snatch at [*phrasal verb*] ***snatch at (something)*** : to grab or try to grab (something) quickly or eagerly ▪ chaotic city streets where thieves *snatch at* tourists' wallets — often used figuratively ▪ She was an ambitious person who *snatched at* every opportunity.

[2]snatch *noun, pl* **snatches** [*count*] : a small part of something — usually + *of* ▪ I only caught a (short) *snatch of* the music/conversation/dialogue.
in snatches : for short periods of time ▪ sleeping *in snatches* : in small amounts ▪ The plot of the novel came to me *in snatches*.

snatch•er /ˈsnætʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who takes something from someone else and runs away ▪ a purse/briefcase *snatcher* [=*thief*] ▪ a child/baby *snatcher* [=a person who kidnaps a child/baby]

snaz•zy /ˈsnæzi/ *adj* **snaz•zi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : attractive and stylish ▪ a *snazzy* new computer/car/stereo ▪ a *snazzy* dresser/hotel/party/tie

[1]sneak /ˈsniːk/ *verb* **sneaks**; **sneaked** *or chiefly US* **snuck** /ˈsnʌk/; **sneak•ing**
1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move quietly and secretly in order to avoid being noticed ▪ They tried to *sneak* into the movie without paying. ▪ As a teenager she would *sneak* out (of her house/apartment) at night to visit her boyfriend. ▪ He *sneaked* [=*crept*] past the guard.
2 [+ *obj*] : to take or bring (something) secretly and often quickly ▪ She *sneaked* some cigars through customs. ▪ He *snuck* a few cookies out of the jar while his mother wasn't looking. ▪ They caught him trying to *sneak* food into the theater. ▪ I *sneaked* a note to my friend in class. = I *sneaked* my friend a note in class. ▪ I'm going to *sneak* a smoke. [=I'm going to smoke a cigarette while nobody is watching] ▪ I was caught *sneaking* a look [=secretly looking] at my Christmas presents. ▪ Can I ***sneak a peek*** at your quiz answers?
3 [*no obj*] *Brit, old-fashioned* : to tell someone (such as a parent or teacher) about something wrong that someone else has done ▪ I got in trouble after she *sneaked* [=*squealed*, (*chiefly US*) *tattled*] on me.
sneak up on [*phrasal verb*] ***sneak up on (someone)*** **1** : to approach (someone) quietly and secretly in order to avoid being noticed ▪ My father likes to *sneak up on* my mother and tickle her. ▪ Don't *sneak up on* me like that! **2** : to approach, happen, or develop without being noticed ▪ My birthday really *snuck up on* me this year. ▪ This kind of problem can *sneak up on* you if you're not attentive.

[2]sneak *noun, pl* **sneaks** [*count*]
1 *US, informal* : a person who acts in a secret and usually dishonest way ▪ What a rotten *sneak*! I should have known not to trust her.
2 *Brit, old-fashioned* : TATTLETALE
3 *American football* : QUARTERBACK SNEAK ▪ He ran a *sneak* up the middle for a touchdown.

S

[3]sneak *adj, always used before a noun* : done while others are not paying attention ▪ a *sneak* [=*surprise*] attack ▪ She took a ***sneak peek*** [=a secret look] at the birthday presents hidden in the closet.

sneak•er /ˈsni:kɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a shoe with a rubber sole that is designed for people to wear while running, playing sports, etc. — called also (*Brit*) *trainer*, (*chiefly Brit*) *training shoe*; see picture at SHOE

sneaking *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : behaving in a secret and dishonest manner ▪ a *sneaking* [=*sneaky*] eavesdropper

2 : not openly expressed — usually + *for* ▪ He had a *sneaking* admiration *for* his opponent. ▪ a *sneaking* fondness *for* bad movies

3 ✧ If you have a ***sneaking feeling/suspicion***, you think that something might be true or might happen even though you have no definite reason to think so. ▪ I have a *sneaking feeling/suspicion* that we're going to have a test today. ▪ I have a *sneaking suspicion* that he's lying.

sneak preview *noun, pl* ~ **-views** [*count*] : a special showing of something (such as a movie, play, or product) before it becomes available to the general public ▪ A few prominent writers were invited to a *sneak preview* of the new film/play. ▪ a *sneak preview* of this fall's fashions

sneaky /ˈsni:ki/ *adj* **sneak•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : behaving in a secret and usually dishonest manner ▪ a *sneaky*, untrustworthy person

2 : done in a secret and dishonest manner ▪ They make it look like you're getting a lot more than you really are. It's a *sneaky* trick. ▪ It's a *sneaky* way of getting people to buy something they don't need.

– **sneak•i•ly** /ˈsni:kəli/ *adv* ▪ a *sneakily* subversive movie – **sneak•i•ness** /ˈsni:kinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sneer /ˈsniɚ/ *verb* **sneers**; **sneered**; **sneer•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to smile or laugh at someone or something with an expression on your face that shows dislike and a lack of respect — usually + *at* ▪ She *sneered at* me in disgust.

2 : to express dislike and a lack of respect for someone or something in a very open way [*no obj*] — usually + *at* ▪ an academic who *sneers at* anyone who doesn't have a PhD ▪ Critics *sneered at* his first novel. [+ *obj*] "You obviously don't know what you're talking about," she *sneered*.

– **sneering** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ the *sneering* villain of the comic book ▪ *sneering* contempt – **sneer•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ Critics *sneeringly* referred to the novel as "juvenile."

[2]sneer *noun, pl* **sneers** [*count*] : an expression on a person's face that is like a smile but that shows dislike and a lack of respect for someone or something ▪ She looked at me with a *sneer* of disgust. ▪ "They're paranoid," he said with a *sneer*.; *also* : a statement, criticism, etc., that shows dislike and a lack of respect ▪ The novel elicited *sneers* from the critics.

sneeze /ˈsni:z/ *verb* **sneez•es**; **sneezed**; **sneez•ing** [*no obj*] : to suddenly force air out through your nose and mouth with a usually loud noise because your body is reacting to dust, a sickness, etc. ▪ She was constantly *sneezing* and coughing.

sneeze at [*phrasal verb*] ***sneeze at (something)*** *not used in progressive tenses, informal* : to regard (something) as not important, worth noticing, etc. — always used in negative statements ▪ The award is ***nothing to sneeze at***. = The award ***is not to be sneezed at***. [=the award is important]

– **sneeze** *noun, pl* **sneezes** [*count*] ▪ Germs can be spread through a *sneeze* or a handshake.

snick•er /ˈsnɪkɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to make a short, quiet laugh in a way that shows disrespect — usually + *at* ▪ They *snickered* [=(*chiefly Brit*) *sniggered*] *at* my strange hat.

– **snicker** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ His crazy story drew/got *snickers* from the police. ▪ She heard *snickers* behind her back.

snide /ˈsnaɪd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : unkind or insulting in an indirect way ▪ *snide* remarks/comments/references ▪ a *snide* tone

– **snide•ly** *adv* ▪ "Are you having a problem?" she asked *snidely*.

[1]sniff /ˈsnɪf/ *verb* **sniffs**; **sniffed**; **sniff•ing**

1 a [*no obj*] : to take air into your nose in short breaths that are loud enough to be heard ▪ She *sniffed* and wiped her nose with a tissue. **b** : to smell (something or someone) by putting your nose close to it and taking air in through your nose in short breaths [+ *obj*] She put perfume on her wrist and *sniffed* it. ▪ The dog *sniffed* the carpet. [*no obj*] He held the flower up to his nose and *sniffed*. — often + *at* ▪ The cat *sniffed at* the food and walked away. **c** [+ *obj*] : to take (something, such as fumes or a drug) into your body by inhaling it through your nose in order to get intoxicated ▪ *sniffing* glue/ether ▪ *sniffing* [=(more commonly) *snorting*] cocaine

2 a [+ *obj*] : to discover or find (something) by smelling — usually + *out* ▪ dogs that are trained to *sniff out* drugs — often used figuratively ▪ Several companies, *sniffing* [=*sensing*] profit potential, are investing in the area. ▪ My mother is an expert at *sniffing out* trouble. ▪ the ability to *sniff out* bargains ▪ By asking around, we were able to *sniff out* the truth. **b** [*no obj*] : to search *for* something by smelling ▪ A dog *sniffed* (around) *for* drugs in the car. — often used figuratively ▪ The detective *sniffed for* clues. ▪ She has been *sniffing* (around/about) *for* a new job.

3 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) in a way that shows dislike, disapproval, etc. ▪ "I guess you don't need my help," she *sniffed*.

sniff around/round [*phrasal verb*] ***sniff around/round (someone)*** *Brit, informal* : to try to get (someone) as a romantic partner, employee, etc. ▪ His engagement hasn't stopped him from *sniffing around* other girls. ▪ Rival companies have been *sniffing around* her for years.

sniff at [*phrasal verb*] ***sniff at (something)*** : to show dislike or disapproval of (something) especially because you think it is not important or worthy of respect ▪ Some people *sniff at* the idea of using fake flowers. ▪ It's not a big profit, but it's ***not to be sniffed at***. = It's not a big profit, but it's ***nothing to sniff at***.

[2]sniff *noun, pl* **sniffs**

1 [*count*] : an act or the sound of drawing air into the nose especially in order to smell something or because you are sick or have been crying ▪ He took a big *sniff* [=*whiff*] of the soup. ▪ She said that she felt fine, but her *sniffs* and coughs told a different story.

2 [*singular*] : an expression of dislike or disapproval ▪ "I refuse to answer that question," she said with a *sniff*.

3 [*singular*] : a small amount or sign *of* something ▪ He wanted to avoid the slightest *sniff of* a scandal. ▪ They ran away at the first *sniff* [=*hint*] *of* trouble. ▪ There was still a *sniff of* hope left for the team.

4 [*singular*] : an opportunity to come close to achieving or experiencing something — usually + *of* ▪ The team did not even get a *sniff of* the play-offs last year. [=did not even come close to reaching the play-offs]

sniff•er /ˈsnɪfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : someone who sniffs a drug or other substance in order to become intoxicated ▪ a cocaine/glue/paint *sniffer*

2 : a dog that is trained to find people, illegal drugs, explosives, etc., by recognizing and following scents ▪ *Sniffers* were brought in to search bags at the airport. — called also *sniffer dog*

[1]snif•fle /ˈsnɪfəl/ *verb* **snif•fles**; **snif•fled**; **snif•fling**

1 [*no obj*] : to repeatedly take air into your nose in short breaths that are loud enough to be heard because you are sick or have been crying ▪ The children have been *sniffling* for a week now.

2 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) while crying or sniffling ▪ "In your family's eyes," she *sniffled*, "I'm not good enough."

[2]sniffle *noun, pl* **sniffles** [*count*]

1 : an act or the sound of sniffling ▪ He couldn't stop his *sniffles*.

2 *the sniffles* *informal* : a slight or mild cold that causes you to sniffle a lot ▪ I have (a case of) *the sniffles*.

sniffy /ˈsnɪfi/ *adj* **sniff•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly Brit, informal + disapproving* : having or showing the attitude of people who believe that they are better or more important than other people ▪ a *sniffy* [=*snooty*] man in an expensive suit ▪ She wrote a *sniffy* letter rejecting his offer.

snif•ter /ˈsnɪftɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : a glass with a narrow rim, a wide bowl, and a short stem that is used especially for drinking brandy

snig•ger /ˈsnɪgɚ/ *verb* **-gers**; **-gered**; **-ger•ing** [*no obj*] *chiefly Brit* : SNICKER — usually + *at* ▪ The class *sniggered at* her mistake.

– **snigger** *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*] ▪ His awkwardness drew *sniggers* from the other boys.

[1]snip /ˈsnɪp/ *noun, pl* **snips**

1 [*count*] : a small piece that is cut from something : a small piece that is snipped ▪ a *snip* of yarn

2 [*count*] : an act or the sound of snipping something — usu-

ally singular ▪ She removed the dead flowers with a *snip* of her scissors.

3 [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : something bought or sold for a good price ▪ Tickets are a *snip* [=*bargain*] at only three euros each.

– see also SNIPS

²snip *verb* **snips**; **snipped**; **snip•ping** : to cut (something) with scissors : to remove (something) by cutting with scissors [+ *obj*] He *snipped* some fresh herbs from plants on the windowsill. ▪ *snipping* pictures out of magazines ▪ *Snip* the uneven ends off. = *Snip* off the uneven ends. [*no obj*] She *snipped* at the hanging strings.

¹snipe /ˈsnaɪp/ *verb* **snipes**; **sniped**; **snip•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to shoot *at* someone from a hidden place ▪ Enemy fighters *sniped at* them from vacant buildings.

2 : to criticize someone or something in a harsh or unfair way [*no obj*] — usually + *at* ▪ The candidates have been *sniping at* each other in speeches. [+ *obj*] One of the senators *sniped*, "What does he think this is, a monarchy?"

– **sniping** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Soldiers took cover when the *sniping* started. ▪ There has been a lot of *sniping* between the candidates.

²snipe *noun, pl* **snipes** *or* **snipe** [*count*] : a bird with a long thin beak that lives in wet areas

snip•er /ˈsnaɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who shoots at another person from a hidden place ▪ The soldiers were attacked by a *sniper*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *sniper* attack

snip•pet /ˈsnɪpət/ *noun, pl* **-pets** [*count*]

1 : a small piece of information or news — usually + *of* ▪ *snippets of* gossip/information

2 : a small part of something (such as a piece of music, a conversation, etc.) ▪ *snippets* from the author's newest novel — often + *of* ▪ I heard only a *snippet of* their conversation.

snip•py /ˈsnɪpi/ *adj* **snip•pi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *US, informal* : feeling or showing irritation ▪ I'm sorry. I didn't mean to get *snippy* with you. ▪ *snippy* comments

snips /ˈsnɪps/ *noun* [*plural*] : heavy scissors that are used especially for cutting metal ▪ tin *snips*

snit /ˈsnɪt/ *noun*

have a snit *US, informal* : to become annoyed and angry usually about something minor ▪ She's going to *have a snit* when she sees this mess.

in a snit *US, informal* : in a very annoyed and angry state usually because of something minor ▪ He left *in a snit* when they told him he'd have to wait another hour. ▪ She got *in a snit* when she found out he was late.

¹snitch /ˈsnɪʧ/ *verb* **snitch•es**; **snitched**; **snitch•ing** *informal*

1 [*no obj*] *disapproving* : to tell someone in authority (such as the police or a teacher) about something wrong that someone has done ▪ Someone must have *snitched* to the police. — usually + *on* ▪ She *snitched* [=*tattled*, *squealed*] *on* her brother when he skipped school.

2 [+ *obj*] : to take or steal (something that is not very valuable) ▪ He *snitched* a dime from the kid next door.

²snitch *noun, pl* **snitches** [*count*] *informal* + *disapproving* : a person who tells someone in authority (such as the police or a teacher) about something wrong that someone has done : someone who snitches — usually singular ▪ Who's the *snitch* who ratted on me?

sniv•el /ˈsnɪvəl/ *verb* **-els**; *US* **-eled** *or Brit* **-elled**; *US* **-el•ing** *or Brit* **-el•ling** : to complain or cry in an annoying way [*no obj*] millionaires *sniveling* about their financial problems [+ *obj*] "Woe is me," she *sniveled*.

– **sniveling** *adj* ▪ He's a *sniveling*, lying coward.

snob /ˈsnɑːb/ *noun, pl* **snobs** [*count*] *disapproving* : someone who tends to criticize, reject, or ignore people who come from a lower social class, have less education, etc. ▪ Most of the people in the club are *snobs* who look down on people who attended public schools. ▪ Don't be such a *snob*. ▪ food/wine/art *snobs* [=people who think they are better than other people because they know about fine food/art/wine] ▪ an intellectual *snob*

– **snob•bism** /ˈsnɑːˌbɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She accused me of *snobbism*. [=she accused me of being a snob]

snob appeal *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving* : a quality that makes something attractive to people who are snobs ▪ Expensive cars have *snob appeal*. ▪ old foreign films with *snob appeal* — called also (*Brit*) *snob value*

snob•bery /ˈsnɑːbəri/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving* : the behavior or attitude of people who think they are better than other people : the behavior or attitude of snobs ▪ the *snobbery* of some wine connoisseurs ▪ (*chiefly US*) By a kind of ***reverse snobbery***, he hated people from educated families and bragged about his working-class relatives. ▪ (*Brit*) ***inverted snobbery***

snob•bish /ˈsnɑːbɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : having or showing the attitude of people who think they are better than other people : of or relating to people who are snobs ▪ a *snobbish* rich kid ▪ a *snobbish* attitude

– **snob•bish•ly** *adv* ▪ She *snobbishly* refused to watch mainstream movies. – **snob•bish•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

snob•by /ˈsnɑːbi/ *adj* **snob•bi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* + *disapproving* : SNOBBISH ▪ a *snobby* brat ▪ *snobby* prep schools

sno–cone *variant spelling of* SNOW CONE

snog /ˈsnɑːg/ *verb* **snogs**; **snogged**; **snog•ging** *Brit, informal* : to kiss for a long time [*no obj*] They were *snogging* on the couch. [+ *obj*] They were *snogging* each other on the couch.

– **snog** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ They were sharing a *snog*.

snook /ˈsnʊk, *Brit* ˈsnuːk/ see *cock a snook at* at ²COCK

¹snook•er /ˈsnʊkɚ, *Brit* ˈsnuːkə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a version of the game of pool that is played chiefly in Britain with a cue ball, 15 red balls, and 6 balls of other colors on a table that has 6 pockets — often used before another noun ▪ a *snooker* player/table — compare BILLIARDS, POOL

²snooker *verb* **-kers**; **-kered**; **-ker•ing** [+ *obj*] *informal*

1 *US* : to trick or deceive (someone) ▪ She *snookered* [=*hoodwinked*] her parents into buying her a new car. — often used as *(be) snookered* ▪ I have a feeling we've *been snookered*.

2 *Brit* : to prevent (someone) from doing or achieving something ▪ He was ahead early in the match, but he ***snookered himself***. [=he caused his own defeat by performing badly] — often used as *(be) snookered* ▪ They wanted to build a museum but *were snookered* [=*thwarted*] by city regulations.

¹snoop /ˈsnuːp/ *verb* **snoops**; **snooped**; **snoop•ing** [*no obj*] *informal* : to look for private information about someone or something ▪ She locks up her diary to keep her brother from *snooping*. ▪ I caught her *snooping* (around) in my desk drawers. ▪ Government agencies have been *snooping* on them for years. ▪ She doesn't want reporters *snooping* into her personal life.

– **snoop•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] – **snooping** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ electronic/government *snooping* – **snooping** *adj* ▪ a *snooping* device/cop ▪ *snooping* software/technology

²snoop *noun, pl* **snoops** *informal*

1 [*count*] : someone who looks for private information about someone or something : someone who snoops ▪ No, I didn't read your e-mail. I'm no *snoop*.

2 [*singular*] : a secret look around a place ▪ We had a *snoop* around their apartment.

– **snoopy** /ˈsnuːpi/ *adj* **snoop•i•er**; **-est** ▪ a *snoopy* reporter

snoot /ˈsnuːt/ *noun, pl* **snoots** [*count*]

1 a : SNOUT 1 **b** *informal* + *humorous* : the nose of a person ▪ She has a great big *snoot*.

2 *US, informal* : a snooty person : SNOB ▪ That little *snoot* thinks he deserves only the best!

snooty /ˈsnuːti/ *adj* **snoot•i•er**; **est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* + *disapproving* : having or showing the insulting attitude of people who think that they are better, smarter, or more important than other people ▪ a *snooty* [=*snobbish*] rich girl ▪ a *snooty* accent/attitude ▪ a *snooty* restaurant

– **snoot•i•ness** /ˈsnuːtinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

¹snooze /ˈsnuːz/ *verb* **snooz•es**; **snoozed**; **snooz•ing** [*no obj*] *informal* : to sleep lightly especially for a short period of time : DOZE ▪ She lay down on the sofa and *snoozed* [=*napped*] for a while.

²snooze *noun* [*singular*] *informal*

1 : a short period of light sleep : NAP ▪ take/catch a *snooze*

2 *US* : something that is dull or boring — usually singular ▪ The novel was a real *snooze*. [=*bore*]

3 : SNOOZE BUTTON ▪ Most mornings I hit (the) *snooze* at least twice.

snooze button *noun, pl* ~ **-buttons** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a button on an alarm clock that stops the alarm from making noise for a short time so that the sleeper can rest for a few more minutes ▪ He woke up and hit the *snooze button*. — called also (*chiefly US*) *snooze alarm*

snooz•er /ˈsnuːzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US, informal* : something that is dull and boring — usually singular ▪ a *snoozer* of a film

S

[1]snore /ˈsnoɚ/ *verb* **snores**; **snored**; **snor•ing** [*no obj*] : to breathe noisily while sleeping ▪ My husband *snores*.
– **snor•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a loud *snorer* – **snoring** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]snore *noun, pl* **snores** [*count*]
1 : an act of snoring or the sound made when someone is snoring ▪ a loud/soft *snore*
2 *US, informal* : something that is dull and boring — usually singular ▪ The movie was a real *snore*. [=*snooze, bore*]

[1]snor•kel /ˈsnoɚkəl/ *noun, pl* **-kels** [*count*] : a special tube that makes it possible to breathe while you are swimming with your head underwater — see picture at SCUBA DIVING

[2]snorkel *verb* **-kels**; *US* **-keled** *or Brit* **-kelled**; *US* **-kel•ing** *or Brit* **-kel•ling** [*no obj*] : to swim underwater while using a snorkel ▪ We *snorkeled* in the Caribbean on our vacation last year.
– **snor•kel•er** (*US*) *or Brit* **snor•kel•ler** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] – **snorkeling** (*US*) *or Brit* **snorkelling** /ˈsnoɚkəlɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She ***went snorkeling*** with her sister.

[1]snort /ˈsnoɚt/ *verb* **snorts**; **snort•ed**; **snort•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to force air noisily through your nose ▪ The old dog *snorted* like a pig when it smelled food. ▪ He *snorted* with disgust.
2 a [*no obj*] : to express dislike, disapproval, anger, or surprise by snorting ▪ She *snorted* at his suggestion that he could fix the sink himself. **b** [+ *obj*] : to say (something) with a snort or while snorting ▪ "Yeah, you're a writer, and I'm the King of Spain!" he *snorted*.
3 [+ *obj*] : to take (a drug) into your body by inhaling it through your nose ▪ They were *snorting* cocaine.

[2]snort *noun, pl* **snorts** [*count*]
1 : an act or the sound of noisily forcing air through the nose : an act or the sound of snorting ▪ the *snorts* of a pig/horse/bull ▪ a *snort* of laughter/derision/disapproval
2 : an amount of a drug taken into the body by inhaling it through the nose ▪ a *snort* of cocaine

snot /ˈsnɑːt/ *noun, pl* **snots** *informal + impolite*
1 [*noncount*] : mucus from the nose ▪ *Snot* was dripping from his nose.
2 [*count*] *disapproving* : a rude and annoying person ▪ an obnoxious little *snot*

snot•ty /ˈsnɑːti/ *adj* **-ti•er**; **-ti•est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *informal*
1 : rude and annoying — used especially to describe people who think they are better than other people ▪ a *snotty* reply/manner/person ▪ She was very *snotty* to me.
2 : covered or filled with mucus from the nose : dirty with mucus ▪ a *snotty* nose
– **snot•ti•ly** /ˈsnɑːtəli/ *adv* ▪ She took a bite and said *snottily*, "So you think you can cook?" – **snot•ti•ness** /ˈsnɑːtinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

snout /ˈsnaʊt/ *noun, pl* **snouts** [*count*]
1 : the long nose of some animals (such as pigs) ▪ The dog raised his *snout* and sniffed. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The boat's *snout* bounced on the waves.
2 *informal + humorous* : the nose of a person ▪ a punch in the *snout*
have/get your snout in the trough see TROUGH

[1]snow /ˈsnoʊ/ *noun, pl* **snows**
1 : soft, white pieces of frozen water that fall to the ground from the sky in cold weather [*noncount*] *Snow* fell softly on the town. ▪ The mountains were blanketed/covered with *snow*. ▪ She took a walk in the *snow*. ▪ We got 12 inches of *snow*. [=we had a snowstorm that left 12 inches of snow on the ground] ▪ We haven't had much *snow* this year. ▪ The weatherman is forecasting ***heavy/light snow***. [=the weatherman is saying that a large/small amount of snow will fall] ▪ She went out to ***shovel the snow***. [*count*] Soon the warm spring sun will melt the winter *snows*. ▪ the *snows* of the Rocky Mountains ▪ A ***light/heavy snow*** was falling.
2 [*noncount*] : white dots that appear on the screen of a television when it is receiving a weak signal

[2]snow *verb* **snows**; **snowed**; **snow•ing**
1 [*no obj*] — used with *it* to say that snow is falling ▪ Look—*it's snowing*! [=snow is falling from the sky] ▪ *It snowed* all day. ▪ The weatherman says that *it* will *snow* tomorrow. ▪ *It* was *snowing* heavily, making it difficult to drive.
2 [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to impress, deceive, or persuade (someone) — usually used as *(be) snowed* ▪ She *was* not *snowed* by the special treatment she received. ▪ I *was* completely *snowed* by the presentation. [=I was very impressed by it]
snowed in *also Brit* ***snowed up*** **1** : unable to leave a place because a lot of snow is falling or has fallen ▪ We got *snowed in* at my sister's house. ▪ They were *snowed in* for a week. **2** : blocked with snow ▪ The road was *snowed in*.
snowed under : having to deal with too much of something : overwhelmed by something ▪ He was *snowed under* with e-mail. [=he had a lot of e-mails to respond to]

[1]snow•ball /ˈsnoʊˌbɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-balls** [*count*] : a ball of snow that someone makes usually for throwing ▪ This snow is perfect for making *snowballs*. ▪ During recess, the children had a ***snowball fight***. [=a playful fight in which people throw snowballs at each other]
a snowball's chance in hell *informal* : any chance at all — used to say that something is extremely unlikely or impossible ▪ Let's be honest—there isn't *a snowball's chance in hell* that we'll win this game. [=there's no chance that we'll win] ▪ Unfortunately, he ***doesn't have a snowball's chance in hell*** of getting the job. [=there is no chance that he will get the job; he will not get the job]

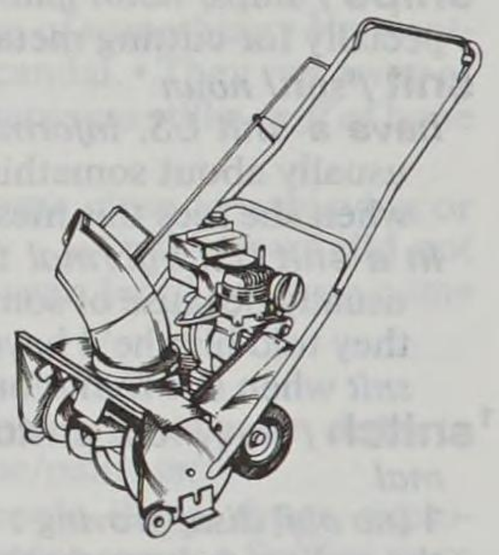
[2]snowball *verb* **-balls**; **-balled**; **-ball•ing** [*no obj*] : to increase, grow, etc., at a faster and faster rate ▪ Problems *snowball* when early trouble signs are ignored. ▪ What started as a small annual concert has *snowballed* into a full-fledged music festival. ▪ consumers dealing with *snowballing* debt

snowball effect *noun* [*singular*] : a situation in which one action or event causes many other similar actions or events ▪ The city hopes that these improvements will have a *snowball effect* and spur private investment in the community.

snow•bank /ˈsnoʊˌbæŋk/ *noun, pl* **-banks** [*count*] : a pile of snow especially along the side of a road ▪ The car slid into a *snowbank*.

snow•bird /ˈsnoʊˌbɚd/ *noun, pl* **-birds** [*count*] *US* : someone who spends the winter months in a warm place ▪ Like many of the state's *snowbirds*, they live in Florida from November through March.

snow•blow•er /ˈsnoʊˌblowɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a machine that picks up snow from a driveway, sidewalk, etc., and throws it aside


snowblower

[1]snow•board /ˈsnoʊˌboɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] : a board like a wide ski that is used for sliding down hills of snow while standing

[2]snowboard *verb* **-boards**; **-board•ed**; **-board•ing** [*no obj*] : to slide down a hill of snow on a snowboard especially as a sport ▪ Do you *snowboard*?
– **snow•board•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ She is an expert *snowboarder*. – **snowboarding** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *Snowboarding* is my favorite sport. ▪ He ***went snowboarding*** yesterday.

snow•bound /ˈsnoʊˈbaʊnd/ *adj*
1 : unable to leave a place because a lot of snow is falling or has fallen ▪ We were *snowbound* for a week.
2 : blocked with snow ▪ *snowbound* roads/airports

snow•capped /ˈsnoʊˌkæpt/ *adj* : having the top covered with snow ▪ *snowcapped* mountains

snow cone *or* **sno–cone** /ˈsnoʊˌkoʊn/ *noun, pl* **~ cones** *or* **-cones** [*count*] *US* : a cone-shaped paper cup that contains very small pieces of ice flavored with a sweet syrup

snow day *noun, pl* **~ days** [*count*] *US* : a day when schools and businesses are closed because a lot of snow is falling

snow•drift /ˈsnoʊˌdrɪft/ *noun, pl* **-drifts** [*count*] : a hill of snow that is formed by wind ▪ The car was almost buried in a *snowdrift*.

snow•drop /ˈsnoʊˌdrɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-drops** [*count*] : a small white flower that blooms in early spring

snow•fall /ˈsnoʊˌfɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-falls** : an amount of snow that falls in a single storm or in a particular period of time [*count*] The yearly *snowfall* here is over 30 feet! ▪ after a ***heavy snowfall*** [=after a large amount of snow has fallen] [*noncount*] 30 feet of annual *snowfall* ▪ The area is expecting ***heavy snowfall*** this weekend.

snow•field /ˈsnoʊˌfiːld/ *noun, pl* **-fields** [*count*] : a large flat area of fallen snow

snow•flake /ˈsnoʊˌfleɪk/ *noun, pl* **-flakes** [*count*] : a small,

soft piece of frozen water that falls from the sky as snow : a flake of snow

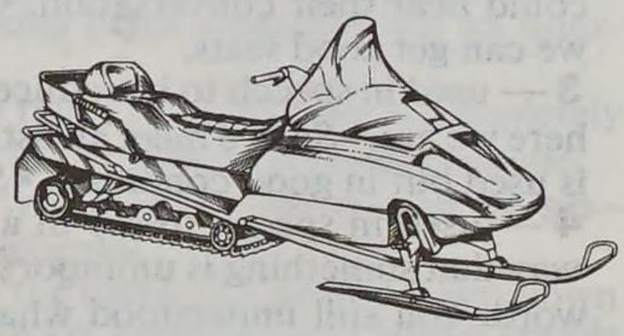
snow job *noun, pl* ~ **jobs** [*count*] *US, informal* : a strong effort to make someone believe something by saying things that are not true or sincere ▪ They'd been promised a big return on their investments, but all they got was a *snow job*.

snow line *noun, pl* ~ **lines** [*count*] : an imaginary line on a mountain that marks the height above which snow does not completely melt ▪ climbing above the *snow line*

snow•man /ˈsnoʊˌmæn/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-ˌmɛn/ [*count*] : a figure made of snow that is shaped to look like a person ▪ The kids built a *snowman* in the front yard.

snow•melt /ˈsnoʊˌmɛlt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : water from melting snow that flows over the surface of the ground into streams and rivers

snow•mo•bile /ˈsnoʊmoʊˌbi:l/ *noun, pl* **-biles** [*count*] : a vehicle used for traveling on snow or ice



snowmobile

snow•mo•bil•ing /ˈsnoʊmoʊˌbi:lɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity or sport of driving a snowmobile ▪ The park has trails for *snowmobiling*. ▪ Let's *go snowmobiling*.

– **snow•mo•bil•er** /ˈsnoʊmoʊˌbi:lɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ In winter the park is full of *snowmobilers*.

snow pea *noun, pl* ~ **peas** [*count*] *US* : a type of pea whose flat outer part and seeds may be eaten — called also (*Brit*) *mangetout*; see color picture on page C4

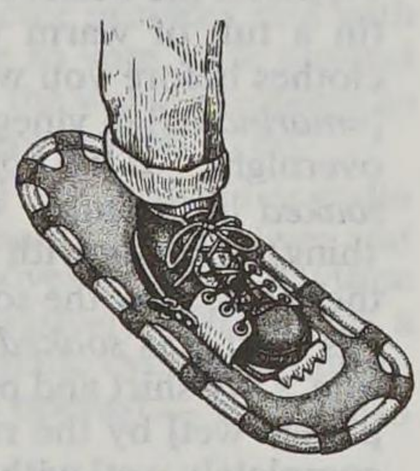
[1]snow•plow (*US*) *or Brit* **snow•plough** /ˈsnoʊˌplaʊ/ *noun, pl* **-plows** [*count*]

1 : a flat or curved piece of metal that is attached to the front of a vehicle and used for clearing snow from a road, driveway, etc.; *also* : a vehicle (such as a truck) that has a snowplow attached — see picture at PLOW

2 : a position in skiing in which the front ends of the skis are moved together in order to stop, slow down, or turn — often used before another noun ▪ a *snowplow* turn/stop

[2]snowplow (*US*) *or Brit* **snowplough** *verb* **-plows**; **-plowed**; **-plow•ing** [*no obj*] : to move the front ends of your skis together in order to stop, slow down, or turn ▪ He *snowplowed* to a stop.

[1]snow•shoe /ˈsnoʊˌʃu:/ *noun, pl* **-shoes** [*count*] : a light, wide frame that is attached to your shoe to make it easier to walk on soft snow without sinking



snowshoe

[2]snowshoe *verb* **-shoes**; **-shoed**; **-shoe•ing** [*no obj*] : to walk with snowshoes ▪ We *snowshoed* through the woods.

– **snowshoeing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *Snowshoeing* is one of her favorite winter activities. ▪ We *went snowshoeing* in the mountains.

– **snow•sho•er** /ˈsnoʊˌʃu:wɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

snow•storm /ˈsnoʊˌstoɚm/ *noun, pl* **-storms** [*count*] : a storm with a large amount of falling snow

snow•suit /ˈsnoʊˌsu:t/ *noun, pl* **-suits** [*count*] : a piece of clothing or a jacket and matching pants that is worn by children over their regular clothes when they go outdoors in the winter

snow thrower *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *US* : SNOWBLOWER

snow tire *noun, pl* ~ **tires** [*count*] *US* : a special tire that is used to give a vehicle better control when you are driving on snow and ice

snow–white /ˈsnoʊˈwaɪt/ *adj* : white as snow : completely white ▪ *snow-white* hair

snowy /ˈsnowi/ *adj* **snow•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : having a lot of snow ▪ a *snowy* day ▪ This is the *snowiest* winter in years. **b** : covered in snow ▪ *snowy* mountaintops/streets/fields

2 : white like snow ▪ *snowy* hair ▪ *snowy* white flower petals

Snr *abbr, Brit* senior ▪ Dave Smith *Snr*

snub /ˈsnʌb/ *verb* **snubs**; **snubbed**; **snub•bing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to ignore (someone) in a deliberate and insulting way ▪ She *snubbed* me in the hallway.

2 : to not accept or attend (something) as a way to show disapproval ▪ He *snubbed* their job offer. ▪ They deliberately *snubbed* the meeting.

– **snub** *noun, pl* **snubs** [*count*] ▪ His refusal to accept the award/invitation was a deliberate *snub*. ▪ Her name was left off the guest list by mistake, but she took it as a *snub*.

snub–nosed /ˈsnʌbˌnoʊzd/ *adj*

1 : having a short, wide nose ▪ a *snub-nosed* child

2 *of a gun* : having a very short barrel ▪ a *snub-nosed* revolver/handgun

snuck (*US*) *past tense and past participle of* [1]SNEAK

[1]snuff /ˈsnʌf/ *verb* **snuffs**; **snuffed**; **snuff•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (something, such as a candle or cigarette) to stop burning by pressing it with your fingers, covering it, etc. ▪ She *snuffed* the candles after everyone had left the table. — often + *out* ▪ She *snuffed out* her cigarette.

2 *informal* **a** : to cause the end of (something) ▪ The home run ended the game and *snuffed* their chances to win a championship. ▪ Their hopes were *snuffed*. — often + *out* ▪ Their chances of winning were *snuffed out*. ▪ Her life was *snuffed out* by cancer. **b** : to kill (someone) ▪ a gangster who was/got *snuffed* by a rival — often + *out* ▪ They threatened to *snuff* him *out*.

snuff it *Brit, informal* : to die ▪ He *snuffed it* at a young age.

[2]snuff *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of tobacco that is chewed, placed against the gums, or inhaled into the nose ▪ He took a pinch of *snuff*.

up to snuff *US, informal* : good enough : as good as expected or wanted ▪ I'm trying to get my math skills *up to snuff*. ▪ The performances by the actors were not *up to snuff*.

snuf•fle /ˈsnʌfəl/ *verb* **snuf•fles**; **snuf•fled**; **snuf•fling** [*no obj*] : to breathe loudly because you have a cold or have been crying ▪ The child was *snuffling* in his room.

[1]snug /ˈsnʌg/ *adj* **snug•ger**; **snug•gest** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : fitting closely and often too tightly ▪ a *snug* coat ▪ The shoes were too *snug*. ▪ These jeans are *snug* around the hips.

2 : providing or enjoying warmth, shelter, and comfort : COZY ▪ a *snug* little apartment/room ▪ We were *snug* in the cabin. ▪ She felt *snug* under the warm blanket. ▪ The children were *snug* in their beds.

– **snug•ly** *adv* ▪ The coat fits *snugly*. ▪ The children slept *snugly* in bed.

[2]snug *noun, pl* **snugs** [*count*] *Brit* : a small private room in a pub

snug•gle /ˈsnʌgəl/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **snug•gles**; **snug•gled**; **snug•gling**

1 [*no obj*] : to lie or sit close together in a comfortable position ▪ The puppy *snuggled* up against the sleeping boy. ▪ The boy *snuggled* close to his mother. ▪ We *snuggled* (together) under a blanket.

2 [+ *obj*] : to place (something) close to or against someone or something : NESTLE ▪ The dog *snuggled* its nose between the pillows. ▪ The baby *snuggled* his head against my chest.

[1]so /ˈsoʊ/ *adv*

1 a : to a degree that is suggested or stated ▪ She had never felt *so* happy. [=had never felt as happy as she did then] ▪ You shouldn't eat *so* fast. [=you should eat more slowly] ▪ I don't think they can score twice in *so* short a time. ▪ It was hot last summer—but less *so* than this summer. [=but not as hot as it was this summer] ▪ The play was impressive—***(all) the more so*** [=it was even more impressive] because the students had written it themselves. ▪ There has always been an interest in genetic cloning, but ***never more so*** than in recent years. — often + *that* ▪ She was *so* tired *that* she almost fell asleep at the dinner table. ▪ The library is *so* large (*that*) you could get lost in it. — often used with *as* when making a comparison, when giving an example of some quality, or when describing someone or something ▪ She had never been *so* [=*as*] nervous *as* when she performed for the queen. ▪ His latest novel is not *so* suspenseful *as* his others. ▪ How can you be *so* cruel *as* to criticize her weight? ▪ Would you be *so* kind *as* to help me with my bags? [=would you please help me with my bags?] ▪ Sailing is ***not so much*** a science ***as*** an art. [=sailing is more of an art than a science] — see also SO MUCH AS (below) **b** : to a great degree : very or extremely ▪ He looked *so* handsome in his suit. ▪ We are all *so* excited about the trip. ▪ I'm *so* happy that you decided to join us for dinner. ▪ He loves her *so*. [=very much] ▪ ***Not so long ago*** [=a short time ago], she was the nation's best gymnast. ▪ I feel ***so much*** better after taking that nap. ▪ Thank you *so much* for your help. ▪ The game is *so much* fun. [=is very enjoyable] ▪ He dislikes her *so*

S

much that he won't even talk to her. ▪ The test was not ***so very*** hard after all. ✧ When this sense of *so* is used before an adjective alone, it is considered informal. ▪ The apple pie tasted *so* good. [=tasted very good] ▪ This computer is *so* out-of-date. **c** *informal* : without any doubt — used to make a statement more forceful ▪ I *so* don't believe you. ▪ I *so* wanted them to win. ▪ That was *so* not the right thing to say! ▪ That shirt is *so* you. [=it looks like something you would wear; it is very typical of your style] ▪ Her hairstyle is *so* 1980s. [=it's out of date and looks like the hairstyles that were popular in the 1980s] ▪ It's *so* not fair. [=it's very unfair]

2 : to a definite but not specified amount ▪ "He is about *so* tall," she said, raising her hand about six feet in the air. ▪ I can only move *so* fast. ▪ I have never seen ***so many*** geese on one pond before. ▪ I can only do *so many* things at a time. ▪ I can do only ***so much*** in a day. ▪ There is still *so much* to be done before the guests arrive. ▪ There is only *so much* negative criticism a person can take. [=a person can only take a certain amount of negative criticism] ▪ The house burned ***like so much*** paper. [=like something made of paper] ▪ The explanation sounded *like so much* [=like a lot of] nonsense.

3 : in the same way ▪ She was always a hard worker and *so* was her father. [=and her father was too] ▪ "I'm going to the concert." "*So* am I." [=I am also going] ▪ "I wish I had a coffee right now." "***So do I***" [=I do too] ▪ (*US, informal*) "I really like her music." "***So don't I***" [=so do I; I do too]

4 : in the way that is stated or suggested ▪ The bell rang, we took our seats, and *so* began another new school year. — often + *that* ▪ The football arena was *so* designed *that* every seat had a good view of the field. ▪ ***It (just) so happens that*** I know her son. [=I happen to know her son]

5 *informal* : most certainly ▪ "I never said that" "You did *so*." [=*too*, *indeed*] ▪ "You're not really leaving." "I am *so*."

and so forth *or* ***and so on*** : and other things often of the same or similar kind ▪ Magazines, newspapers, journals, *and so forth* are on the second floor of the library. ▪ She wanted to know about my family, my childhood, my hopes and fears, (and so on) *and so forth*. ▪ I bought milk, eggs, bread, *and so on*.

even so see ²EVEN
ever so see EVER
every so often see EVERY
how so see ¹HOW
never so much as see NEVER
so far see ¹FAR
so help me (God) see ¹HELP
so long see ²LONG

so much : an amount, price, etc., that is not stated or known ▪ You are charged *so much* a mile when renting a vehicle. ▪ You can only believe *so much* of what he says. [=you can only believe some of what he says]

so much as — used after a negative word (such as *not* or a contraction of *not*) to stress the smallness of an amount or effort ▪ We didn't hear *so much as* a word from her the whole time. [=we didn't hear a word from her] ▪ Not only did they not help, they didn't *so much as* [=*even*] offer to help! ▪ They ended their date without *so much as* a hug. — see also ¹SO 1a (above)

so much for *informal* **1** — used to say that everything that can be said about or done with something or someone has been said or done ▪ *So much for* the history of the case. Now we'll look at its implications. ▪ Well, *so much for* that idea. [=that idea was not successful] We'll have to try something else. **2** — used to say that something has ended ▪ Well, it's raining. *So much for* our perfect weather.

so much so (that) : to the extent that ▪ The twins look alike—*so much so that* even their parents sometimes confuse them. [=the twins look so alike that even their parents sometimes confuse them]

so much the better see ³BETTER
so to speak see SPEAK

²SO *pronoun* — used to refer to something that has just been stated or suggested ▪ "Has she left?" "I believe *so*." [=I believe she has left] ▪ If you have not yet returned the form, please do *so* immediately. [=please return it immediately] ▪ "Is it true?" "I think/hope *so*." ▪ They're going to help us move, or *so* they said. ▪ If you wanted to leave early, you should have said *so*. ▪ "They're getting married." "Really? Who said *so*?" ▪ "I heard you're moving to New York." "Who told you *so*?" [=who told you that?] ▪ I didn't like the dress and told her *so*. [=told her I didn't like it] ▪ "Is he coming to the meeting?" "*So* he says." [=he says he's coming] ▪ "You were late this morning." "*So* I was—what's it to you?" ▪ I might be late. ***If so***[=if I am late], please start the meeting without me. ▪ Fold the paper ***like so*** [=like this] ▪ If they insist on going, ***so be it*** [=if they insist on going, they will go, and there is nothing I can do to stop them] ▪ "Today is the first day of winter." "Why, ***so it is***"

if I may say so see ¹SAY

or so — used to say that a number, amount, etc., is not exact ▪ We plan to stay a week *or so*. [=we plan to stay about a week] ▪ Tickets cost $20 *or so*.

³SO *conj*

1 : for that reason : and therefore ▪ We were bored with the movie, *so* we left. ▪ I don't want to go, *so* I won't. ▪ There are no more chairs available, *so* you'll have to stand.

2 — used to say the reason for something ▪ Please be quiet *so* I can study. ▪ She pulled him to the side ***so that*** no one else could hear their conversation. ▪ Let's get there early *so that* we can get good seats.

3 — used in speech to introduce a statement or question ▪ *So* here we are. ▪ *So*, we meet at last! ▪ *So*, as I was saying, the car is used but in good condition. ▪ *So*, how did the test go?

4 — used in speech to say in a somewhat rude or annoyed way that something is unimportant ▪ *So* I mispronounced the word. You still understood what I meant. ▪ "I'm taller than you!" "*So*?" ▪ She has a glass of wine now and then—***so what***? = *So what* if she has a glass of wine now and then? [=why should anyone object if she has a glass of wine now and then?]

5 — used in speech to say that you have just become aware of someone or something ▪ *So*, that's who did it! ▪ *So* there you are. I've been looking for you. ▪ "Goodbye, then." "*So* you're not coming with me after all!"

so as see ²AS
so far as see ¹FAR
so long as see ²LONG

⁴SO *adj, not used before a noun* : agreeing with actual facts : TRUE ▪ You are saying things that are just not *so*. ▪ I heard you met the president—is that *so*? ▪ She thinks I'm angry at her, but that just isn't *so*. [=I'm not angry at her]

just so see ²JUST

⁵SO /ˈsoʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *music* : SOL

So. *or* **so.** *abbr* south or southern

SO *abbr* **1** strikeout **2** significant other

¹soak /ˈsoʊk/ *verb* **soaks**; **soaked**; **soak·ing**

1 a : to put (something) in a liquid for a period of time [+ *obj*] *Soak* the beans overnight (in water). ▪ He *soaked* his feet (in a tub of warm water). ▪ You should *soak* those dirty clothes before you wash them. ▪ The cucumbers are *soaked* [=*marinated*] in vinegar. [*no obj*] The beans *soaked* in water overnight. **b** [*no obj*] : to take a long bath ▪ He relaxed and *soaked* in the tub. **c** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) very wet with water or another liquid ▪ After planting the seeds, *soak* the soil. ▪ She *soaked* the dog with the hose. ▪ His shirt was *soaked* with sweat. ▪ I was/got *soaked* by the rain. ▪ My shirt and pants were ***soaked through*** [=made completely wet] by the rain. ▪ I was ***soaked to the skin*** [=made completely wet] within minutes.

2 [*no obj*] *of a liquid* : to enter or pass *through* or *into* something ▪ The oil *soaked into* the wood. ▪ Sweat *soaked through* his shirt. ▪ Rain *soaked through* her jacket. ▪ Blood *soaked through* the bandage.

3 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to make (someone) pay a lot of money for something ▪ People are getting *soaked* by city taxes. ▪ They're *soaking* their customers by charging high fees for routine services.

soak in [*phrasal verb*] *of a liquid* : to enter something by a gradual process ▪ Pour water around the base of the plant and allow it to *soak in*. — often used figuratively ▪ He sat quietly, letting her words *soak in*. ▪ Close your eyes and let the music *soak in*.

soak up [*phrasal verb*] ***soak up (something)*** *or* ***soak (something) up*** **1** : to take in (liquid) : ABSORB ▪ The rag *soaked up* most of the water. ▪ This kind of paper *soaks up* ink easily. **2** : to enjoy feeling or experiencing (something pleasant) in usually a slow or relaxed way ▪ We went to the beach and *soaked up* the sun/sunshine all afternoon. ▪ I sat at my table for an hour *soaking up* [=*savoring*] the atmosphere of the café. ▪ The performers stood on the stage, *soaking up* the applause. **3** : to learn and remember (something) quickly ▪ He eagerly *soaked up* [=*took in*] every word she said. ▪ She has an ability to *soak up* new information very quickly. **4** : to use a large amount of (mon-

ey, supplies, etc.) ▪ This project is *soaking up* resources that could be used elsewhere.

[2]soak *noun* [*singular*]
1 : an act of letting something stay in a liquid for a long time in order to soften or clean it ▪ This shirt needs a good *soak* [=needs to be soaked] to get out the stains.
2 *informal* : a long bath ▪ I had a long, hot *soak* in the tub.

soaked *adj* : made completely wet by water or another liquid ▪ a *soaked* towel ▪ My socks are *soaked*. — often used in combination ▪ a blood-*soaked* bandage ▪ an oil-*soaked* rag ▪ a rain-*soaked* field — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a sun-*soaked* beach

soaking *noun* [*singular*]
1 : an act of leaving something in a liquid for a long time : SOAK ▪ These dishes need a good *soaking*.
2 : an act of making someone or something very wet ▪ People at the game got a *soaking* [=got soaked] from an unexpected rain shower.
– **soaking** *adj* ▪ a *soaking* rain ▪ I was *soaking* [=completely wet] after walking home in the rain. ▪ I was ***soaking wet***.

so–and–so /'sowən,soʊ/ *noun, pl* **so–and–sos** *or* **so–and–so's** /'sowən,soʊz/ *informal*
1 [*noncount*] — used when the name of a person is unknown or not important ▪ She's always gossiping and telling people that *so-and-so* [=some person] is getting married or divorced or something. ▪ Let's say Mr. *So-and-so*, who is related to you, asks to borrow $1,000. Would you give it to him?
2 [*count*] : a rude or annoying person ▪ He's an arrogant *so-and-so*. ▪ I can't believe that stupid *so-and-so* got the job.

[1]soap /'soʊp/ *noun, pl* **soaps**
1 : a substance that is used for washing something [*noncount*] Make sure you use *soap* and water to wash your hands. ▪ a bar of *soap* ▪ dish/laundry *soap* [=*detergent*] ▪ *soap* bubbles/scum ▪ a *soap* dish/dispenser [*count*] The store sells many different brands of liquid/hand/antibacterial *soaps*. — see picture at GROOMING
2 [*count*] *informal* : SOAP OPERA ▪ Her first acting job was on a *soap*. ▪ a *soap* star

[2]soap *verb* **soaps**; **soaped**; **soap·ing** [+ *obj*] : to rub soap over or into (someone or something) ▪ I *soap* my hair/body first when I take a shower. ▪ He *soaped* and rinsed the car. — often + *up* ▪ He *soaped up* the car.

soap·box /'soʊp,bɑ:ks/ *noun, pl* **-boxes** [*count*] : a box or small platform that someone stands on to give a speech to people in an outdoor, public place ▪ a *soapbox* speech — often used figuratively to describe making speeches or expressing strong opinions ▪ His fame as an actor provides him with a *soapbox* to encourage young people to vote. ▪ He jumped ***on the soapbox*** and spoke out against the war. ▪ She needs to get ***off her soapbox*** and stop telling people what to do.

soap opera *noun, pl* ~ **-eras** [*count*] : a television or radio program that has continuing stories about the daily lives and problems of a group of people ▪ She loves to watch daytime *soap operas*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ My life is a *soap opera*. [=my life has a lot of dramatic events and problems like the ones that occur in soap operas] — called also (*informal*) *soap*

soap powder *noun, pl* ~ **-ders** [*count, noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : a powder that is made from soap and other substances and used for washing clothes

soap·stone /'soʊp,stoʊn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of soft stone that feels like soap — often used before another noun ▪ a *soapstone* sculpture

soap·suds /'soʊp,sʌdz/ *noun* [*plural*] : the bubbles that form when water is mixed with soap : SUDS

soapy /'soʊpi/ *adj* **soap·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : containing soap ▪ *soapy* water
2 : like soap ▪ The stone has a *soapy* feel.

soar /'soɚ/ *verb* **soars**; **soared**; **soar·ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to increase very quickly in amount or price ▪ The temperature *soared* to 100 degrees. ▪ Stock prices are beginning to *soar*. ▪ The oil shortage sent prices *soaring*. ▪ The nation's divorce rate has *soared*. ▪ Interest rates have *soared* (up) to new heights.
2 a : to fly or sail often at a great height by floating on air currents ▪ The eagle *soared* above us. ▪ A hang glider *soared* in the air. **b** : to rise quickly upward to a great height ▪ The rocket *soared* into the sky. ▪ The ball *soared* out of the stadium. — often used figuratively ▪ The song is *soaring* in popularity. = The popularity of the song is *soaring*. ▪ Her ***spirits soared*** [=she became very happy and excited] when she heard the news.
3 : to reach or rise to a great height ▪ The mountain *soars* over 20,000 feet above sea level.
– **soaring** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *soaring* divorce rate ▪ a *soaring* eagle ▪ She is enjoying her *soaring* popularity. ▪ *soaring* skyscrapers

sob /'sɑ:b/ *verb* **sobs**; **sobbed**; **sob·bing**
1 [*no obj*] : to cry noisily while taking in short, sudden breaths ▪ He began to *sob* uncontrollably. ▪ She could not stop *sobbing*.
2 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) while sobbing ▪ "I hate you," she *sobbed*. ▪ She *sobbed* (out) her goodbye.
– **sob** *noun, pl* **sobs** [*count*] ▪ "I don't know what I'll do," she said with a *sob*.

SOB /ˌɛsˌoʊ'bi:/ *noun, pl* **SOBs** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : SON OF A BITCH ▪ I hate that miserable *SOB*.

[1]so·ber /'soʊbɚ/ *adj* **so·ber·er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : not drunk ▪ I'm driving, so I have to stay *sober* tonight. ▪ She has been *sober* for three years. [=she stopped drinking alcohol three years ago] ▪ I haven't been drinking at all. I'm ***(as) sober as a judge***. [=I'm completely sober] ▪ He claims that he was ***stone cold sober*** [=completely sober] when the accident happened.
2 : having or showing a very serious attitude or quality ▪ He is a *sober*, hardworking farmer. ▪ The story is a *sober* look at drug abuse. ▪ Illness is a *sober* reminder of our mortality. ▪ The article is a *sober* reflection on the state of our nation.
3 : plain in color ▪ a *sober* gray suit
– **so·ber·ly** *adv* ▪ He talked *soberly* about his life. ▪ She was *soberly* dressed.

[2]sober *verb* **-bers**; **-bered**; **-ber·ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) serious or thoughtful ▪ He returned home from the war, saddened and *sobered* by his experiences.
sober up [*phrasal verb*] ***sober up*** *or* ***sober (someone) up*** : to become sober or less drunk or to make (a drunk person) sober or less drunk ▪ You need to *sober up* before you go. ▪ I tried to *sober* her *up*. ▪ I have to *sober* myself *up*.

so·ber·ing /'soʊbərɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : making you feel serious and thoughtful ▪ His death is a *sobering* reminder of the dangers of mountaineering. ▪ a *sobering* fact/thought

so·bri·ety /sə'brajəti/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the state of not being drunk ▪ The police tested him for *sobriety*. [=tested him to see if he was sober] ▪ They did a *sobriety* test on him. ▪ He has had 10 years of *sobriety*. [=he stopped drinking alchohol 10 years ago]
2 *formal* : the quality of being serious ▪ the *sobriety* of the situation

so·bri·quet *also* **sou·bri·quet** /'soʊbrɪ,keɪ/ *noun, pl* **-quets** [*count*] *formal* : a name or phrase that describes the character of someone or something : NICKNAME ▪ Baseball player Ty Cobb was also known by the *sobriquet* "The Georgia Peach."

sob story *noun, pl* ~ **-ries** [*count*] *informal* : a sad story about yourself that you tell in order to make people feel sorry for you ▪ She told a *sob story* about how she had to starve herself to pay for the rent. ▪ I don't want to hear any of your *sob stories*.

soc. *abbr* **1** society **2** sociology

so–called /'soʊ'kɑ:ld/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 — used to indicate the name that is commonly or usually used for something ▪ an epidemic of the *so-called* mad cow disease ▪ *so-called* Generation Xers
2 — used to indicate a name or description that you think is not really right or suitable ▪ I was lied to by a *so-called* friend. [=by someone who claims to be my friend but who is not really my friend] ▪ The restaurant's *so-called* specials can be ordered any day of the week.

soc·cer /'sɑ:kɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a game played between two teams of 11 players in which a round ball is moved toward a goal usually by kicking ▪ Both of their children play *soccer*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *soccer* ball/player/team/coach/field/game — called also (*Brit*) *football*; see picture at BALL; see also TABLE SOCCER

soccer mom *noun, pl* ~ **moms** [*count*] *US, informal* : a mother usually from the middle class who brings her children to soccer games and similar activities — often used to refer in a general way to such women as a group of people having similar interests, values, etc. ▪ politicians trying to win the vote of *soccer moms*

so·cia·ble /'soʊʃəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : liking to be with and talk to other people ▪ They are *sociable* people who enjoy having parties. ▪ Their daughter is very *sociable*. [=*friendly*]

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2 : involving or allowing friendly and pleasant social relations ▪ They had a very *sociable* evening.
– **so·cia·bil·i·ty** /ˌsoʊʃəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]so·cial /ˈsoʊʃəl/ *adj*
1 a : relating to or involving activities in which people spend time talking to each other or doing enjoyable things with each other ▪ She has poor/good *social* skills. ▪ The vacation resort held a lot of *social* events. ▪ She has a busy/hectic ***social life*** [=she spends a lot of time doing things with her friends, going to parties, etc.] ▪ I joined the club to improve my *social life*. ▪ He's a ***social drinker*** [=he only drinks alcohol at parties and other social occasions] ▪ ***social drinking*** **b** [*more* ~; *most* ~] : liking to be with and talk to people : happy to be with people ▪ He's not feeling very *social* [=*sociable*] this evening. ▪ Her sister is much more *social* than she is. — opposite ANTISOCIAL
2 : of or relating to people or society in general ▪ *social* institutions like marriage and family ▪ Health care is a major *social* issue. ▪ Child abuse has become a serious *social* problem. ▪ Martin Luther King, Jr., fought for *social* change/reform.
3 : tending to form relationships and live together in groups : not solitary ▪ Most humans are *social* beings. ▪ Bees are *social* insects. ▪ Elephants are *social* animals.
4 *always used before a noun* : of, relating to, or based on rank in a particular society ▪ The established *social* order was challenged by the peasants' rebellion. ▪ Men and women are considered *social* equals in our culture. ▪ *Social* classes are based on wealth and property. ▪ The family's *social* status is middle class.
– **so·cial·ly** /ˈsoʊʃəli/ *adv* ▪ She's *socially* active in the community. ▪ I only know her *socially*. ▪ He only drinks *socially*. [=he only drinks alcohol at parties and other social events] ▪ *socially* unacceptable behavior ▪ *socially* disadvantaged families

[2]social *noun, pl* **-cials**
1 [*count*] : an informal social event for members of a group ▪ The club/church has *socials* every month.
2 ***the social*** *Brit, somewhat informal* : SOCIAL SECURITY ▪ He's living on *the social* now.

social climber *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *disapproving* : someone who tries to gain a higher social position or status (such as by becoming friendly with wealthy people)

social democracy *noun, pl* ~ **-cies** *formal*
1 [*noncount*] : a political movement that uses principles of democracy to change a capitalist country to a socialist one
2 [*count*] : a country that uses both capitalist and socialist practices
– **social democrat** *noun, pl* ~ **-crats** [*count*] – **social democratic** *adj*

social engineering *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the practice of making laws or using other methods to influence public opinion and solve social problems or improve social conditions
– **social engineer** *noun, pl* ~ **-neers** [*count*]

social housing *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : houses or apartments that are made available to be rented at a low cost by poor people

so·cial·ism /ˈsoʊʃəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a way of organizing a society in which major industries are owned and controlled by the government rather than by individual people and companies — compare CAPITALISM, COMMUNISM

so·cial·ist /ˈsoʊʃəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]
1 : a person who believes in socialism
2 ***Socialist*** : a member of a political party that supports socialism
– **socialist** *or* **Socialist** *adj* ▪ a *socialist* country/government ▪ *socialist* ideas ▪ the *Socialist* party – **so·cial·is·tic** /ˌsoʊʃəˈlɪstɪk/ *adj* ▪ *socialistic* countries/ideas

so·cial·ite /ˈsoʊʃəˌlaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-ites** [*count*] : someone who is well-known in fashionable society and is often seen at parties and other social events for wealthy people ▪ New York City *socialites*

so·cial·ize *also Brit* **so·cial·ise** /ˈsoʊʃəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es; -ized; -iz·ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to talk to and do things with other people in a friendly way ▪ She danced and *socialized* at the party. — often + *with* ▪ He doesn't *socialize with* the other players on the team. ▪ She enjoys *socializing with* her coworkers.
2 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to teach (someone) to behave in a way that is acceptable in society — usually used as *(be) socialized* ▪ Children *are socialized* at an early age.
– **so·cial·i·za·tion** *also Brit* **so·cial·i·sa·tion** /ˌsoʊʃələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌsəʊʃəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *socialization* of children

socialized medicine *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : medical and hospital services that are provided by a government and paid for by taxes

social science *noun, pl* ~ **-ences**
1 [*noncount*] : the study of human society
2 [*count*] : a particular area of study that relates to human behavior and society ▪ Economics is a *social science*.
– **social scientist** *noun, pl* ~ **-tists** [*count*]

social security *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a program in which the government provides money to people who are unable to work because they are old, disabled, or unemployed
2 *or* ***Social Security*** : a program in the U.S. that requires workers to make regular payments to a government fund which is used to make payments to people who are unable to work because they are old, disabled, or retired ▪ *Social Security* benefits/tax — abbr. *SS*
3 *or* ***Social Security*** : money that is paid out through a social security program ▪ She is living on *social security*. ▪ He began collecting/receiving *Social Security* checks.

Social Security number *noun, pl* ~ **-bers** [*count*] : a number that is given to each citizen of the U.S. by the government and that is used for the Social Security program and for official forms and records — abbr. *SSN*

social services *noun* [*plural*] : a program supported by a government or private organization that helps people who have financial or family problems ▪ the Department of *Social Services* ▪ Contact *social services* for help.
– **social service** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *social service* agency/worker

social studies *noun* [*plural*] : a course of study that deals with human relationships and the way society works

social work *noun* [*noncount*] : the work done by someone who works for a government or private organization that helps people who have financial or family problems ▪ She is doing *social work*. ▪ He has a job in *social work*.
– **social worker** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*]

so·ci·e·tal /səˈsajətl/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : of or relating to society : SOCIAL ▪ *societal* changes/needs/problems/values

so·ci·ety /səˈsajəti/ *noun, pl* **-et·ies**
1 [*noncount*] : people in general thought of as living together in organized communities with shared laws, traditions, and values ▪ Poverty hurts *society* as a whole.
2 : the people of a particular country, area, time, etc., thought of especially as an organized community [*count*] ancient/modern *societies* ▪ Christian/consumer *societies* ▪ We need to do more to help the poorer members of our *society*. [*noncount*] the values of Western/American *society* ▪ wealthy/poor members of *society* ▪ These problems affect only a small segment of *society*. [=only a small number of people] ▪ That kind of behavior isn't allowed in ***polite society***. [=among people of the middle and upper classes who speak and behave in a polite way]
3 [*noncount*] : people who are fashionable and wealthy ▪ She was introduced to *society* at a formal reception. ▪ The club's members are drawn from the ranks of ***high society***. — often used before another noun ▪ *society* ladies/fashions/parties ▪ the newspaper's *society* page
4 [*count*] : a group of people who work together or regularly meet because of common interests, beliefs, or activities ▪ a literary/musical *society* ▪ historical *societies* ▪ The American Cancer *Society* ▪ The *Society* of Newspaper Editors
5 [*noncount*] *formal* : the state of being with other people ▪ He avoided the *society* [=*company*] of other writers.

socio- *combining form*
1 : society ▪ *socio*logy
2 : social and ▪ *socio*economic

so·cio·eco·nom·ic /ˌsoʊsijoʊˌɛkəˈnɑːmɪk/ *adj, formal* : of, relating to, or involving a combination of social and economic factors ▪ Their *socioeconomic* backgrounds are very different.
– **so·cio·eco·nom·i·cal·ly** /ˌsoʊsijoʊˌɛkəˈnɑːmɪkli/ *adv*

so·ci·ol·o·gy /ˌsoʊsiˈɑːlədʒi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the study of society, social institutions, and social relationships — abbr. *soc.*
– **so·cio·log·i·cal** /ˌsoʊsijəˈlɑːdʒɪkəl/ *adj* ▪ The problem is *sociological*. ▪ a *sociological* study – **so·cio·log·i·cal·ly** /ˌsoʊsijəˈlɑːdʒɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The experiment is *sociologically*

important. – **so•ci•ol•o•gist** /ˌsoʊsiˈɑːlədʒɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*]

so•cio•path /ˈsoʊsijəˌpæθ/ *noun, pl* **-paths** [*count*] : someone who behaves in a dangerous or violent way towards other people and does not feel guilty about such behavior – **so•cio•path•ic** /ˌsoʊsijəˈpæθɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *sociopathic* personality ▪ *sociopathic* behavior ▪ He is *sociopathic*.

[1]sock /ˈsɑːk/ *noun, pl* **socks** [*count*] : a piece of clothing that is worn on your foot and that covers your ankle and sometimes the lower part of your leg ▪ a white cotton *sock* — usually plural ▪ a pair of *socks* ▪ wool/ankle/athletic *socks* — see color picture on page C13; see also BOBBY SOCKS, TUBE SOCK

knock/blow your socks off *informal* : to affect or impress you in a very strong and favorable way ▪ This song will *knock your socks off*. [=you will enjoy this song very much]

put a sock in it *informal* — used to tell someone to stop talking ▪ I wish someone would tell him to *put a sock in it*.

– compare [2]SOCK

[2]sock *noun, pl* **socks** [*count*] *informal* : a hard hit with the fist : PUNCH — usually singular ▪ She gave him a *sock* in the jaw/stomach. — compare [1]SOCK

[3]sock *verb* **socks**; **socked**; **sock•ing** [+ *obj*] *informal* : to hit (someone or something) hard ▪ He *socked* [=*punched*] him in the eye/nose/jaw. ▪ (*baseball*) He *socked* a home run over the left-field wall. — often used figuratively ▪ The city was *socked* by a blizzard. ▪ He *socked* us with a huge lawsuit.

sock away [*phrasal verb*] ***sock away (something) or sock (something) away*** *US, informal* : to save (something, such as money) by putting it in a safe place ▪ My father had been *socking away* money since I was a young boy.

socked in *US* : affected by bad weather conditions that prevent people from leaving ▪ The whole metro region is *socked in* with snow. ▪ The airport was *socked in* by fog.

sock it to *informal* : to do or say something to (someone) in a strong and forceful way ▪ He really *socked it to* her. ▪ Legislators are getting ready to *sock it to* homeowners with high property tax increases.

sock•et /ˈsɑːkət/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*]

1 a : a device in a wall into which an electric cord can be plugged : OUTLET ▪ She plugged the lamp into the *socket*. **b** : an opening on a piece of electrical equipment into which a plug, lightbulb, etc., fits ▪ He screwed the lightbulb into the *socket*.

2 : a hollow part in a bone that holds an eye, a tooth, or another bone ▪ an inflamed tooth *socket* ▪ the hip *socket* ▪ His shoulder popped out of its *socket*.

socket wrench *noun, pl* ~ **wrenches** [*count*] *US* : a tool that has a part which fits over the end of a bolt or nut and is used to turn it

So•crat•ic /səˈkrætɪk/ *adj, formal* : of or relating to the ancient Greek philosopher Socrates, his followers, or his method of asking questions to discover the truth ▪ *Socratic* questioning/thinking ▪ the ***Socratic method***

[1]sod /ˈsɑːd/ *noun, pl* **sods** *chiefly US*

1 [*noncount*] : the upper layer of soil that is made up of grass and plant roots ▪ The grounds crew repaired the *sod* [=*turf*] after the football game.

2 [*count, noncount*] : a piece of sod ▪ They were laying *sod* in the yard.

– compare [2]SOD

[2]sod *noun, pl* **sods** *Brit, informal*

1 [*count*] **a** *offensive* : a person who is unpleasant, offensive, or annoying ▪ He's a nasty old *sod*. **b** *impolite* : a man who you think is lucky, unlucky, etc. ▪ That poor old *sod* has been waiting there for hours.

2 [*singular*] *impolite* : something that is annoying or difficult ▪ The problem was a real *sod* to fix.

give a sod *also* ***care a sod*** *Brit, informal + impolite* : to care at all about someone or something — used in negative statements ▪ I don't *give/care a sod* about what people say.

odds and sods *Brit, informal* : ODDS AND ENDS ▪ The store sells art supplies and other *odds and sods*.

sod all *Brit, informal + impolite* : nothing at all ▪ You've done (sweet) *sod all* to help me! ▪ They were wearing *sod all*.

– compare [1]SOD

[3]sod *verb* **sods**; **sod•ded**; **sod•ding** [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal + impolite* — used to show that you are angry or annoyed at a person, thing, or situation ▪ *Sod* [=*damn*] you! I'm not going to do it. ▪ *Sod* this machine. ▪ ***Sod it (all).*** I can't be bothered with this.

sod off *Brit, informal + impolite* — used to tell someone to leave or go away ▪ *Sod off* or I'll call the police.

so•da /ˈsoʊdə/ *noun, pl* **-das**

1 a [*noncount*] : SODA WATER ▪ Scotch and *soda* **b** [*count, noncount*] *chiefly US* : SODA POP ▪ orange/grape *soda* ▪ I ordered fries and a *soda*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *soda* machine ▪ *soda* cans/bottles

2 [*count*] *US* : a drink made of soda water, flavoring, and often ice cream ▪ a chocolate *soda* ▪ an ice-cream *soda*

3 [*noncount*] : a white powdery substance that contains salt and is used in cooking and medicine — see also BAKING SODA, WASHING SODA

soda cracker *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a thin, usually salted cracker that is often served with soup

soda fountain *noun, pl* ~ **-tains** [*count*] *chiefly US, somewhat old-fashioned* : a counter usually in a store at which cold drinks, types of ice cream, etc., are prepared and served

soda jerk *noun, pl* ~ **jerks** [*count*] *US, old-fashioned* : a person who prepares and serves drinks and ice cream at a soda fountain

soda pop *noun, pl* ~ **pops** [*count, noncount*] *US* : a drink consisting of soda water, flavoring, and a sweet syrup — called also *pop*, (*chiefly US*) *soda*

soda water *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count, noncount*] : water that has bubbles in it and that is often used to make other drinks — called also (*US*) *club soda, soda*

sod•den /ˈsɑːdn̩/ *adj* : very heavy and wet ▪ *sodden* sandbags/fields

sod•ding /ˈsɑːdɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun, Brit, informal + impolite*

1 — used to show that you are angry, annoyed, or surprised ▪ The *sodding* [=*damn*] thing broke again!

2 — used to emphasize a statement ▪ That *sodding* (great) lorry almost crashed into me.

so•di•um /ˈsoʊdijəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a soft silver-white element that is found in salt, baking soda, and other compounds

sodium bicarbonate *noun* [*noncount*] : BAKING SODA — called also *bicarbonate of soda*

sodium chloride *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : the chemical compound that forms salt

sod•o•mite /ˈsɑːdəˌmaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-mites** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a person who has anal sex with another person : someone who practices sodomy

sod•o•my /ˈsɑːdəmi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : anal sex with someone – **sod•o•mize** *also Brit* **sod•o•mise** /ˈsɑːdəˌmaɪz/ *verb* **-miz•es**; **-mized**; **-miz•ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US*

Sod's Law *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : MURPHY'S LAW

so•fa /ˈsoʊfə/ *noun, pl* **-fas** [*count*] : a long and comfortable piece of furniture on which a person can sit or lie down — see picture at LIVING ROOM

sofa bed *noun, pl* ~ **beds** [*count*] : a sofa that can be folded out to form a bed — see picture at BED

[1]soft /ˈsɑːft/ *adj* **soft•er**; **-est**

1 : easy to press, bend, cut, etc. : not hard or firm ▪ a *soft* mattress ▪ *soft* cheese/dough ▪ The ground was *soft* after the heavy rain. ▪ Iron and lead are *soft* metals. — opposite HARD

2 : smooth and pleasant to touch ▪ *soft* skin ▪ a *soft* silk ▪ The rabbit's fur is *soft*.

3 a : having a very light color : not strong or bright in color or tone ▪ *soft* colors ▪ The room was painted in *soft* pink. ▪ *soft* blues **b** *of light* : not bright or harsh ▪ *soft* lighting [=lighting that is not too bright] ▪ the *soft* glow of the moon

4 a : gentle in manner : not harsh ▪ He has a *soft* touch. ▪ She gave him a *soft* kiss on the cheek. ▪ We decided to take a *softer* approach in disciplining the children. **b** : not strong or very forceful ▪ a *soft* [=*mild, gentle*] breeze ▪ A *soft* [=*light*] rain fell. **c** : having a low, gentle sound ▪ a *soft* voice

5 : having a curved or rounded outline ▪ *soft* rolling hills ▪ a sweater with *soft* shoulder lines

6 *disapproving* : not strict, harsh, or critical enough ▪ The students thought their teacher was *soft*. ▪ You're too *soft* with your children. — often + *on* ▪ Some people accuse the mayor of being *soft on* crime.

7 : involving little work or effort : EASY ▪ He has a pretty *soft* job. ▪ a *soft* life ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) Police insisted that community service work was not a ***soft option***.

8 a : not physically strong : not muscular ▪ He had grown *soft* from years of inactivity. **b** : not brave or tough ▪ He used to love adventure, but he has ***gone/gotten soft*** in his old age.

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9 : feeling sympathy for other people : sympathetic and kind ▪ He has a *soft* heart. — opposite HARD
10 : relating to matters that are not serious or important ▪ *soft* news stories — opposite HARD
11 *of an illegal drug* : not as strong or harmful to the health as other drugs ▪ Marijuana is a *soft* drug. — opposite HARD
12 *of water* : not containing many minerals and able to make bubbles with soap ▪ *soft* water — opposite HARD
13 : sounding like the "c" in "ace" or the "g" in "gem" ▪ The "c" in "cell" is *soft*, but the "c" in "cabbage" is hard. ▪ the *soft* "g" in "general" — opposite HARD
soft in the head *informal* : stupid or crazy ▪ He's a nice old man but he's a bit *soft in the head*. ▪ Have you ***gone soft in the head***? [=are you crazy?]
soft on *informal + old-fashioned* : attracted to (someone) ▪ I think he's a little *soft on* her. — see also [1]SOFT 6 (above)
– **soft•ly** *adv* ▪ She spoke *softly* but firmly. ▪ She chuckled/laughed *softly*. ▪ a *softly* lit room ▪ The ball landed *softly* in the grass. – **soft•ness** /ˈsɑːftnəs/ *noun* [*singular*] ▪ the *softness* of silk ▪ Her voice has a gentle *softness*.

[2]soft *adv* **soft•er**; **-est** *chiefly US*
1 : in a soft or gentle way ▪ She kissed him *soft* [=(more commonly) *softly*] on the lips. ▪ Can you please talk *softer*? [=more softly]
2 : in a way that is not strong or forceful ▪ He hit the ball *soft*. [=(more commonly) *softly*] ▪ a *soft*-hit ball

soft•ball /ˈsɑːftˌbɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-balls**
1 [*noncount*] : a sport that is similar to baseball but that is played on a smaller field and with a ball that is pitched underhand and that is larger and softer than a baseball ▪ Do you want to play *softball*? ▪ *softball* teams
2 [*count*] : the ball that is used in softball — see picture at BALL
3 [*count*] *US* : a question that is very easy to answer ▪ All the questions in the interview were *softballs*. ▪ The reporter threw him a *softball*. [=asked him an easy question] ▪ *softball* questions.

soft–boiled /ˈsɑːftˈbojəld/ *adj, of an egg* : boiled until the white is solid but the yolk is liquid ▪ *soft-boiled* eggs — compare HARD-BOILED

soft•bound /ˈsɑːftˌbaʊnd/ *adj, US, of a book* : having a flexible cover ▪ *softbound* books — compare HARDBOUND

soft–core /ˈsɑːftˈkoɚ/ *adj* : showing or describing sex acts but not in an extremely open and shocking way — usually used before a noun ▪ *soft-core* pornography — compare HARD-CORE

soft•cov•er /ˈsɑːftˌkʌvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** *US* : a book that has a flexible cover [*count*] *Softcovers* sell quickly. [*noncount*] The novel is now available ***in softcover***. — often used before another noun ▪ *softcover* books — compare HARDCOVER, PAPERBACK

soft drink *noun, pl* ~ **drinks** [*count*] : a cold drink that is usually sweet, does not contain alcohol, and is often sold in bottles or cans

soft•en /ˈsɑːfən/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing**
1 : to become less hard or firm or to make (something) less hard or firm [*no obj*] The butter will *soften* if left on the counter overnight. ▪ The wax *softened* (up) quickly. [+ *obj*] The recipe called for one stick of butter, *softened*. ▪ Heat *softens* (up) wax quickly.
2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) less dry or rough ▪ The oil is used to *soften* and preserve the leather. ▪ The lotion *softens* dry skin.
3 a [+ *obj*] : to make (something) less severe, harsh, extreme, etc. ▪ The company has *softened* its stance on dating in the workplace. ▪ His arrogance is *softened* by a good sense of humor. [=his sense of humor makes his arrogance less annoying] ▪ Passing clouds *softened* the glare of the sun. [=passing clouds made the sun less bright] **b** [*no obj*] : to become less harsh, severe, extreme, etc. ▪ Her face/voice/expression *softened* when he entered the room. ▪ His criticism of the president has *softened* in the past year. **c** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) less painful, forceful, or harmful ▪ The grass *softened* my fall. — often used figuratively ▪ Management tried to *soften* the impact of the layoffs by offering early retirement packages. = They tried to ***soften the blow*** by offering early retirement packages.
4 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) seem rounder or less sharp ▪ Her new haircut *softened* her features.
soften up [*phrasal verb*] ***soften (someone) up*** *or* ***soften up (someone)*** **1** : to treat (someone) very well or kindly in order to make that person more likely to help you, give you something, etc. ▪ He tried to *soften* her *up* by buying her flowers. **2** : to weaken (an enemy) through military attacks ▪ They used artillery to *soften up* the enemy's defenses before launching a full-scale attack.

soft•en•er /ˈsɑːfənɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a substance that makes something smoother or softer ▪ a new skin *softener* — see also FABRIC SOFTENER

soft focus *noun* [*noncount*] : a way of producing a photograph so that the edges of the image are not completely clear or sharp
– **soft–focus** *adj* ▪ used a *soft-focus* lens ▪ *soft-focus* photography

soft fruit *noun, pl* ~ **fruits** [*count, noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : small fruits (such as berries) that do not have pits or stones

soft furnishings *noun* [*plural*] *Brit* : things (such as curtains or rugs) that are made of cloth and used to decorate a room, house, etc.

soft•heart•ed /ˈsɑːftˌhɑɚtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having feelings of kindness and sympathy for other people ▪ He looks tough, but he's really very *softhearted*. ▪ She's too *softhearted* to fire anyone. — compare HARD-HEARTED
– **soft•heart•ed•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

soft•ie *or* **softy** /ˈsɑːfti/ *noun, pl* **soft•ies** [*count*] *informal* : a kind person : a softhearted person ▪ He may look tough, but he is really a *softie* at heart.

soft landing *noun, pl* ~ **-ings** [*count*] : a landing in which an airplane, a spacecraft, etc., touches the ground in a controlled and gradual way that does not damage it ▪ The lunar module made a *soft landing* on the moon. — often used figuratively to describe an ending or solution that is not difficult or harmful ▪ Market analysts are predicting a *soft landing* for the economy after the economic boom.

softly–softly *adj, Brit, informal* : careful and patient in dealing with someone or something ▪ a *softly-softly* approach/strategy

softly–spoken *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly Brit* : SOFT-SPOKEN

soft money *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : money that is given to a political party rather than to a particular candidate

soft–ped•al /ˈsɑːftˈpɛdl/ *verb* **-als**; *US* **-aled** *or Brit* **-alled**; *US* **-al•ing** *or Brit* **-al•ling** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US, informal* : to treat or describe (something) as less important than it really is ▪ I'm not trying to *soft-pedal* the issue/problem.

soft rock *noun* [*noncount*] : rock music with a gentler sound and slower beat than hard rock — compare HARD ROCK

soft sell *noun* [*singular*] : a way of selling something that uses persuasion rather than aggressive pressure — often used before another noun ▪ using *soft-sell* tactics ▪ a *soft-sell* approach to marketing — compare HARD SELL

soft–shell /ˈsɑːftˈʃɛl/ *or* **soft–shelled** /ˈsɑːftˈʃɛld/ *adj, US* : having a shell that is soft or easily broken ▪ *soft-shell* crabs

soft–soap /ˈsɑːftˈsoʊp/ *verb* **-soaps**; **-soaped**; **-soap•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : to try to persuade (someone) to do something by using praise, kind words, etc. — often + *into* ▪ Don't be *soft-soaped into* going out with him.
– **soft soap** *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit, informal*

soft–spo•ken /ˈsɑːftˈspoʊkən/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having a gentle, quiet voice or manner ▪ a *soft-spoken* teacher

soft spot *noun, pl* ~ **spots** [*count*]
1 : a strong liking *for* someone or something — usually singular ▪ He has a *soft spot for* children. [=he likes children very much] ▪ She has a *soft spot for* chocolate ice cream.
2 : a weak point that can be attacked ▪ They found a *soft spot* in the enemy's defenses.

soft target *noun, pl* ~ **-gets** [*count*] : a target that can be attacked easily because it does not have military defenses ▪ hospitals, schools, and other *soft targets* — often used figuratively ▪ elderly people who are a *soft target* for criminals

soft–top *noun, pl* **-tops** [*count*] *informal* : a car with a roof made of thick fabric that can be lowered or removed : CONVERTIBLE — compare HARDTOP

soft touch *noun, pl* ~ **touches** [*count*] *US, informal* : a person who is easily deceived or taken advantage of ▪ His friends all know that he's a *soft touch*.

soft toy *noun, pl* ~ **toys** [*count*] *Brit* : STUFFED ANIMAL

soft•ware /ˈsɑːftˌweɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the programs that run on a computer and perform certain functions ▪ word-processing *software* ▪ antivirus *software* ▪ I installed/loaded the *software*. — often used before another noun ▪ the *soft-*

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ware industry ▪ *software* programs/development — compare HARDWARE

soft•wood /ˈsɑːftˌwʊd/ *noun, pl* **-woods**
1 [*count, noncount*] : the wood of a tree (such as a pine tree) that is soft and easy to cut — often used before another noun ▪ *softwood* lumber
2 [*count*] : a tree that produces softwood ▪ pines, firs, and other *softwoods* — compare HARDWOOD

softy *variant spelling of* SOFTIE

sog•gy /ˈsɑːgi/ *adj* **sog•gi•er**; **-est**
1 : heavy with water or moisture : completely wet and usually soft ▪ The cereal got all *soggy*. ▪ *soggy* bread
2 *informal* : RAINY ▪ *soggy* weather
– **sog•gi•ness** /ˈsɑːginəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

soh /ˈsoʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit, music* : SOL

[1]soil /ˈsɔjəl/ *noun, pl* **soils**
1 : the top layer of earth in which plants grow [*noncount*] This kind of plant grows well in moist *soil*. ▪ The *soil* in this area is very fertile/sandy. ▪ Cleaning up contaminated *soil* [=soil that has harmful chemicals in it] can be very costly. [*count*] Certain plants cannot live in poorly drained *soils*. — see also POTTING SOIL
2 [*noncount*] *formal + literary* : the land of a particular country ▪ They have returned to their ***native soil*** [=the place they are originally from] ▪ I had never set foot ***on Japanese/Italian soil*** before. [=I had never been to Japan/Italy before]
3 [*noncount*] : a place where something begins or develops ▪ Poor neighborhoods can be ***fertile soil*** for crime. [=there is often a lot of crime in poor neighborhoods]
4 *the soil* *literary* : farming as a way of making a living ▪ Her ancestors had felt a closeness to *the soil*.

[2]soil *verb* **soils**; **soiled**; **soil•ing** *formal*
1 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) dirty ▪ I *soiled* my blouse/shirt at the cocktail party. ▪ The ink *soiled* his hands. ▪ Her clothes were *soiled* and very wet. ▪ *soiled* linens/underwear/diapers — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He refused to ***soil his hands*** [=do anything dishonest or wrong] for her.
2 [*no obj*] : to become dirty ▪ This fabric *soils* easily.

soi•ree *or* **soi•rée** /swɑˈreɪ/ *noun, pl* **-rees** *or* **-rées** [*count*] : a formal party that is usually at night ▪ a fashionable *soiree* at a fancy hotel

so•journ /ˈsoʊˌʤɚn/ *noun, pl* **-journs** [*count*] *formal* : a period of time when you stay in a place as a traveler or guest ▪ Our family enjoyed a two-week *sojourn* in the mountains.
– **sojourn** *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **-journs**; **-journed**; **-journ•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* ▪ We *sojourned* for two weeks at a resort.

sol /ˈsoʊl/ *noun* [*noncount*] *music* : the fifth note of a musical scale ▪ do, re, mi, fa, *sol*, la, ti — called also *so*, (*chiefly Brit*) *soh*

so•lace /ˈsɑːləs/ *noun, formal* : someone or something that gives a feeling of comfort to a person who is sad, depressed, etc. : a source of comfort [*singular*] Her presence was a great *solace* for/to me. [*noncount*] — often + *in* ▪ We took/found *solace in* the knowledge that she hadn't been alone at the end. ▪ I urged him not to seek *solace in* alcohol. [=I urged him not to drink to feel better]

so•lar /ˈsoʊlɚ/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : of or relating to the sun ▪ a *solar* eclipse/phenomenon
2 : produced by or using the sun's light or heat ▪ *solar* energy/power ▪ a *solar* heating system

solar cell *noun, pl* ~ **cells** [*count*] : a device that uses light or heat from the sun to produce electricity

so•lar•i•um /soʊˈlerijəm/ *noun, pl* **-ums** [*count*]
1 : a room with walls and a ceiling that are made of glass to allow in sunlight
2 *Brit* : a room where you can lie in the sun or get a tan

solar panel *noun, pl* ~ **-els** [*count*] : a large, flat piece of equipment that uses the sun's light or heat to create electricity ▪ All of the house's electricity is produced by *solar panels* on the roof.

so•lar plex•us /ˈsoʊlɚˈplɛksəs/ *noun*
the solar plexus : the area on the front of your body just below the ribs ▪ He punched him in *the solar plexus*.

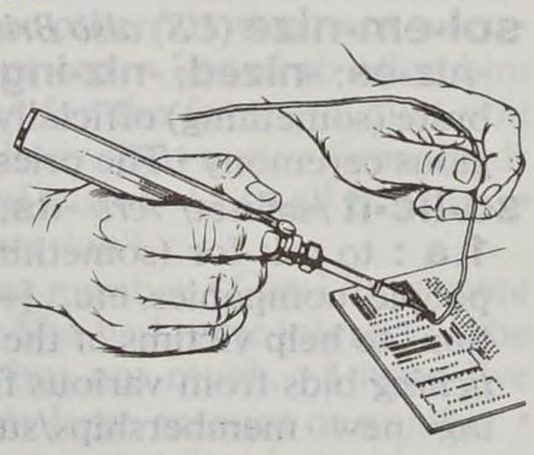
solar system *noun, pl* ~ **-tems**
1 *the solar system* : our sun and the planets that move around it
2 [*count*] : a star other than our sun and the planets that move around it

sold *past tense and past participle of* [1]SELL

[1]sol•der /ˈsɑːdɚ, *Brit* ˈsɒldə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a mixture of metals (such as lead and tin) that is melted and used to join metal parts together

[2]solder *verb* **-ders**; **-dered**; **-der•ing** [+ *obj*] : to join (something made of metal) to something else with solder ▪ Wires are *soldered* onto the circuit board.

soldering iron *noun, pl* ~ **irons** [*count*] : a tool that is electrically heated and used for joining parts with solder


soldering iron

[1]sol•dier /ˈsoʊlʤɚ/ *noun, pl* **-diers** [*count*] : a person who is in the military : a member of an army ▪ Many *soldiers* were wounded in combat. ▪ an American *soldier* ▪ British/German *soldiers* — see also FOOT SOLDIER

[2]soldier *verb* **-diers**; **-diered**; **-dier•ing**
soldier on [*phrasal verb*] : to continue to do something or to try to achieve something even though it is difficult ▪ We *soldiered on* to the end. ▪ The researchers encountered many problems but they *soldiered on*.

sol•dier•ing /ˈsoʊlʤərɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the life or job of a soldier

sol•dier•ly /ˈsoʊlʤɚli/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : suited to or typical of a good soldier ▪ *soldierly* virtues ▪ a *soldierly* manner

soldier of fortune *noun, pl* **soldiers of fortune** [*count*] : someone who will fight as a soldier for any country or person in return for payment

sol•diery /ˈsoʊlʤɚi/ *noun* [*singular*] *old-fashioned* : a group of soldiers

sold–out /ˈsoʊldˈaʊt/ *adj* : having all the tickets sold completely ▪ a *sold-out* show/performance/concert : of or relating to an event where all the tickets have been sold ▪ A *sold-out* crowd attended the show. — see also *sell out* at [1]SELL

[1]sole /ˈsoʊl/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : only or single ▪ He became the *sole* heir to the property. ▪ the *sole* owner ▪ The *sole* aim/objective/purpose of the program is to help the poor. ▪ She was the *sole* survivor of the tragedy. ▪ Icy roads were the *sole* cause of the accident.
2 : belonging only to the person or group specified ▪ She has the *sole* authority to hire new staff members. [=only she can hire new staff members] ▪ He has *sole* jurisdiction of the area.

[2]sole *noun, pl* **soles** [*count*]
1 : the bottom part of the foot
2 : the part of a shoe, boot, etc., that touches the ground ▪ shoes with slippery *soles* ▪ heavy boots with thick rubber *soles* — see picture at SHOE
– compare [4]SOLE

[3]sole *verb* **soles**; **soled**; **sol•ing** [+ *obj*] : to put a new sole on (a shoe, boot, etc.) ▪ My shoes need to be *soled*.

[4]sole *noun, pl* **soles** [*count, noncount*] : a type of ocean fish that is eaten as food ▪ fillet of *sole* — compare [2]SOLE

so•le•cism /ˈsɑːləˌsɪzəm/ *noun, pl* **-cisms** [*count*] *formal*
1 : a mistake in speech or writing ▪ a verbal *solecism*
2 : an impolite or improper way of behaving ▪ a stylistic *solecism*

soled /ˈsoʊld/ *adj, of a shoe* : having a particular type of sole — used in combination ▪ leather-*soled* shoes ▪ thick-*soled* hiking boots

sole•ly /ˈsoʊlli/ *adv*
1 : without anything or anyone else involved ▪ His rank was based *solely* on merit. ▪ You will be held *solely* responsible for any damage. ▪ The decision is *solely* [=*entirely*] yours.
2 : only or just ▪ She did not write *solely* for money.

sol•emn /ˈsɑːləm/ *adj*
1 : very serious or formal in manner, behavior, or expression ▪ a *solemn* occasion/moment ▪ He spoke in a *solemn* and thoughtful manner. ▪ a *solemn* religious ceremony/procession ▪ He wore a very *solemn* expression on his face. ▪ He recited the poem in a *solemn* voice.
2 : sad and serious ▪ A *solemn* crowd gathered around the grave.
3 : done or made sincerely ▪ a *solemn* declaration/oath ▪ We made a *solemn* promise/vow to love each other forever.
– **sol•emn•ly** *adv* ▪ We listened *solemnly* as the president spoke. ▪ Do you *solemnly* swear to tell the truth?

so•lem•ni•ty /səˈlɛmnəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** *formal*
1 [*noncount*] : the quality of being formal or serious ▪ the *so-*

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lemnity of the occasion ▪ Her voice conveyed the *solemnity* of the passage. ▪ The visiting statesman was welcomed with appropriate *solemnity*.

2 *solemnities* [*plural*] : formal ceremonies ▪ Elaborate *solemnities* marked the 100th anniversary of the event.

sol•em•nize (*US*) *also Brit* **sol•em•nise** /'sɑ:ləm,naɪz/ *verb* **-niz•es**; **-nized**; **-niz•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to mark or celebrate (something) officially or formally especially with a religious ceremony ▪ The priest *solemnized* their marriage.

so•lic•it /sə'lɪsət/ *verb* **-its**; **it•ed**; **-it•ing** *formal*

1 a : to ask for (something, such as money or help) from people, companies, etc. [+ *obj*] The center is *soliciting* donations to help victims of the earthquake. ▪ The company is *soliciting* bids from various firms. ▪ The organization is *soliciting* new memberships/subscriptions. ▪ The newspaper's editors want to *solicit* opinions/comments from readers. [*no obj*] The organization is *soliciting* for donations. **b** [+ *obj*] : to ask (a person or group) for money, help, etc. ▪ Special interest groups are *soliciting* Congress for funds.

2 [+ *obj*] : to offer to have sex with (someone) in return for money ▪ The prostitutes were arrested for *soliciting* customers.

– **so•lic•i•ta•tion** /sə,lɪsə'teɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal* [*count*] E-mail *solicitations* for comments didn't generate much response. [*noncount*] the *solicitation* of funds ▪ *Solicitation* is not allowed in the store or its parking lot. – **soliciting** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ No *soliciting* is allowed on store property. ▪ He was arrested for *soliciting*.

so•lic•i•tor /sə'lɪsətɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]

1 *US* : a person whose job involves talking to many people and trying to persuade them to buy things, donate money, etc. ▪ *Solicitors* will be arrested for trespassing.

2 : a lawyer in Britain who assists people in legal matters and who can represent people in lower courts of law — compare BARRISTER

3 *US* : a chief law officer of a city, town, or government department

solicitor general *noun, pl* **solicitors general** [*count*] : a law officer who assists an attorney general and is just below the attorney general in rank

so•lic•i•tous /sə'lɪsətəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : showing concern or care for someone's health, happiness, etc. ▪ I appreciated his *solicitous* inquiry about my health. ▪ He had always been *solicitous* for the welfare of his family. – **so•lic•i•tous•ly** *adv*

so•lic•i•tude /sə'lɪsə,tu:d, *Brit* sə'lɪsə,tju:d/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : concern that someone feels about someone's health, happiness, etc. ▪ He expressed *solicitude* for my health.

[1]sol•id /'sɑ:ləd/ *adj*

1 : firm or hard : not having the form of a gas or liquid ▪ Concrete is a *solid* material. ▪ particles of *solid* matter ▪ When ice melts, it passes from a *solid* to a liquid form. ▪ I was on a liquid diet when I was sick because I couldn't digest *solid* food. ▪ His muscles are very *solid*. [=*hard*] ▪ I was glad to get off the plane and back on *solid* ground. ▪ The pond was ***frozen solid***.

2 : having no space inside : not hollow ▪ a *solid* rubber ball ▪ a *solid* object

3 a *always used before a noun* : made entirely from the specified material ▪ The ring is *solid* gold/silver. ▪ *solid* oak/cherry/mahogany furniture ▪ a chunk of *solid* marble/granite **b** : consisting only of the color specified or only of one color ▪ I prefer *solid* colors like blue or green instead of plaids and stripes. — see color picture on page C12

4 : having no breaks, spaces, or pauses ▪ The road was divided by a *solid* yellow line. ▪ We talked for three *solid* hours. [=we talked for three hours without stopping] — often used figuratively ▪ The rain fell in *solid* sheets. [=the rain fell very heavily] ▪ The stores are always ***packed solid*** [=very crowded] during the holidays. ▪ The hotels in the city were ***booked solid*** for the conference.

5 [*more* ~; *most* ~] **a** : good and able to be trusted to do or provide what is needed ▪ He plays *solid* defense. ▪ The team's defense is very *solid*. ▪ She gave a *solid* performance. ▪ She's a good, *solid* player. **b** : having a strong basis : good and dependable ▪ His friend gave him some good, *solid* advice. ▪ The company has built/established a *solid* reputation. ▪ She had *solid* reasons for her decision. ▪ Students need a *solid* foundation in language skills. ▪ The prosecution has no *solid* evidence. ▪ He had a *solid* alibi. ▪ Financially, the company is ***(as) solid as a rock***. [=the company is in very good condition]

6 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : strong and well-made ▪ *solid* furniture ▪ This chair is very *solid*.

7 *US* : agreeing with or supporting something (such as a political party) in a completely loyal and dependable way ▪ She is a *solid* Democrat/Republican.

8 *geometry* : having length, width, and height : THREE-DIMENSIONAL ▪ a *solid* geometric figure

– **sol•id•ly** *adv* ▪ *solidly* constructed furniture ▪ a *solidly* built athlete ▪ She put her feet *solidly* [=*securely*] on the ground. ▪ Her reputation was *solidly* established. ▪ a *solidly* Republican area/suburb [=an area/suburb where most people vote for Republicans] ▪ Environmentalists were *solidly* [=*completely*] opposed to drilling in the area. ▪ The quarterback played *solidly* during the second half. – **solid•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]solid *noun, pl* **-ids**

1 [*count*] : a solid substance : a substance that is not a gas or a liquid

2 [*count*] *geometry* : an object that has length, width, and height : a three-dimensional object — see picture at GEOMETRY

3 *solids* [*plural*] : foods that are not liquid ▪ She couldn't eat *solids* after the surgery.

sol•i•dar•i•ty /,sɑ:lə'derəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling of unity between people who have the same interests, goals, etc. ▪ national *solidarity* ▪ The vote was a ***show of solidarity***.

so•lid•i•fy /sə'lɪdə,faɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing**

1 : to make (something) solid or hard or to become solid or hard [+ *obj*] Work is under way to *solidify* the concrete that supports the building. ▪ *solidified* lava [*no obj*] Hot wax *solidifies* as it cools.

2 : to make (a plan, project, etc.) stronger and more certain or to become stronger and more certain [+ *obj*] Recent findings helped to *solidify* our position. ▪ The international community is working to *solidify* its alliances. [*no obj*] Their plans have *solidified*.

– **so•lid•i•fi•ca•tion** /sə,lɪdəfə'keɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

so•lid•i•ty /sə'lɪdəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being solid ▪ the *solidity* of stone/granite/concrete ▪ The *solidity* of his convictions impressed us.

so•lil•o•quy /sə'lɪləkwi/ *noun, pl* **-quies** [*count, noncount*] : a long, usually serious speech that a character in a play makes to an audience and that reveals the character's thoughts

so•lip•sism /'soʊləp,sɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a theory in philosophy that your own existence is the only thing that is real or that can be known

– **so•lip•sis•tic** /,soʊləp'sɪstɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *solipsistic* view

sol•i•taire /'sɑ:lə,teɚ/ *noun, pl* **-taires**

1 [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : a card game that is played by one person — called also (*Brit*) *patience*

2 [*count*] : a single jewel that is set alone in a piece of jewelry ▪ a diamond *solitaire* bracelet

[1]sol•i•tary /'sɑ:lə,teri, *Brit* 'sɒlətri/ *adj*

1 a : without anyone or anything else : not involving or including anyone or anything else ▪ a *solitary* traveler ▪ We saw one *solitary* [=*single*] figure coming over the horizon. — sometimes used in negative statements to emphasize a complete lack of something ▪ I could not hear a *solitary* [=*single*] word of what he said. **b** : done by a person who is alone ▪ He took a *solitary* walk/stroll on the beach. ▪ a *solitary* job

2 : separate from other people or things ▪ A *solitary* house stood on top of the cliff.

3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : tending to live or spend time alone ▪ Most cats are *solitary* creatures. ▪ He's a very *solitary* man.

– **sol•i•tar•i•ly** /,sɑ:lə'terəli, *Brit* 'sɒlətrəli/ *adv* – **sol•i•tar•i•ness** /'sɑ:lə,terinəs, *Brit* 'sɒlətrinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]solitary *noun* [*noncount*] : SOLITARY CONFINEMENT ▪ The prisoner was kept in *solitary*.

solitary confinement *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of being kept alone in a prison cell away from other prisoners ▪ He spent three months in *solitary confinement*.

sol•i•tude /'sɑ:lə,tu:d, *Brit* 'sɒlə,tju:d/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a state or situation in which you are alone usually because you want to be ▪ She wished to work on her novel in *solitude*. ▪ He enjoyed the peace and *solitude* of the woods.

[1]so•lo /'soʊloʊ/ *noun, pl* **-los** [*count*]

1 : a piece of music that is performed by one singer or musician ▪ a piano/guitar *solo* ▪ an operatic *solo*

2 : something that is done without another person ▪ She is

learning to fly and she flew her first *solo* yesterday.

[2]solo *adj, always used before a noun*
1 a : done without another person ▪ a student pilot's first *solo* flight **b :** involving or done by a single performer instead of a group ▪ a *solo* performance ▪ She left the band last year and started a *solo* career. ▪ He just issued his first *solo* album. ▪ a *solo* artist/performer [=a singer or musician who is not part of a group]
2 *baseball* **:** hit with no runners on base ▪ a ***solo home run*** [=a home run that scores one run]
– solo *adv* ▪ She is traveling *solo*. [=by herself] ▪ The singer went *solo* after being with the band for 10 years.

[3]solo *verb* **-los**; **-loed**; **-lo·ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to perform a piece of music without another singer or musician ▪ The guitarist *solos* on practically every song.
2 : to fly an airplane without an instructor ▪ She *soloed* for the first time yesterday.

so·lo·ist /'soʊlowɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] **:** a person who performs a musical solo ▪ a piano *soloist*

sol·stice /'sɑːlstəs/ *noun, pl* **-stic·es** [*count*] **:** one of the two times during the year when the sun is farthest north or south of the equator ✧ The ***summer solstice*** occurs around June 22 and the ***winter solstice*** occurs around December 22. — compare EQUINOX

sol·u·ble /'sɑːljəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : capable of being dissolved in a liquid ▪ Sugar is *soluble* in water. ▪ *soluble* fiber — sometimes used in combination ▪ water-*soluble* vitamins/compounds — opposite INSOLUBLE
2 *formal* **:** capable of being solved or explained ▪ a *soluble* [=(more commonly) *solvable*] problem
– sol·u·bil·i·ty /ˌsɑːljə'bɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

so·lu·tion /sə'luːʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 a [*count*] **:** something that is used or done to deal with and end a problem **:** something that solves a problem ▪ Medication may not be the best *solution* for the patient's condition. ▪ The *solution* is simple/obvious: you need to spend less money. — often + *to* ▪ There is no simple *solution to* the country's drug problem. ▪ She suggested a number of creative *solutions to* the housing crisis. **b** [*noncount*] **:** the act of solving something ▪ a problem that has so far resisted *solution* [=a problem that no one has been able to solve]
2 [*count*] **a :** a correct answer to a problem, puzzle, etc. — often + *to* ▪ The *solutions to* the math problems are in the back of the book. ▪ I can't figure out the *solution to* this puzzle. **b :** an explanation for something that is difficult to understand (such as a mystery) — often + *to* ▪ The police haven't yet found a *solution to* this crime/mystery.
3 a : a liquid in which something has been dissolved [*count*] She made a *solution* of baking soda and water. ▪ a 40 percent saline *solution* [*noncount*] He rinsed the contact lens with saline *solution*. **b** [*noncount*] **:** the act or process of dissolving a solid, liquid, or gas in a liquid ▪ the *solution* of sucrose in water

solve /'sɑːlv/ *verb* **solves**; **solved**; **solv·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to find a way to deal with and end (a problem) ▪ They are working to *solve* the traffic problem. ▪ If they'll lend us the money we need, all our problems will be *solved*.
2 a : to find the correct answer to (something, such as a riddle) ▪ She *solved* the riddle/puzzle. ▪ He couldn't *solve* the math problem. **b :** to find the correct explanation for (something, such as a mystery) ▪ The mystery/crime has been *solved*. ▪ The FBI has been trying to *solve* the case for years.
– solv·able /'sɑːlvəbəl/ *adj* ▪ an easily *solvable* mystery
– solv·er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ She's a good problem *solver*.

sol·ven·cy /'sɑːlvənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the state of being able to pay debts ▪ They reviewed financial records to measure the borrower's *solvency*.

[1]sol·vent /'sɑːlvənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** able to pay debts ▪ He couldn't stay/remain *solvent* after losing his business.

[2]solvent *noun, pl* **-vents** [*count, noncount*] *technical* **:** a liquid substance that is used to dissolve another substance ▪ turpentine and other *solvents*

som·ber (*US*) *or Brit* **som·bre** /'sɑːmbɚ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal*
1 : very sad and serious ▪ Her death put us in a *somber* mood. ▪ The movie is a *somber* portrait of life on the streets.
2 : having a dull or dark color ▪ He wore a *somber* suit.
– som·ber·ly *adv* ▪ He shook his head *somberly* at the sad news. **– som·ber·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

som·bre·ro /səm'brerəʊ/ *noun, pl* **-ros** [*count*] **:** a type of hat with a very wide brim that is often worn in Mexico and the southwestern U.S. — see picture at HAT

[1]some /'sʌm, səm/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 — used to refer to a person or thing that is not known, named, or specified ▪ *Some* guy called while you were out. ▪ She works for *some* company (or other/another) out west. ▪ For *some* reason, the lights went out. ▪ I tried to offer him *some* type/sort/kind of payment for the favor. ▪ Could you call back *some* other time? I'm busy right now. ▪ *Some* birds cannot fly. ▪ I like *some* kinds of nuts but not all of them. ▪ *Some* people believe it and others don't.
2 a : of an unspecified amount or number ▪ Can I have *some* water? ▪ I bought *some* apples. ▪ She had *some* interest in the job. ▪ I have *some* money left, but not much. ▪ I hope I've been of *some* help. **b :** of a fairly large amount or number ▪ Their decision was met with *some* surprise. [=people were fairly surprised by their decision] ▪ It will be *some* time [=a considerable amount of time] before she comes back. ▪ We met *some* years ago. ▪ He spoke at *some* length about his problems.
3 *informal* **a** — used to express approval ▪ That was *some* game! [=that was a very good/enjoyable game] **b** — used to express disapproval, disappointment, etc. ▪ You have *some* nerve [=a lot of nerve] to say that! ▪ You don't know how to get there? *Some* navigator you are! [=you're not a good navigator] ▪ *Some* friend he is—he left me stranded at the train depot.

[2]some /'sʌm/ *pronoun* **:** an unspecified amount or number of people or things ▪ *Some* of the apples are bruised. ▪ *Some* of the people at the party had too much to drink. ▪ This bakery makes *some* of the best bread in town. ▪ Most birds can fly but *some* cannot. ▪ *Some* [=some people] say that patience is a virtue. ▪ I'm making coffee; do you want *some*?
and then some *informal* **:** and more in addition to that ▪ I ran a mile *and then some*. ▪ He got what he deserved *and then some*. [=he got more than he deserved]

[3]some /'sʌm, ˌsʌm/ *adv*
1 — used to indicate that a number is approximate ▪ *Some* 80 people [=about 80 people] showed up for the lecture. — sometimes used in combination ▪ The drug is illegal in 20-*some* states.
2 : to an unspecified amount or degree ▪ Would you like ***some more*** potatoes? ▪ I need to work on it *some more*. — often used informally in U.S. English without *more* ▪ He needs to grow up *some* before he can live on his own. ▪ The cut bled *some*. [=*a little*] ▪ He helped me *some*.

[1]-some /səm/ *adj suffix*
1 : having a specified quality ▪ burden*some*
2 : causing a specified feeling or condition ▪ fear*some* ▪ awe-*some* ▪ quarrel*some*

[2]-some *noun suffix* **:** a group of (so many) people or things ▪ four*some* [=a group of four people]

[1]some·body /'sʌmˌbɑdi/ *pronoun* **:** a person who is not known, named, or specified **:** SOMEONE ▪ *Somebody* left you a message. ▪ The singer waved to *somebody* in the crowd. ▪ We need *somebody* who can work nights and weekends. ▪ Is that *somebody* you know? ▪ *Somebody* has to do it. ▪ After I turned down the job, she offered it to ***somebody else***.

[2]somebody *noun, pl* **-bod·ies** [*count*] **:** an important person — usually singular ▪ The teacher convinced her that she could grow up to be *somebody*.

some·day /'sʌmˌdeɪ/ *adv* **:** at some time in the future ▪ *Someday* we'll buy a house. ▪ She hopes to publish her novel *someday*. ▪ Let's have lunch *someday* next week.

some·how /'sʌmˌhaʊ/ *adv* **:** in a way that is not known or certain ▪ *Somehow* (or other/another) we got lost. ▪ She *somehow* managed to find her earring in the sand. ▪ It will all work out *somehow*.

some·one /'sʌmˌwʌn/ *pronoun* **:** some person **:** SOMEBODY ▪ *Someone* left you a message. ▪ Is that *someone* you know? ▪ We need *someone* who can work nights and weekends. ▪ *Someone* took the last piece of cake. ▪ I'll do it because *someone* has to. ▪ She offered the job to ***someone else***. — compare ANYONE

some·place /'sʌmˌpleɪs/ *adv, US* **:** SOMEWHERE ▪ Should we eat here or go *someplace* else? ▪ I put my keys *someplace* but I can't remember where. — compare ANYPLACE

[1]som·er·sault /'sʌməˌsɑːlt/ *noun, pl* **-saults** [*count*] **:** a forward or backward movement of your body on the ground or in the air that is made by bringing your feet over your head ▪ The gymnast turned/performed/did a *somersault*. ▪ a forward/backward *somersault* — sometimes used figuratively ▪

S

His heart did a *somersault* when he heard the news.

²somersault *verb* **-saults**; **-sault·ed**; **-sault·ing** [*no obj*] : to make a complete turn forward or backward on the ground or in the air : to do a somersault ▪ The diver *somersaulted* in midair. ▪ He flew off his bike and *somersaulted* over the bushes.

¹some·thing /ˈsʌmˌθɪŋ/ *pronoun*

1 : a thing that is not known, named, or specified ▪ *Something* came in the mail for you. ▪ I thought I heard *something* outside. ▪ He said *something* that really bothered me. ▪ I started to say *something* but she interrupted me. ▪ I have *something* to tell you. ▪ There's *something* wrong with my car. ▪ *Something* is going on at the school, but I don't know what. ▪ "The job doesn't pay very well and the hours are long." "I think you should look for *something* better." ▪ I don't know what she studies, but it has *something* to do with computers. [=it relates to computers] ▪ Would you like *something* [=*anything*] to drink? ▪ Is there *something* [=*anything*] wrong? ▪ Is there *something* [=*anything*] good on TV tonight? ▪ I just got my tax refund. It's not much, but it's *something*. [=it's better than nothing] ▪ "They won't give us an extra week to finish, but they'll give us a couple of days." "Well, that's *something* anyway." ▪ Do you want pizza for dinner or ***something else***? [=or a different thing for dinner] ▪ I got you ***a little something*** [=a small thing] for your birthday.

2 : a person or thing that is important or worth noticing ▪ She thinks she's really *something* ever since her promotion. ▪ That waterfall is really *something*, isn't it? ▪ He decided to go back to college and ***make something of himself*** [=become successful]

3 : an amount that is more than a specified number — used in combination ▪ His friends are all twenty*something* singles. [=his friends are single people between the ages of 20 and 29] ▪ The bill came to fifty-*something* dollars.

4 — used to make a statement or description less forceful or definite ▪ He is ***something of*** an expert [=he is an expert to some degree] with car repair. ▪ We have *something of* a problem here. ▪ The movie was *something of* [=*somewhat of*] a disappointment. [=was somewhat disappointing]

or something *informal* — used to suggest another name, choice, etc., that is not specified ▪ Are you crazy *or something*? ▪ You can probably clean that stain with club soda *or something*. [=or something like that] ▪ The man wearing the badge must be a guard *or something*. ▪ Can I get you a glass of wine *or something*?

something else *informal* : a person or thing that is special or impressive ▪ That magician really is *something else*. ▪ The Grand Canyon is *something else*, isn't it?

start something see ¹START

²something *adv*

1 : in a very small amount or degree : somewhat or slightly ▪ The total repairs cost *something* over $300. ▪ He does look ***something like*** his father. [=he resembles his father somewhat] ▪ The movie was *something like* what I expected.

2 *informal* — used before an adjective that is being used like an adverb to add emphasis ▪ He was snoring *something* awful/terrible [=was snoring very loudly] last night.

something fierce see FIERCE

¹some·time /ˈsʌmˌtaɪm/ *adv*

1 : at an unspecified time in the future ▪ We should get together *sometime*. ▪ It's likely to happen *sometime* soon. ▪ She will return from her trip *sometime* in December.

2 : at an unspecified or unknown time in the past ▪ A burglar broke in *sometime* during the night. ▪ The book was written *sometime* around the turn of the century.

²sometime *adj, always used before a noun*

1 *formal* — used to say what someone or something was in the past ▪ the *sometime* [=*former*] prime minister

2 *US* — used to say what someone sometimes does or is ▪ He is a talented pianist and *sometime* teacher of music. [=he sometimes teaches music]

some·times /ˈsʌmˌtaɪmz/ *adv* : at certain times : OCCASIONALLY ▪ His jokes are funny, but *sometimes* he goes too far. ▪ *Sometimes* I take the bus to work. ▪ We all make mistakes *sometimes*. ▪ She works nine hours a day, *sometimes* more than that. ▪ The word is *sometimes* used figuratively.

some·way /ˈsʌmˌweɪ/ *adv* : SOMEHOW ▪ We'll do it *someway*.

¹some·what /ˈsʌmˌwʌt/ *adv* : in a small amount or degree : to some degree ▪ He felt *somewhat* awkward in his suit. ▪ The instructions were *somewhat* [=*slightly*, *a little*] confusing. ▪ Our work has progressed *somewhat*. ▪ The course is *somewhat* more difficult than I was told it would be.

²somewhat *pronoun* — used to make a statement or description less forceful or definite ▪ We have ***somewhat of*** a problem. [=we have a slight/minor problem] ▪ To say he has improved is *somewhat of* [=*something of*] an understatement.

¹some·where /ˈsʌmˌweə/ *adv*

1 : in, at, or to a place not known, named, or specified ▪ The boy ran off *somewhere*. ▪ She lives *somewhere* in the city. ▪ I've seen you *somewhere* before. ▪ His house must be around here *somewhere*. ▪ Do you want to go ***somewhere else***?

2 : close to a specified number, time, or amount — usually + *around* or *between* ▪ We met up *somewhere around* nine o'clock. ▪ There must be *somewhere around* 100 people here. ▪ The event attracted *somewhere between* 300 and 500 people. ▪ The car costs *somewhere around* $25,000 to $30,000.

get somewhere *informal* : to make progress ▪ After hours of questioning, the police began to *get somewhere* with the suspect. ▪ The work has been very slow, but I feel like we're finally *getting somewhere*.

²somewhere *noun* [*noncount*] : a place not known, named, or specified ▪ We looked for *somewhere* to park the car. ▪ I know *somewhere* nice where we can eat.

som·me·lier /ˌsʌməlˈjeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-liers** /ˌsʌməlˈjeɪz/ [*count*] : a waiter in a restaurant who is in charge of serving wine

som·no·lent /ˈsɑ:mnələnt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal*

1 : tired and ready to fall alseep : SLEEPY ▪ *somnolent* travelers — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a *somnolent* little village

2 : causing a person to fall asleep : very boring ▪ a *somnolent* lecture

– **som·no·lence** /ˈsɑ:mnələns/ *noun* [*noncount*]

son /ˈsʌn/ *noun, pl* **sons**

1 [*count*] : a male child ▪ She gave birth to a *son*. ▪ They have two *sons* and a daughter. ▪ He is the *son* of a lawyer and a doctor. ▪ an adopted *son* — sometimes used figuratively ▪ our town's own native *son* [=a boy/man who is from our town] — sometimes used by an older person to address a younger man or a boy ▪ Slow down, *son*, I can't understand what you're saying. — see also FAVORITE SON, GODSON, GRANDSON, STEPSON

2 ***the Son*** : the second person of the Trinity in the Christian religion : Jesus Christ ▪ the Father, *the Son* and the Holy Spirit

like father, like son see ¹FATHER

prodigal son see PRODIGAL

so·nar /ˈsoʊˌnɑə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a device used for finding things that are underwater by using sound waves ▪ They detected the submarine by using *sonar*. ▪ a *sonar* signal

so·na·ta /səˈnɑ:tə/ *noun, pl* **-tas** [*count*] *music* : a piece of music written for one or two instruments that has usually three or four large sections that are different from each other in rhythm and mood ▪ a piano/cello *sonata*

song /ˈsɑ:ŋ/ *noun, pl* **songs**

1 [*count*] : a short piece of music with words that are sung ▪ He sang a love *song*. ▪ The *song* was playing on the radio. — see also FOLK SONG, SIREN SONG, SWAN SONG, THEME SONG, TORCH SONG

2 [*noncount*] : the act of singing ▪ She suddenly burst/broke into *song*. [=began singing] ▪ The event was celebrated in *song* by a folk group.

3 [*count, noncount*] : a series of musical sounds that are produced by a bird or an animal (such as a whale) ▪ I could hear the *song* of a sparrow.

for a song *chiefly US, informal* : for a very small amount of money ▪ This old car can be bought/had *for a song*.

song and dance *noun* [*singular*]

1 : a performance that combines singing and dancing

2 *US, informal + disapproving* : a long story, explanation, or excuse that may not be true or directly related to what is being discussed — often + *about* ▪ When I asked him why the work wasn't finished, he gave me a long *song and dance about* some problem he's been having with his computer.

make a song and dance about (something) *Brit, informal*

1 : to cause a lot of excitement about (something) ▪ The film is nothing to *make a song and dance about*. **2** : to complain about (something) in a way that is excessive or unnecessary ▪ He was *making a* big *song and dance about* the new regulations.

song·bird /ˈsɑ:ŋˌbəd/ *noun, pl* **-birds** [*count*]

1 : a bird that produces a series of musical sounds : a bird that sings especially in an appealing way

2 *chiefly US, somewhat old-fashioned* : a female singer ▪ a talented *songbird*

song•book /ˈsɑːŋˌbʊk/ *noun, pl* **-books** [*count*] : a book that contains the music and words to songs

song•fest /ˈsɑːŋˈfɛst/ *noun, pl* **-fests** [*count*] *US* : an informal gathering where people sing songs together

song•ster /ˈsɑːŋstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sters** [*count*] : a person who sings usually very well ▪ a Broadway *songster*

song•stress /ˈsɑːŋstrəs/ *noun, pl* **-stress•es** [*count*] : a woman who sings usually very well ▪ a jazz *songstress*

song•writ•er /ˈsɑːŋˌraɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who writes the words or music to songs ▪ an award-winning singer and *songwriter* — see also SINGER-SONGWRITER

song•writ•ing /ˈsɑːŋˌraɪtɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or process of writing the words or music to songs — often used before another noun ▪ a famous *songwriting* duo

son•ic /ˈsɑːnɪk/ *adj, always used before a noun* : of or relating to sound, sound waves, or the speed of sound ▪ *sonic* waves ▪ The concert was a *sonic* extravaganza. [=a very exciting and entertaining musical event]

sonic boom *noun, pl* ~ **booms** [*count*] : a very loud and explosive noise that is produced by an aircraft when it travels faster than the speed of sound

son–in–law /ˈsʌnənˌlɑː/ *noun, pl* **sons–in–law** /ˈsʌnzənˌlɑː/ [*count*] : the husband of your daughter

son•net /ˈsɑːnət/ *noun, pl* **-nets** [*count*] : a poem made up of 14 lines that rhyme in a fixed pattern

son•ny /ˈsʌni/ *noun, old-fashioned* — used by an older person to address a younger man or a boy ▪ Watch your mouth, *sonny*.

son of a bitch *noun, pl* **sons of bitches** *chiefly US, informal + impolite*

1 [*count*] : a person (especially a man) who you strongly dislike or hate ▪ That *son of a bitch* insulted my family. ▪ He's a mean *son of a bitch*.

2 — used to express surprise, disappointment, anger, etc. ▪ *Son of a bitch*! You won! ▪ We've run out of gas? *Son of a bitch*!

3 [*singular*] : something that is very difficult or unpleasant ▪ The test turned out to be a real *son of a bitch*.

son of a gun *noun, pl* **sons of guns** *US, informal*

1 [*count*] : a person (especially a man) or thing that you are annoyed with ▪ That *son of a gun* never called me back. ▪ I had to bring the car to the shop. The *son of a gun* broke down again.

2 *old-fashioned* — used by a man to address a male friend ▪ How are you, you old *son of a gun*?

3 — used to express mild surprise, disappointment, etc. ▪ *Son of a gun*, I lost a button. ▪ Well, *son of a gun*, you made it!

sono•gram /ˈsɑːnəˌgræm/ *noun, pl* **-grams** [*count*] *US, technical* : a picture that is taken of the inside of something (such as a person's body) by using a special machine : ULTRASOUND ▪ The *sonogram* showed that the fetus was developing normally.

so•no•rous /ˈsɑːnərəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : having a sound that is deep, loud, and pleasant ▪ He has a deep, *sonorous* voice.

– **so•nor•i•ty** /səˈnorəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count, noncount*] ▪ the *sonority* of the singer's voice – **so•no•rous•ly** *adv* ▪ He sang *sonorously*.

soon /ˈsuːn/ *adv* **soon•er; -est**

1 a : at a time that is not long from now ▪ We will *soon* be making changes. ▪ I'll see you *soon*. ▪ The *soonest* I can get there is tomorrow. ▪ When is the *soonest* possible date of delivery? ▪ We'll find out the answer ***soon enough***. [=we'll find out the answer soon] ▪ We need to fix this problem ***sooner rather than later***. [=we need to fix this problem soon] **b** : in a short time after something happens ▪ The audience *soon* realized that it wasn't a stunt. ▪ She found a job ***soon after*** graduation. ▪ Please give me a call ***as soon as*** you get there. [=give me a call immediately when you get there] ▪ I had ***no sooner*** walked through the door when the phone rang. = *No sooner* did I walk through the door than the phone rang. [=the phone rang immediately after I walked through the door] ▪ I told them we needed more copies. ***No sooner said than done***. [=they immediately gave us more copies]

2 : in a quick way : QUICKLY ▪ How *soon* can you finish the job? ▪ The *sooner* you finish your homework, the *sooner* you can go outside and play. ▪ I will let you know ***as soon as possible***. ▪ I'll get there ***as soon as*** I can. ▪ The *sooner* [=more quickly] we get the pipe fixed, the better. = We need to get the pipe fixed, ***the sooner the better***.

sooner or later : at an unspecified time in the future : EVENTUALLY ▪ *Sooner or later*, we'll have to tell her the truth. ▪ The bus should be here *sooner or later*.

too soon : before the time that is proper, preferred, or specified ▪ I spoke *too soon*. ▪ It's *too soon* to tell what will happen. ▪ The show was over all *too soon*. ▪ The plumber arrived, and ***not a moment too soon***. [=the plumber arrived just in time; if the plumber had arrived later, it would have been too late]

would sooner or would just as soon — used to indicate what you want or prefer to do, have, etc. ▪ He *would sooner* [=*would rather*] lose everything than admit that he was wrong. ▪ We asked him to come with us, but he said he'*d just as soon* stay home.

soot /ˈsʊt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a black powder that is formed when something (such as wood or coal) is burned

– **sooty** /ˈsuːti/ *adj* **soot•i•er; -est** ▪ the worker's *sooty* hands

soothe /ˈsuːð/ *verb* **soothes; soothed; sooth•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (someone) to be calmer, less angry, etc. ▪ She played music to *soothe* [=*comfort*] the baby. ▪ The waiter tried to *soothe* the angry customer.

2 a : to cause (a part of the body) to feel better ▪ This cream *soothes* aching muscles. ▪ Her nerves were *soothed* by a warm bath. **b** : to cause (pain) to go away or become less severe ▪ Nothing can *soothe* their pain. — sometimes + *away* ▪ The massage *soothed away* my back pain.

soothing *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : producing feelings of comfort or relief ▪ a *soothing* bath/cream/massage ▪ *soothing* words ▪ The music had a *soothing* effect on the baby.

– **sooth•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ She sang *soothingly* to the baby.

sooth•say•er /ˈsuːθˌsejɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : someone who makes predictions about what is going to happen in the future

[1]sop /ˈsɑːp/ *noun, pl* **sops** [*count*] *disapproving* : something that is done or given to someone in order to prevent trouble, gain support, etc. — usually singular ▪ Critics say that the proposed tax cut is just a *sop* to wealthy taxpayers. — see also MILKSOP

[2]sop *verb* **sops; sopped; sop•ping**

sop up [*phrasal verb*] ***sop up (a liquid) or sop (a liquid) up*** : to remove (a liquid) from a surface by using soft paper, bread, etc. ▪ He *sopped up* the gravy with pieces of bread. ▪ The water was *sopped up* [=*mopped up*] with a mop.

soph. *abbr* sophomore

so•phis•ti•cate /səˈfɪstɪkət/ *noun, pl* **-cates** [*count*] *formal* : a person who has a lot of knowledge about the world and about culture, art, literature, etc. : a sophisticated person ▪ urban *sophisticates*

so•phis•ti•cat•ed /səˈfɪstəˌkeɪtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : having or showing a lot of experience and knowledge about the world and about culture, art, literature, etc. ▪ She was a *sophisticated* and well-traveled woman. ▪ She has *sophisticated* tastes. **b** : attractive to fashionable or sophisticated people ▪ a swank and *sophisticated* restaurant

2 : highly developed and complex ▪ a *sophisticated* computer network ▪ *sophisticated* technologies ▪ Her knitting technique is more *sophisticated* than mine.

– **so•phis•ti•cat•ed•ly** *adv* – **so•phis•ti•ca•tion** /səˌfɪstəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She is admired for her *sophistication* and sense of style. ▪ the growing *sophistication* of new technologies

soph•ist•ry /ˈsɑːfəstri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** *formal*

1 [*noncount*] : the use of reasoning or arguments that sound correct but are actually false

2 [*count*] : a reason or argument that sounds correct but is actually false

soph•o•more /ˈsɑːfˌmoɚ/ *noun, pl* **-mores** [*count*] *US* : a student in the second year of high school or college ▪ She's a *sophomore* in high school. — often used before another noun ▪ Their son is in his *sophomore* year in college. ▪ The team's quarterback improved during his *sophomore* season. — compare FRESHMAN, JUNIOR, SENIOR

soph•o•mor•ic /ˌsɑːfˈmorɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US, disapproving* : having or showing a lack of emotional maturity : foolish and immature ▪ a *sophomoric* joke ▪ His behavior at the party was *sophomoric*.

sop•o•rif•ic /ˌsɑːpəˈrɪfɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : causing a person to become tired and ready to fall asleep ▪ the *soporific* heat of summer ▪ a *soporific* drug

– **soporific** *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] ▪ a substance used as a *soporific*

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sop•ping /ˈsɑːpɪŋ/ *adj, informal* : completely or thoroughly wet ▪ His clothes were *sopping* from the rain. ▪ a ***sopping wet*** sponge

sop•py /ˈsɑːpi/ *adj* **sop•pi•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 *US* : soaked through with water : very wet ▪ *soppy* towels
2 *Brit, informal* **a** : sad or romantic in a foolish or exaggerated way ▪ The radio played nothing but *soppy* [=(*US*) *sappy*] love songs. **b** : foolish or silly ▪ She gets all *soppy* [=(*US*) *sappy*] when she's around babies.

[1]so•pra•no /səˈprænoʊ, səˈprɑːnoʊ/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : relating to the highest female singing voice or the highest voice part in a singing group ▪ the *soprano* tones
2 : having a high sound range ▪ a *soprano* saxophone

[2]soprano *noun, pl* **-nos** [*count*]
1 : the highest voice part in a singing group
2 : the highest female singing voice or a person with this voice ▪ She sings in a high *soprano*. ▪ an opera *soprano*
– compare ALTO, BASS, TENOR

sor•bet /soɚˈbeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-bets** [*count*] : a frozen sweet dessert that is made usually from fruit or fruit juices ▪ a raspberry *sorbet* — called also (*Brit*) *water ice*

sor•cer•er /ˈsoɚsərɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who practices sorcery : a wizard or warlock

sor•cer•ess /ˈsoɚsərəs/ *noun, pl* **-ess•es** [*count*] : a woman who practices sorcery : WITCH

sor•cery /ˈsoɚsəri/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the use of magical powers that are obtained through evil spirits : WITCHCRAFT

sor•did /ˈsoɚdəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal*
1 : very bad or dishonest ▪ He shared the *sordid* details of his past. ▪ *sordid* business deals ▪ a *sordid* scandal/affair
2 : very dirty : FILTHY ▪ *sordid* living conditions

[1]sore /ˈsoɚ/ *adj* **sor•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 : feeling or affected by pain : PAINFUL ▪ *sore* muscles ▪ Her back felt *sore*. ▪ After I fell I was *sore* [=*achy*] all over. ▪ a dog limping on a *sore* leg ▪ The patient has a ***sore throat***
2 *always used before a noun* : causing emotional pain or distress ▪ That's a *sore* subject to bring up. ▪ The discussion touched on a *sore* spot.
3 *chiefly US, informal* : angry or upset ▪ My neighbor is *sore* at me. ▪ Are you still *sore* about what happened last night? ▪ He's a ***sore loser***. [=he becomes very upset or angry when he loses]
a sight for sore eyes see [1]SIGHT
(like) a bear with a sore head see [1]BEAR
stick/stand out like a sore thumb *informal* : to be very noticeable in usually a bad way ▪ I wasn't wearing the right clothes for the party, and I *stuck out like a sore thumb*.
– **sore•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ muscle *soreness* ▪ There will be some *soreness* after you get the injection.

[2]sore *noun, pl* **sores** [*count*] : a sore or painful spot on the body ▪ He has a *sore* on his lip. — see also BEDSORE, CANKER SORE, COLD SORE, EYESORE

sore•head /ˈsoɚˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] *US, informal + disapproving* : a person who easily becomes angry or upset ▪ Just because you lost, don't be a *sorehead*!
– **sore•head•ed** /ˈsoɚˈhɛdəd/ *adj* ▪ a *soreheaded* loser

sore•ly /ˈsoɚli/ *adv* : very much : BADLY ▪ You will be *sorely* missed. ▪ She provided some *sorely* needed help. ▪ The house is *sorely* in need of paint. ▪ He is *sorely* lacking in social skills.

sor•ghum /ˈsoɚgəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a kind of tropical grass that is grown for food; *also* : the grain that grows on this grass

so•ror•i•ty /səˈrorəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*] : an organization of female students at a U.S. college ▪ She wanted to pledge/join a *sorority*. — compare FRATERNITY

[1]sor•rel /ˈsorəl/ *noun, pl* **-rels** [*count*] : a reddish-brown horse ▪ a *sorrel* mare — compare [2]SORREL

[2]sorrel *noun* [*noncount*] : a plant that has sour juice and that is used in cooking — compare [1]SORREL

[1]sor•row /ˈsɑroʊ/ *noun, pl* **-rows**
1 [*noncount*] : a feeling of sadness or grief caused especially by the loss of someone or something ▪ I felt *sorrow* at/over the death of my friend. ▪ an expression of *sorrow* ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) He spoke ***more in sorrow than in anger***. [=because of sadness or disappointment rather than anger]
2 [*count*] : a cause of grief or sadness ▪ a life filled with joys and *sorrows* ▪ She had a secret *sorrow*. ▪ He went to the bar to ***drown his sorrows***. [=to forget about the things that were making him sad by getting drunk]

[2]sorrow *verb* **-rows; -rowed; -row•ing** [*no obj*] *formal + literary* : to feel or express sorrow ▪ a *sorrowing* mother, grieving over the death of her son

sor•row•ful /ˈsɑrəfəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal + literary* : feeling or showing sadness : full of sorrow ▪ a *sorrowful* young man ▪ a *sorrowful* goodbye ▪ *sorrowful* eyes ▪ Her expression was *sorrowful*.
– **sor•row•ful•ly** *adv*

sor•ry /ˈsɑri/ *adj* **sor•ri•er; -est** [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : feeling sorrow or regret ▪ I'm *sorry* if I offended you. ▪ She was *sorry* to hear about their divorce. ▪ I'm *sorry* for your loss. ▪ I'm *sorry* for saying that. ▪ I'm *sorry* that I wasted your time. ▪ He ***felt sorry for*** her. [=he felt sympathy for her because she was in a bad situation] ▪ Stop ***feeling sorry for yourself***. [=feeling pity for yourself] ▪ It's probably not necessary to check the figures again, but ***(it's) better (to be) safe than sorry***. [=it is better to be careful now so that problems do not occur later on]
2 a — used to express polite regret ▪ *Sorry*, but I disagree. ▪ *Sorry* [=*excuse me*], I didn't mean to interrupt you. **b** — used to introduce disappointing or bad news in a polite way ▪ I'm *sorry*, but I couldn't find any information for you. ▪ *Sorry*, but it's too late to change our plans. **c** — used as an apology for a minor fault or offense (such as bumping into someone) ▪ *Sorry*. I didn't see you standing there. ▪ I forgot to pick up the dry cleaning. ***Sorry about that.*** [=I'm sorry; I apologize] **d** — used as a polite way of asking someone to repeat something spoken ▪ *Sorry*? [=*Pardon*?] I couldn't hear what you said. **e** — used to introduce a correction to what you have said or written ▪ (*humorous*) Any football nut—*sorry*, fan—will know what I mean.
3 *always used before a noun* **a** : very bad or poor ▪ What a *sorry* state of affairs we're in now. ▪ That's the *sorriest* excuse I've heard. **b** : causing feelings of disappointment or pity ▪ The *sorry* [=*sad*] truth is that he was right all along. ▪ I dragged my *sorry* [=*pitiful*] self out of bed.

[1]sort /ˈsoɚt/ *noun, pl* **sorts**
1 [*count*] : a group of people or things that have some shared quality : a particular kind or type of person or thing ▪ animals of various *sorts* ▪ What *sort* of car do you drive? ▪ Is this some *sort* of a joke? [=is this a joke?]
2 [*singular*] : a person of a particular type ▪ He's not a bad *sort*. ▪ She's not the *sort* to complain.
3 [*count*] *technical* : the act of separating things and putting them in a particular order : the act of sorting things ▪ The program did a numeric *sort* of the data.
all sorts of : a large number or variety of (things or people) : MANY ▪ The movie appeals to *all sorts of* people. ▪ They've been having *all sorts of* problems. [=they've been having a lot of problems]
of sorts *or* ***of a sort*** : in some ways but not entirely or exactly ▪ It was a vacation *of sorts*. [=it was like a vacation in some ways, although it wasn't really a vacation] ▪ He's a poet *of sorts*. [=he writes some poetry but he is not really a poet]
of the sort : like the person or thing mentioned ▪ "You said you didn't like him." "I said nothing *of the sort*." [=I didn't say that at all] ▪ I would like to go to a movie or a concert, or something *of the sort*. [=something like that]
out of sorts **1** : somewhat angry or unhappy ▪ My boss is (feeling) *out of sorts* today. **2** : somewhat ill ▪ I don't know what's wrong with me, but I'm feeling a little *out of sorts*.
sort of *informal* : to some small degree : slightly or somewhat ▪ I feel *sort of* foolish. ▪ I think he *sort of* likes me. ▪ You look *sort of* like my cousin. ▪ "Did you enjoy the movie?" "*Sort of*." ▪ The walls were (painted) *sort of* blue. = The walls were (painted in) *sort of* a blue color.

[2]sort *verb* **sorts; sort•ed; sort•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to separate and put (people or things) in a particular order ▪ She started to *sort* the mail. ▪ They *sorted* the winners from the losers. ▪ The program can *sort* data alphabetically or numerically. — often + *out* ▪ He *sorted out* the socks by color. ▪ I finally *sorted out* the mess in the attic.
2 *Brit, informal* : to deal with (something or someone) in a successful way ▪ We need to get this problem *sorted*. [=*sorted out*]
sort out [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***sort (something) out*** *or* ***sort out (something)*** **a** : to understand or find (something, such as a reason or a solution) by thinking ▪ I'm trying to *sort out* [=*find out, figure out*] a way to do it. **b** : to find an answer or solution for (something) ▪ He's still trying to *sort out* his problems. ▪ We need to get these problems *sorted out* as soon as possible. **c** ✧ If something ***sorts itself out***, it stops being a problem without anyone having to do anything. ▪

They decided to wait until things *sorted themselves out*. **2** ***sort (someone) out*** *or* ***sort out (someone)*** **a** : to solve the problems of (someone) ▪ They're still trying to *sort* their son *out*. [=trying to sort out their son's problems] ▪ I just need a little more time to ***sort myself out***. **b** *Brit, informal* : to deal with (someone who is causing problems) in a forceful way ▪ I told my brother they were bullying me, and he promised to *sort* them *out* (for me). — see also ²SORT 1 (above)

sort through [*phrasal verb*] ***sort through (something)*** : to look at things and put them in a particular order especially while you are searching for something ▪ He *sorted through* the papers.

– **sort•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

sorta /ˈsoɚtə/ — used in writing to represent the sound of the phrase *sort of* when it is spoken quickly ▪ It's *sorta* cold out. ✧ The pronunciation represented by *sorta* is common in informal speech. The written form should be avoided except when trying to represent or record such speech.

sor•tie /ˈsoɚti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*]
1 : a sudden attack in which a group of soldiers rush forward against an enemy
2 : a mission or attack by a single plane

sort–out *noun* [*singular*] *Brit* : an activity in which you make a room, closet, etc., neat and organized ▪ Let's have a *sort-out* of the attic.

SOS /ˌɛsˌoʊˈɛs/ *noun* [*singular*] : a signal used by ships and airplanes to call for help — often used figuratively ▪ The team sent out an *SOS* for a replacement player. ▪ The club has issued an *SOS* for volunteers. — compare MAYDAY

so–so /ˈsoʊˈsoʊ/ *adj, informal* : neither very good nor very bad : fair or average ▪ The reviews were only *so-so*. ▪ a *so-so* movie/performance ▪ The food was good, but the service was just *so-so*.

sot /ˈsɑːt/ *noun, pl* **sots** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a person who is often drunk : DRUNKARD ▪ a pathetic old *sot*

sot•to vo•ce /ˌsɑːtoʊˈvoʊʧi/ *adv*
1 *formal* : in a very quiet voice ▪ He gave his opinion *sotto voce*.
2 *music* : very softly ▪ play the last part *sotto voce*
– **sotto voce** *adj* ▪ *sotto voce* comments

sou /ˈsuː/ *noun* [*singular*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : a small amount of money ▪ I'm not giving you anything. Not a *sou*.

soubriquet *variant spelling of* SOBRIQUET

souf•flé /suˈfleɪ/ *noun, pl* **-flés** : a food that is made with eggs, flour, and other ingredients (such as cheese, vegetables, fruit, or chocolate) and that is baked until its top rises and it becomes very light and fluffy [*count*] cheese *soufflés* [*noncount*] a serving of chocolate *soufflé*

sought *past tense and past participle of* SEEK

sought–after *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : wanted by many people and hard to get or find ▪ *sought-after* antiques ▪ the most *sought-after* artists

souk /ˈsuːk/ *noun, pl* **souks** [*count*] : a marketplace in North Africa or the Middle East

soul /ˈsoʊl/ *noun, pl* **souls**
1 [*count*] **a** : the spiritual part of a person that is believed to give life to the body and in many religions is believed to live forever ▪ salvation of the human *soul* [=*spirit*] ▪ the *souls* of the dead **b** : a person's deeply felt moral and emotional nature ▪ He could not escape the guilt that he felt in the inner recesses of his *soul*.
2 [*noncount*] : the ability of a person to feel kindness and sympathy for others, to appreciate beauty and art, etc. ▪ She has no *soul*.
3 [*count*] : a human being : PERSON ▪ a brave/gentle/kind *soul* ▪ Some poor *soul* was asking for handouts on the street. ▪ There wasn't a *soul* in sight. [=there wasn't anyone in sight] ▪ He didn't tell a *soul* [=*anyone*] that he was leaving. ▪ a village of barely a hundred *souls*
4 [*noncount*] : a quality that gives emotional force and effectiveness to a performance, a work of art, etc. ▪ He's a skillful performer, but his music lacks *soul*.
5 [*noncount*] : SOUL MUSIC ▪ My favorite types of music are jazz and *soul*.
6 [*singular*] : a person who has a lot of a particular quality — + *of* ▪ He is the *soul of* integrity. [=he is a very honest person] ▪ I promise I'll be ***the soul of discretion***. [=I'll be very discreet]
7 [*singular*] : the central or most important part of something that makes it effective, valuable, etc. — usually + *of* ▪ Honesty is the very *soul of* any good relationship. ▪ Our employees are the ***heart and soul of*** our company.

bless my soul see BLESS
body and soul see BODY
keep body and soul together see BODY
pour your soul out see POUR
sell your soul (to the devil) see ¹SELL

soul brother *noun, pl* ~ **-thers** [*count*] *US, informal + old-fashioned* : a black man or boy — called also *brother*

soul–destroying *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : causing a person to feel very unhappy or depressed ▪ the *soul-destroying* confinement of city life ▪ Rejection is *soul-destroying*.

soul food *noun* [*noncount*] : the type of food traditionally eaten by African-Americans in the southern U.S.

soul•ful /ˈsoʊlfəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : full of or expressing feeling or emotion ▪ *soulful* music ▪ a *soulful* perfomer ▪ a handsome actor with *soulful* eyes
– **soul•ful•ly** *adv* ▪ She sang *soulfully*. – **soul•ful•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

soul•less /ˈsoʊlləs/ *adj*
1 : not having or showing any of the qualities and feelings (such as sympathy and kindness) that make people appealing ▪ a government run by *soulless* bureaucrats ▪ These companies are heartless, *soulless*, money-making machines.
2 : having or showing no special or interesting qualities ▪ The houses in the new development are completely *soulless*.
– **soul•less•ly** *adv* – **soul•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

soul mate *noun, pl* ~ **mates** [*count*]
1 : a close friend who completely understands you ▪ a husband and wife who are perfect *soul mates*
2 : a person who has the same beliefs and opinons as another person ▪ They are ideological *soul mates*.

soul music *noun* [*noncount*] : a popular style of music expressing deep emotion that was created by African-Americans

soul–search•ing /ˈsoʊlˌsɚʧɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of thinking seriously about your feelings and beliefs in order to make a decision or to understand the reasons for your own behavior ▪ I decided to take the job after a lot of *soul-searching*.

¹sound /ˈsaʊnd/ *noun, pl* **sounds**
1 : something that is heard [*count*] the *sound* of footsteps/thunder ▪ the *sounds* of laughter ▪ I heard a loud, buzzing *sound*. [=*noise*] ▪ I didn't hear a *sound*. [=I didn't hear anything] ▪ They never made a *sound*. ▪ speech *sounds* [=the sounds people make when they speak words] ▪ the *sound* of "th" in "this" [*noncount*] devices used to record *sound* ▪ measuring the speed of *sound* [=the speed at which the vibrations that create sounds move through the air]
2 [*noncount*] : the speech, music, etc., that is heard as part of a broadcast, film, or recording ▪ The film was good, but the *sound* was poor. ▪ digital *sound* ▪ "Can you turn up the *sound*? [=*volume*] I can't hear what they're saying."
3 [*count*] : the particular musical style of an individual, a group, or an area — usually singular ▪ the Nashville *sound* ▪ I like the band's *sound*.
4 [*noncount*] : the idea that is suggested when something is said or described ▪ "The doctor says my case is unusual." "I ***don't like the sound of that***." [=I don't like the way that sounds; that sounds bad/serious] ▪ ***By/from the sound of it***, you may have poison ivy.

sound and fury : loud and angry words that attract a lot of attention but do nothing useful ▪ The town meeting created lots of *sound and fury*, but no resolution.

– compare ⁵SOUND

²sound *verb* **sounds; sound•ed; sound•ing**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to make a sound or be heard ▪ *sound* a trumpet ▪ *sound* a horn/buzzer — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He *sounded* a confident note [=he expressed confidence] when he talked about the company's future plans. **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) known by making a sound ▪ They *sounded* the alarm. ▪ The clock *sounded* noon. **c** [*no obj*] : to make a sound ▪ The game was over when the buzzer *sounded*. ▪ A ringing noise kept *sounding* in his ears.
2 [*linking verb*] : to seem to be something when heard ▪ You *sound* tired. You should get some rest. : to seem to be something when heard about ▪ Their plan *sounds* good to me. ▪ Her story *sounds* false. ▪ It *sounded* too good to be true. ▪ I'll plan to pick you up at noon. How does that *sound*? [=do you think that is a good/acceptable plan?] ▪ His new job *sounds* exciting. ▪ A picnic *sounds* lovely. — often used in the phrases ***sound as if***, ***sound as though***, and ***sound like*** ▪ It *sounds* to

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me *as if* they won't be coming. ▪ The movie *sounds as though* it might be good. [=the things I have heard about the movie suggest that it might be good] ▪ It *sounds like* the weather may be bad tomorrow. [=I have heard that the weather may be bad tomorrow] ▪ You *sound like* you're tired. ▪ That *sounds like* a good idea. = (*Brit*) That *sounds* a good idea. — see also SOUND LIKE (below)

3 [+ *obj*] : to make the sound of (a word or letter) with your voice : PRONOUNCE ▪ He *sounded* each syllable clearly. ▪ The "k" in "know" is not *sounded*.

sound like **1** : to have a voice that is like the voice of (someone else) ▪ I knew he must be your brother. He *sounds* just *like* you. **2** : to say something that is like what is commonly said by (someone else) ▪ You *sound* just *like* your mother when you say that.

sound off [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to say your opinions in a very direct and often angry way ▪ She *sounded off* about the unequal pay raises. **2** *US* : to count out loud the steps you take while marching ▪ The troops were *sounding off* during their exercises.

– compare ⁶SOUND

³sound *adj* **sound•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : in good condition : solid and strong ▪ a building of *sound* construction ▪ The bridge is structurally *sound*. **b** : in good health : HEALTHY ▪ a *sound* mind in a *sound* body ▪ The tests show that his heart is *sound*. ▪ My health is *sound*. [=I am healthy] ▪ (*law*) He was found to be ***of sound mind*** [=*sane*] when he committed the murder.

2 : free from mistakes : showing good judgment ▪ a *sound* argument ▪ She used *sound* reasoning in making the decision. ▪ She gave us some *sound* advice. ▪ a *sound* investment

3 *always used before a noun* : complete or thorough ▪ She has a *sound* understanding of the system's structure. ▪ The stock market has made a *sound* recovery. ▪ They gave us a *sound* beating in yesterday's game. [=they beat/defeated us easily by a large amount]

4 *of sleep* : deep and restful ▪ She fell into a *sound* sleep. ▪ I was never a ***sound sleeper***. [=someone who sleeps deeply]

(as) sound as a bell *informal* : in excellent condition ▪ There's nothing wrong with your health. You're *as sound as a bell*. ▪ The car's engine is *as sound as a bell*.

– **sound•ly** /'saʊndli/ *adv* ▪ I slept more *soundly* last night than I have in a while. ▪ an argument *soundly* based on logic ▪ We were *soundly* beaten/defeated in yesterday's game.

– **sound•ness** /'saʊndnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

⁴sound *adv, of sleep* : deeply and completely ▪ He was *sound* asleep. ▪ She slept *sound*. [=(more commonly) *soundly*]

⁵sound *noun, pl* **sounds** [*count*] : a long and narrow area of water that connects two larger areas — often used in names ▪ Long Island *Sound* — compare ¹SOUND

⁶sound *verb* **sounds**; **sounded**; **sounding** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to measure the depth of the water in a lake, ocean, etc.

sound out [*phrasal verb*] ***sound (someone or something) out*** *or* ***sound out (someone or something)*** : to try to find out the opinions of someone by asking questions ▪ They *sounded* me *out* on the idea. [=they asked me what I thought about the idea] ▪ polls that *sound out* public opinion

– compare ²SOUND

sound barrier *noun*

the sound barrier : the large increase in air resistance that occurs as an aircraft nears the speed of sound ▪ a plane that is able to ***break the sound barrier*** [=to travel faster than the speed of sound]

sound bite *noun, pl* ~ **bites** [*count*] : a short recorded statement that is broadcast on a television or radio news program ▪ His campaign relies on catchy *sound bites*.

sound card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] *computers* : a device in a computer system designed to produce or reproduce sound

sound•ing /'saʊndɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*]

1 : a measurement of the depth of water ▪ The sailors were taking *soundings* as the ship approached the coast.

2 : something that is done to find out what people think about something — usually plural ▪ They took *soundings* on his chances of winning. [=they talked to and questioned people about his chances of winning]

sounding board *noun, pl* ~ **boards** [*count*] : a person or group with whom you discuss ideas to see if the ideas are good ▪ My friend is my *sounding board* for new ideas.

sound•less /'saʊndləs/ *adj* : making no sound : SILENT ▪ Her footsteps were *soundless*. ▪ the almost *soundless* approach of the boat

– **sound•less•ly** *adv* ▪ The cat moved *soundlessly* through the room.

¹sound•proof /'saʊnd,pru:f/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not allowing sound to enter or leave ▪ a *soundproof* room/studio ▪ *soundproof* walls

²soundproof *verb* **-proofs**; **-proofed**; **-proof•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) soundproof ▪ *soundproof* a room ▪ The studio is *soundproofed*.

sound system *noun, pl* ~ **-tems** [*count*] : equipment that is used to play music through speakers

sound•track /'saʊnd,træk/ *noun, pl* **-tracks** [*count*] : the sounds and especially the music recorded for a movie ▪ The movie's *soundtrack* is now available on CD.

sound wave *noun, pl* ~ **waves** [*count*] : a wave that is formed when a sound is made and that moves through the air and carries the sound to your ear

¹soup /'su:p/ *noun, pl* **soups** : a food made by cooking vegetables, meat, or fish in a large amount of liquid [*count*] a delicious chicken *soup* [*noncount*] a bowl of *soup* ▪ a *soup* spoon — see also PEA SOUP

in the soup *informal + old-fashioned* : in a bad situation : in trouble ▪ That stunt landed her *in the soup*.

soup to nuts *US, informal* **1** : covering every detail or part of something ▪ The book provides a *soup to nuts* look at the current political scene. **2** ***from soup to nuts*** : in every detail or part ▪ The entire procedure *from soup to nuts* is changing.

²soup *verb* **soups**; **souped**; **soup•ing**

soup up [*phrasal verb*] ***soup (something) up*** *or* ***soup up (something)*** *informal* : to increase the power of (something, such as an engine) ▪ *soup up* a car's engine ▪ His hobby was *souping up* older cars. — see also SOUPED-UP

soup•çon /'su:p,sɑ:n/ *noun, pl* **-çons** [*count*] : a small amount of something : TRACE ▪ Add just a *soupçon* of salt.

souped–up /'su:pt'ʌp/ *adj* : made greater in power or appeal ▪ *souped-up* cars ▪ My computer is a *souped-up* version of the standard machines. — see also *soup up* at ²SOUP

soup kitchen *noun, pl* ~ **-chens** [*count*] : a place that gives food (such as soup and bread) to poor people

soupy /'su:pi/ *adj* **soup•i•er**; **-est**

1 : resembling soup ▪ The gravy/sauce was too *soupy*.

2 *informal* : very foggy or cloudy ▪ *soupy* weather

¹sour /'saw♂/ *adj* **sour•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having an acid taste that is like the taste of a lemon : TART ▪ *sour* pickles ▪ a *sour* apple ▪ a slightly *sour* taste — see also SWEET-AND-SOUR

2 : having the unpleasant taste or smell of food that is no longer fresh ▪ The milk had turned/gone *sour*. ▪ The cream smells *sour*. ▪ a *sour* odor ▪ *sour* [=*bad*] breath

3 : unpleasant or unfriendly ▪ a *sour*, cynical person ▪ He made a *sour* face. ▪ Their relationship ended ***on a sour note***. [=ended unpleasantly]

4 *informal* : bad or wrong ▪ Their relationship had turned/gone *sour*. ▪ All their investments went *sour*.

sour on *informal* : having a bad opinion of (something) ▪ She was *sour on* politics in general.

– **sour•ly** *adv* ▪ She noted *sourly* that something was wrong.

– **sour•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The dish gets its *sourness* from lemons.

²sour *noun, pl* **sours** [*count*] : an alcoholic drink that has a sour taste ▪ a whiskey *sour*

³sour *verb* **sours**; **soured**; **sour•ing**

1 [*no obj*] *of food* : to lose freshness and get an unpleasant taste or smell : to become sour ▪ The milk *soured* quickly.

2 a [*no obj*] : to become unpleasant or unfriendly ▪ Her disposition has *soured* in recent years. ▪ Their friendship has *soured*. [=they are no longer friends] **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) unpleasant or unfriendly ▪ Jealousy has *soured* their relationship. ▪ His experiences have *soured* him.

3 [+ *obj*] : to make (something good) less pleasant or enjoyable ▪ The team's victory was *soured* by an injury to one of their best players.

sour on [*phrasal verb*] ***sour on (something)*** *or* ***sour (someone) on (something)*** *US* : to stop liking or being interested in (something) or to cause (someone) to stop liking or being interested in (something) ▪ Investors have *soured on* (buying) the company's stock. ▪ Many fans have *soured on* the team after years of losing. ▪ The disappointing result of the election *soured* her *on* politics.

source /'soɔ♂s/ *noun, pl* **sourc•es** [*count*]

1 : someone or something that provides what is wanted or needed ▪ The college had its own power *source*. ▪ a water *source* = a *source* of water ▪ She has been a great *source* of strength to me. ▪ His job is the family's main *source* of income.
2 : the cause of something (such as a problem) — usually + *of* ▪ The delays are a *source of* concern. ▪ The team's bad play has been a *source of* disappointment.
3 : a person, book, etc., that gives information ▪ A government *source* spoke to the press today. ▪ The reporter has refused to reveal his *sources*. ▪ According to one *source*, the program will not cost a lot. ▪ information from various intelligence *sources* ▪ print *sources* ▪ a reference *source*
4 : the beginning of a stream or river of water ▪ the *source* of the Nile

sour cream *noun* [*noncount*] : a thick cream that has a sour flavor ▪ He put *sour cream* on his baked potato. — called also (*Brit*) *soured cream*

sour·dough /'saw♂ˌdoʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of dough that is allowed to ferment before it is baked and that has a slightly sour taste ▪ *sourdough* bread

sour grapes *noun* [*plural*] *informal* : unfair criticism that comes from someone who is disappointed about not getting something ▪ His remarks are nothing but *sour grapes*.

sour·puss /'saw♂ˌpʊs/ *noun, pl* **-puss·es** [*count*] *informal* : a person who complains frequently or constantly and looks unhappy ▪ He's just an old *sourpuss*.

soused /'saʊst/ *adj*
1 : completely covered by a liquid ▪ cucumbers *soused* in vinegar
2 *informal* : very drunk ▪ He sat at the bar quietly getting *soused*.

[1]south /'saʊθ/ *noun*
1 [*noncount*] : the direction that is to your right when you are facing the rising sun : the direction that is the opposite of north ▪ The nearest town is 20 miles to the *south* (of here). ▪ The wind blew from the *south*. ▪ Which way is *south*?
2 ***the south*** *or* ***the South*** : regions or countries south of a certain point ▪ The birds migrate from *the South*.; *especially* : the southern part of the U.S. ▪ Parts of *the South* were hit hard by the storm. ▪ I grew up in *the South*. ▪ The American Civil War was between the North and *the South*.

[2]south *adj*
1 : located in or toward the south ▪ the *south* entrance ▪ *South* America
2 : coming from the south ▪ a *south* wind

[3]south *adv*
1 : to or toward the south ▪ Turn *south* onto Elm Street. ▪ It's a mile *south* of here. ▪ The birds fly/go *south* in the winter.
2 *US, informal* : into a worse state or condition ▪ The company's profits have ***gone south*** in recent months. ▪ The TV show's ratings have been ***heading south***.
down south *informal* : in or to the southern part of a country or region ▪ She spent a few years *down south*. ▪ We'll be heading *down south* for the winter. — compare *up north* at [3]NORTH

south·bound /'saʊθˌbaʊnd/ *adj* : going or heading south ▪ a *southbound* train ▪ The *southbound* lanes are closed to traffic.

[1]south·east /saʊθ'i:st/ *noun*
1 [*noncount*] : the direction between south and east
2 ***the southeast*** *or* ***the Southeast*** : the southeastern part of a country or region ▪ A mountain range is in *the southeast* of the country.; *especially* : the southeastern part of the U.S. ▪ Rain is moving into *the Southeast*. ▪ He grew up in *the Southeast*.

[2]southeast *adj*
1 : located in or toward the southeast ▪ *southeast* Europe ▪ My office is in the *southeast* corner of the building.
2 : coming from the southeast ▪ a *southeast* wind

[3]south·east *adv* : to or toward the southeast ▪ It's a few miles *southeast* of here. ▪ We headed *southeast*.

south·east·er /saʊθ'i:stə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a strong wind that blows from the southeast
2 : a storm with winds that blow from the southeast

south·east·er·ly /saʊθ'i:stə♂li/ *adj*
1 : located in or moving toward the southeast ▪ They sailed in a *southeasterly* direction.
2 : blowing from the southeast ▪ *southeasterly* winds

south·east·ern /saʊθ'i:stə♂n/ *adj*
1 : located in or toward the southeast ▪ a *southeastern* corner of the state
2 : of or relating to the southeast ▪ a *southeastern* bird

south·east·ern·er *or* **South·east·ern·er** /saʊθ'i:stə♂nə♂/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person born, raised, or living in the southeast; *especially* : a person born, raised, or living in the southeastern U.S.

south·east·ward /saʊθ'i:stwə♂d/ *also chiefly Brit* **south·east·wards** /saʊθ'i:stwə♂dz/ *adv* : toward the southeast ▪ The storm is moving *southeastward*.
– **southeastward** *adj* ▪ The storm followed a *southeastward* course.

south·er·ly /'sʌðə♂li/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : located in or moving toward the south ▪ *southerly* latitudes ▪ We sailed in a *southerly* direction.
2 : blowing from the south ▪ a *southerly* wind
– **southerly** *adv* ▪ We sailed *southerly* around the island. ▪ The storm is headed *southerly*.

south·ern /'sʌðə♂n/ *adj*
1 [*more ~; most ~*] : located in or toward the south ▪ *southern* U.S. ▪ the *southern* part of the state ▪ the *southern* shore of the lake
2 a : of or relating to the south ▪ a *southern* species ▪ *southern* cities **b** ***Southern*** : of or relating to the people born, raised, or living in the southeastern U.S. ▪ a *Southern* accent ▪ *Southern* hospitality/cooking

south·ern·er *or* **South·ern·er** /'sʌðə♂nə♂/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person born, raised, or living in the south; *especially* : a person born, raised, or living in the southern U.S. — compare NORTHERNER

Southern Lights *noun*
the Southern Lights : large areas of green, red, blue, or yellow light that sometimes appear in the night sky in far southern regions — called also *aurora australis*

south·ern·most /'sʌðə♂nˌmoʊst/ *adj* : furthest to the south ▪ the *southernmost* tip of the island

south·paw /'saʊθˌpɑ:/ *noun, pl* **-paws** [*count*] *informal* : someone who is left-handed; *especially* : a left-handed baseball pitcher or boxer

South Pole *noun*
the South Pole : the most southern point on the surface of the earth

south·ward /'saʊθˌwə♂d/ *also chiefly Brit* **south·wards** /'saʊθˌwə♂dz/ *adv* : toward the south ▪ birds flying *southward*
– **southward** *adj* ▪ a *southward* course/expansion

[1]south·west /saʊθ'wɛst/ *noun*
1 [*noncount*] : the direction between south and west
2 ***the southwest*** *or* ***the Southwest*** : the southwestern part of a country or region ▪ A mountain range is in *the southwest* of the country.; *especially* : the southwestern part of the U.S. ▪ These plants grow in *the Southwest*.

[2]southwest *adj*
1 : located in the southwest ▪ the *southwest* corner of the building ▪ *southwest* France
2 : blowing from the southwest ▪ a *southwest* wind

[3]southwest *adv* : to or toward the southwest ▪ It's about 80 miles *southwest* of here. ▪ traveling *southwest*

south·west·er·ly /saʊθ'wɛstə♂li/ *adj*
1 : located in or moving toward the southwest ▪ The storm is headed in a *southwesterly* direction.
2 : blowing from the southwest ▪ a *southwesterly* wind
– **southwesterly** *adv* ▪ We sailed *southwesterly*.

south·west·ern /saʊθ'wɛstə♂n/ *adj*
1 : in, toward, or from the southwest ▪ *southwestern* Arizona ▪ the *southwestern* border
2 : of or relating to the southwest ▪ a *southwestern* bird

south·west·ern·er *or* **South·west·ern·er** /saʊθ'wɛstə♂nə♂/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person born, raised, or living in the southwest; *especially* : a person born, raised, or living in the southwestern U.S.

south·west·ward /saʊθ'wɛstwə♂d/ *also chiefly Brit* **south·west·wards** /saʊθ'wɛstwə♂dz/ *adv* : toward the southwest ▪ The storm is moving *southwestward*.
– **southwestward** *adj* ▪ The storm will follow a *southwestward* course.

sou·ve·nir /ˌsu:və'niə♂/ *noun, pl* **-nirs** [*count*] : something that is kept as a reminder of a place you have visited, an event you have been to, etc. ▪ When I went to the Super Bowl, I kept my ticket stub as a *souvenir*. ▪ a ***souvenir shop*** [=a shop that sells souvenirs] — often + *of* ▪ This coffee mug is a *souvenir of* our trip to Hawaii.

sou'·west·er /saʊ'wɛstə♂/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a hat that is worn when it rains and that is longer in the

S

back than in the front and ties under the chin
2 : a long coat worn by sailors that keeps them dry during stormy weather

[1]sov•er•eign /ˈsɑːvrən/ *noun, pl* **-eigns** [*count*]
1 *formal* : a king or queen ▪ a Spanish *sovereign*
2 : a British gold coin that was used in the past

[2]sovereign *adj, formal*
1 a : having unlimited power or authority ▪ a *sovereign* prince **b** : not limited ▪ the *sovereign* power of a king
2 : having independent authority and the right to govern itself ▪ a *sovereign* state/nation
3 *US* : highest and most important ▪ The government's *sovereign* duty is to protect the rights of its citizens.

sov•er•eign•ty /ˈsɑːvrənti/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : unlimited power over a country — often + *over* ▪ He claimed *sovereignty over* the nation.
2 : a country's independent authority and the right to govern itself ▪ national *sovereignty* ▪ a claim of/to *sovereignty*

so•vi•et /ˈsoʊviˌɛt/ *noun, pl* **-ets**
1 [*count*] : an elected council in the former U.S.S.R.
2 *Soviets* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : the people and especially the political and military leaders of the former U.S.S.R. ▪ disputes between Americans and *Soviets* ▪ The plan was opposed by ***the Soviets***.

Soviet *adj* : of or relating to the former U.S.S.R. or its people ▪ the *Soviet* government

[1]sow /ˈsoʊ/ *verb* **sows**; **sowed**; **sown** /ˈsoʊn/ *or* **sowed**; **sow•ing**
1 : to plant seeds in an area of ground [+ *obj*] Every year we *sow* corn. ▪ Farmers *sowed* the fields with corn. [*no obj*] We'll *sow* in the early spring.
2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (fear, doubt, etc.) to affect many people ▪ Threats of war have *sown* fear in the region. [=have made many people in the region afraid] ▪ They have been deliberately attempting to *sow* discord. [=to cause people to disagree and argue with each other]
reap what you sow see REAP
sow the seeds of : to create a situation in which (something) is likely or certain to happen or develop ▪ Opponents have succeeded in *sowing the seeds of* suspicion/doubt. [=have succeeded in making people have suspicions/doubts] ▪ They have *sowed the seeds of* their own destruction. [=they have done something that will lead to their own destruction]
sow your (wild) oats : to have many sexual relationships particularly when you are young ▪ He *sowed his wild oats* in his younger years, but he's married now and has a family.
– sow•er /ˈsowɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[2]sow /ˈsaʊ/ *noun, pl* **sows** [*count*] : a fully grown female pig

soy /ˈsoɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US*
1 : soybeans and the food products that are made from soybeans ▪ His book promotes the health benefits of *soy*. — often used before another noun ▪ *soy* flour ▪ *soy* milk [=a drink that resembles cow's milk but that is made from soybeans]
2 : SOY SAUCE ▪ The recipe calls for two tablespoons of *soy*.

soya /ˈsojə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : soybeans and the food products that are made from soybeans : SOY

soy•bean /ˈsoɪˌbiːn/ *noun, pl* **-beans** [*count*] *US* : the bean of an Asian plant that contains a large amount of protein and that is used as a food — called also (*Brit*) *soya bean*

soy sauce *noun* [*noncount*] : a brown sauce that is made from soybeans and used especially in Chinese and Japanese cooking — called also (*Brit*) *soya sauce*

soz•zled /ˈsɑːzəld/ *adj, slang* : very drunk ▪ He got *sozzled* at the party last night.

spa /ˈspɑː/ *noun, pl* **spas** [*count*]
1 a : a place where water that has many minerals in it comes up naturally from the ground and where people go to improve their health by swimming in, bathing in, or drinking the water **b** : a place where people go to improve their health and appearance by exercising, relaxing, etc. — called also *health spa*, (*chiefly Brit*) *health farm*
2 *US* : a bathtub in which a pump causes hot water and air bubbles to move around your body ▪ Their property includes a swimming pool and *spa*.

[1]space /ˈspeɪs/ *noun, pl* **spac•es**
1 a [*noncount*] : the amount of an area, room, surface, etc., that is empty or available for use ▪ There's still some *space* for a bookshelf. ▪ the *space* behind/above/near the couch ▪ Is there *space* in the cabinet for these dishes? ▪ There's not much empty/clear *space*. ▪ He moved the books to create more *space* on his desk. ▪ Those old boxes take up a lot of *space*. ▪ There should be plenty of *space* [=*room*] on the disk to save the files. — see also *a waste of space* at [1]WASTE **b** : an area that is used or available for a specific purpose [*count*] a parking *space* ▪ She needs a *space* [=*place*] where she can do her homework. [*noncount*] floor *space* ▪ storage *space* ▪ The magazine devotes a lot of *space* to advertising.
2 a : an empty area between things [*count*] She has a *space* between her front teeth. [*noncount*] There isn't much *space* between our houses. ▪ Is there enough *space* [=*room*] for me to park there? **b** : an area of land with no buildings on it [*plural*] the ***wide open spaces*** of the western U.S. [*noncount*] They live in an area where there's a lot of ***open space***
3 [*noncount*] : the region beyond the Earth's atmosphere in which there are stars and planets : OUTER SPACE ▪ sent the satellite into *space* — often used before another noun ▪ *space* exploration/travel ▪ the *space* program [=the program devoted to exploring space]
4 [*noncount*] : the limitless area in which all things exist and move ▪ the movement of sound waves through *space* ▪ exploring the relationship between time and *space*
5 [*count*] : a period of time — usually singular ▪ a ***short space of time*** [=a short time] ▪ They finished ***in/within the space of*** an hour. [=within an hour]
6 a : a blank area separating written or printed words or lines [*count*] There should be a *space* after the comma. [*noncount*] Let's leave more *space* between the paragraphs. **b** : a blank part or section on a document where something can be written [*count*] There's a *space* for your name and address. [*noncount*] There is *space* at the bottom for your name and address.
7 [*noncount*] **a** : the freedom and time to behave and think as you want to without being controlled or influenced by someone else ▪ I need more *space* in our relationship. **b** : PERSONAL SPACE ▪ You're invading my *space*. [=you're too close to me]
8 [*count*] : an available seat on a bus, train, etc. ▪ There are no *spaces* left on the bus.
stare/gaze (off) into space : to look straight ahead without looking at anything specific ▪ He wouldn't even look at me. He just sat there, *staring into space*.

[2]space *verb* **spaces**; **spaced**; **spac•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to place or arrange (things) so that there is a particular amount of space between them ▪ widely/closely *spaced* posts ▪ *Space* the seedlings about six inches apart. — often + *out* Try to *space out* the poles evenly.
2 : to separate (things) by particular periods of time ▪ He *spaces* his albums so that he puts one out every two to three years. ▪ They *spaced* the births of their three children two years apart. — often + *out* ▪ They *spaced out* the births of their three children.
space out [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to stop paying attention : to become unaware of what is happening around you ▪ *spaced out* for a minute and didn't hear what she said. ▪ *spaced out* halfway through the lecture.

space–age /ˈspeɪsˈeɪʤ/ *adj, informal* : very modern ▪ *space-age* machine/design

space bar *noun, pl* ~ **bars** [*count*] : the wide key at the bottom of a computer keyboard or typewriter that is used to make a space

space cadet *noun, pl* ~ **-dets** [*count*] *informal* : a person who does not pay attention or who tends to forget things ▪ Don't be such a *space cadet*.

space•craft /ˈspeɪsˌkræft, *Brit* ˈspeɪsˌkrɑːft/ *noun, pl* **spacecraft** [*count*] : a vehicle that is used for travel in outer space

spaced /ˈspeɪst/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US, informal* : SPACED OUT ▪ He was too *spaced* on drugs to know what he was doing.

spaced out *adj, informal* : unable to think clearly or to pay attention to what is going on around you ▪ He looked like he was *spaced out* on drugs. ▪ I was tired and feeling pretty *spaced out*. ▪ She had a *spaced out* look on her face.

space•flight /ˈspeɪsˌflaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-flights** : flight into outer space in a spacecraft [*count*] the first manned *spaceflight* [*noncount*] a history of human *spaceflight*

space heater *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a small device that is used for heating a room

space•man /ˈspeɪsˌmæn/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-ˌmɛn/ [*count*]
1 *informal* : a person (especially a man) who travels in a spacecraft into outer space : ASTRONAUT
2 *in stories* : a visitor to Earth from outer space ▪ *spaceman* from Mars

space probe *noun, pl* ~ **probes** [*count*] : a device that is used to obtain information from outer space and send it back to Earth

space·ship /ˈspeɪsˌʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships** [*count*] : SPACECRAFT

space shuttle *noun, pl* ~ **shuttles** [*count*] : a spacecraft that can be used more than once and that carries people into outer space and back to Earth

space station *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] : a large spacecraft in which people live for long periods of time in order to do research and experiments

space suit *noun, pl* ~ **suits** [*count*] : a special suit that is designed to keep astronauts alive in outer space

space walk *noun, pl* ~ **walks** [*count*] : an activity in which an astronaut moves around and does work outside a spacecraft while it is in outer space

spac·ey /ˈspeɪsi/ *adj* **spac·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : SPACED OUT • I'm a little *spacey* today.

spac·ing /ˈspeɪsɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the amount of space between letters, words, or lines on a printed page • The *spacing* between characters should be even.

spa·cious /ˈspeɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having a large amount of space • a *spacious* room/office/house • The dining room is *spacious* [=*roomy*] enough to seat our whole family and several guests.

– **spa·cious·ly** *adv* • a *spaciously* arranged room – **spa·cious·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

spade /ˈspeɪd/ *noun, pl* **spades**

1 [*count*] : a tool with a heavy metal blade attached to a handle that is used for digging — see picture at GARDENING

2 [*count*] : a playing card that is marked with a black shape that looks like a pointed leaf • two hearts, one club, and three *spades* — see picture at PLAYING CARD

3 *spades* [*plural*] : the suit in a deck of playing cards that consists of spades • the queen of *spades*

call a spade a spade : to speak in an honest and direct way • Why don't you just *call a spade a spade* and say that he's a liar?

in spades : to a great degree : in large amounts • We've been having problems *in spades*. • His hard work and dedication were rewarded *in spades*.

spade·work /ˈspeɪdˌwɚk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : difficult work that is done especially to prepare for something • She had her assistants do the *spadework* in preparation for the trial.

spa·ghet·ti /spəˈgɛti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : pasta in the shape of long, thin strings — see picture at PASTA

spaghetti strap *noun, pl* ~ **straps** [*count*] : a very thin piece of material that is worn over the shoulder and that holds up a piece of clothing (such as a dress) — see color picture on page C15

spaghetti western *noun, pl* ~ **-erns** [*count*] : a movie about the old American West that is produced in Italy • I'm a fan of *spaghetti westerns* of the 1960s.

spake /ˈspeɪk/ *archaic past tense of* SPEAK

[1]spam /ˈspæm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : e-mail that is not wanted : e-mail that is sent to large numbers of people and that consists mostly of advertising • tips to reduce *spam* • a ***spam filter*** [=software that identifies and blocks spam]

[2]spam *verb* **spams**; **spammed**; **spam·ming** [+ *obj*] : to send unwanted e-mail to (someone) • That company keeps *spamming* me. [=keeps sending me spam]

– **spam·mer** *noun, pl* **-mers** [*count*]

Spam /ˈspæm/ *trademark* — used for a type of meat that is sold in cans

[1]span /ˈspæn/ *noun, pl* **spans** [*count*]

1 : the period of time between two dates or events • a 25-year *span* • a brief ***time span*** — often + *of* • a brief *span of* time • The symphonies were composed over a *span of* eight years. • I received two job offers within the *span of* a week. — see also ATTENTION SPAN, LIFE SPAN

2 : the part of a bridge or other structure that goes across a space from one support to another

3 : the width of something from one side to the other — often + *of* • the *span of* his shoulders • It's a *span of* a few hundred miles to cross the state. — see also WINGSPAN

– see also SPIC-AND-SPAN

[2]span *verb* **spans**; **spanned**; **span·ning** [+ *obj*]

1 : to continue throughout (a period of time) • His career as a singer *spanned* three decades.

2 : to cover or include (a wide area, a large number of things, etc.) • Their empire once *spanned* several continents. • Her academic interests *span* a wide variety of topics.

3 : to cross over (something) • A bridge *spans* the river.

span·dex /ˈspænˌdɛks/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a material that stretches easily and is used especially to make sports clothing; *also* : clothing made of this material

[1]span·gle /ˈspæŋgəl/ *verb* **span·gles**; **span·gled**; **span·gling** [+ *obj*] : to decorate or cover (something) with many small, shiny objects — usually used as *(be) spangled* • *spangled* pants/gloves — often used figuratively • a night sky *spangled* with stars

[2]spangle *noun, pl* **spangles** [*count*] : a small, shiny piece of metal or plastic that is used to decorate clothing • showgirls dressed in costumes with gold *spangles*

Span·glish /ˈspæŋglɪʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : Spanish that includes the use of English words

Span·iard /ˈspænjɚd/ *noun, pl* **-iards** [*count*] : a person born, raised, or living in Spain : a Spanish person

span·iel /ˈspænjəl/ *noun, pl* **-iels** [*count*] : a type of small dog that has long ears and a soft coat

Span·ish /ˈspænɪʃ/ *noun*

1 [*noncount*] : the language of Spain, Mexico, and many countries in Latin America

2 *the Spanish* : the people of Spain : Spanish people

– **Spanish** *adj* • *Spanish* art/cooking/culture/territories • She has a *Spanish* accent.

Spanish American *noun, pl* ~ **-cans** [*count*] : a person living in the U.S. whose native language is Spanish

– **Spanish–American** *adj* • *Spanish-American* culture

Spanish moss *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of American plant that has long gray strands and that hangs down from the branches of trees

Spanish rice *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : rice cooked with onions, green peppers, and tomatoes

spank /ˈspæŋk/ *verb* **spanks**; **spanked**; **spank·ing** [+ *obj*] : to hit (someone) on the buttocks with your hand as a form of punishment • Parents shouldn't *spank* their children.

– **spanking** *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] • If you don't stop jumping on the couch, you're going to ***get a spanking***. [=get spanked] • She ***gave him a spanking***. [=spanked him]

spank·ing /ˈspæŋkɪŋ/ *adv, informal* : VERY • ***spanking new*** [=*brand-new*] sneakers • He keeps his apartment ***spanking clean***.

span·ner /ˈspænɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*] *Brit* : [1]WRENCH 1

put/throw a spanner in the works *informal* : to cause something to not go as planned • We were ready to start the project when the bank *threw a spanner in the works* by denying the loan.

[1]spar /ˈspɑɚ/ *verb* **spars**; **sparred**; **spar·ring** [*no obj*]

1 : to box with someone as a form of training or practice • He's been *sparring* with his trainer.

2 : to argue with someone in a friendly way • They *sparred* playfully over whose team was better. — see also SPARRING PARTNER

[2]spar *noun, pl* **spars** [*count*] : a thick pole or similar structure that supports something (such as the sails of a ship or the wing of an aircraft)

[1]spare /ˈspeɚ/ *adj* **spar·er**; **spar·est**

1 *always used before a noun* **a** : kept as something extra that can be used if it is needed • a *spare* pair of gloves • *spare* parts • I keep a *spare* set of keys in my desk. • a *spare* bedroom [=an extra bedroom where guests can sleep] — see also SPARE TIRE **b** : available to be used in whatever way you want • He likes to ski in his ***spare time***. [=his free time; the time when he is not working] **c** : not needed by you and available to be shared or given to someone else • Do you have any *spare* cash/change? [=any extra cash/change that you could give to me]

2 : somewhat thin • He has a *spare* frame. • He was tall and *spare*.

3 : simple or plain • I like her *spare* style of writing.

going spare *Brit, informal* : not being used : available for someone to use • land that is *going spare*

go spare *Brit, informal* : to become very angry or upset • My dad *went spare* when he found out what I'd done.

– **spare·ly** *adv* • a *sparely* decorated room – **spare·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] • the *spareness* of her writing

[2]spare *verb* **spares**; **spared**; **spar·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to choose not to punish or harm (someone) • No one knows why the gunman shot some people and *spared* others. • No one knows why he ***spared their lives***. [=why he didn't kill them] **b** : to not destroy or harm (something) • Some-

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how the storm *spared* our house while nearby buildings were destroyed.

2 : to prevent (someone or something) from experiencing or being affected by something unpleasant, harmful, etc. ▪ She was *spared* from having to answer any more questions. ▪ He wanted to *spare* his family from the stress he had endured. ▪ Our church was *spared* the fate of many others that have been closed. [=our church was not closed] ▪ I could have *spared* myself the trouble. ▪ He *spared* them the embarrassment of a public apology.

3 : to give (something, such as time, money, etc.) to someone ▪ Can you *spare* (me) a few minutes? [=can you spend a few minutes with me?] ▪ I can't *spare* the time to see you today. [=I don't have enough time to see you today] ▪ If you could *spare* a cup of sugar, it would save me a trip to the store. ▪ You should ***spare a thought for*** [=think about] those who are less fortunate than you.

4 : to not do or provide (something) ▪ Nothing was *spared* by the hotel [=the hotel provided everything possible] to make its guests relaxed and comfortable. ▪ We will ***spare no effort*** [=we will do everything we can] to ensure the safety of the tunnels. ▪ When they go on vacation, they ***spare no expense***. [=they do not worry about spending too much money; they spend a lot of money] ▪ He said that he would *spare no expense* [=he would spend as much money as necessary] to make the restaurant successful.

5 : to use or give out (something) in small amounts — usually used in negative statements ▪ More pancakes, please, and don't *spare* the syrup. [=give me a lot of syrup]

spare someone's blushes *Brit, informal* : to prevent someone from being embarrassed ▪ The manager spoke up to *spare the blushes* of his young employee.

spare someone's feelings : to avoid doing or saying something that will hurt someone emotionally : to avoid upsetting someone ▪ He admitted that he hadn't told me the whole story because he wanted to *spare my feelings*.

spare (someone) the details : to not tell someone all the unpleasant or boring details about something ▪ "I drank too much last night and got sick." "Please, *spare me the details*."

to spare ✧ If you have money, time, energy, etc., *to spare*, you have more than enough money, time, energy, etc. ▪ He seems to have energy *to spare*. [=he seems to have a lot of energy] ▪ We have very little time *to spare*. [=we do not have a lot of time] ▪ I have no money *to spare* [=I do not have enough money] for such things. ▪ He got there ***with (only) minutes/seconds to spare***. [=he got there only minutes/seconds before he needed to; he got there just in time] ▪ He got there ***with time to spare***. [=he got there early; he got there in plenty of time]

[3]spare *noun, pl* **spares** [*count*]

1 : something extra that is kept to be used if it is needed ▪ "I've lost the key." "You'll find a *spare* in the drawer." ▪ If that one breaks, I've got a *spare*.; *especially* : SPARE TIRE 1 ▪ Most cars come with *spares*.

2 *bowling* : the achievement of knocking down all 10 pins with the first two balls ▪ He got a strike and two *spares*. ▪ He ***made/bowled a spare***. — compare [2]STRIKE 6

spare•rib /ˈspɛɚˌrɪb/ *noun, pl* **-ribs** [*count*] : a piece of meat from a pig that includes a rib — usually plural ▪ barbecued *spareribs*

spare tire (*US*) *or Brit* **spare tyre** *noun, pl* ~ **tires** [*count*]

1 : an extra tire for a car

2 *informal* : a roll of fat around your waist ▪ I have to go on a diet and try to lose this *spare tire*.

spar•ing /ˈspɛrɪŋ/ *adj* : not using or giving a lot of something ▪ an artist who is *sparing* in her use of color [=who does not use much color] ▪ He has been *sparing* with details about his personal life. [=he has not talked much about his personal life]

– **spar•ing•ly** /ˈspɛrɪŋli/ *adv* ▪ He used the funds only *sparingly*.

[1]spark /ˈspɑɚk/ *noun, pl* **sparks**

1 [*count*] **a** : a small piece of burning material that comes from a fire or is produced by rubbing or hitting two hard objects together ▪ A *spark* from the fireplace set the rug on fire. ▪ The car's tailpipe made *sparks* as it scraped the road. **b** : a short, bright flash of electricity between two points ▪ A *spark* ignites the stove's burner.

2 [*noncount*] : a quality that makes someone or something enjoyable, interesting, successful, etc. ▪ In its fourth year, the TV series has lost its *spark*. ▪ She's a talented gymnast but she doesn't have the *spark* of some of her competitors.

3 [*count*] : a small amount of something ▪ A *spark* of hope remains. ▪ Sometimes there were surprising *sparks* of humor in his letters. ▪ occasional *sparks* of insight

4 [*count*] : an action, occurrence, etc., that causes something larger to happen ▪ His death was the *spark* that ignited the revolution. ▪ Her suggestion was the *spark* for the entire renovation project.

bright spark *Brit, informal + disapproving* : a person who says or does something that seems intelligent but is really not ▪ Who's the *bright spark* who came up with this rotten idea?

sparks fly ✧ When *sparks fly*, it means that two people are either having an argument with each other or are sexually attracted to each other. ▪ The *sparks flew* [=they had an angry argument] when he arrived late for her special dinner. ▪ *Sparks flew* when they met for the first time.

[2]spark *verb* **sparks; spark•ing; sparked**

1 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to start or happen ▪ The question *sparked* a debate. ▪ Her fifth-grade teacher *sparked* her interest in history. — sometimes + *off* ▪ The arrests *sparked off* [=*touched off*] a riot. ▪ His hit *sparked off* [=*started*] a rally that brought in four runs.

2 [*no obj*] : to produce sparks ▪ The fire *sparked* and crackled. ▪ The wires made contact and *sparked*.

3 [+ *obj*] : to add interest, liveliness, or flavor to (something) ▪ prose *sparked* with humor — often + *up* ▪ *spark up* an otherwise bland sauce

[1]spar•kle /ˈspɑɚkəl/ *verb* **spar•kles; spar•kled; spar•kling** [*no obj*]

1 : to produce small flashes of light ▪ The diamond *sparkled*.

2 : to perform very well ▪ The dancers *sparkled* on stage.

3 : to be or become bright and lively ▪ The conversation *sparkled*. ▪ Her eyes *sparkled* with pride. — see also SPARKLING

[2]sparkle *noun, pl* **sparkles**

1 : a small flash of bright light [*count*] The sun reflected off the water in bright *sparkles* of light. [*noncount*] He caught the *sparkle* of her diamond out of the corner of his eye.

2 [*noncount*] : a lively quality ▪ a performance full of *sparkle* and originality ▪ the *sparkle* in her eyes

spar•kler /ˈspɑɚklɚ/ *noun, pl* **-klers** [*count*] : a type of firework that you hold in your hand and that throws off very bright sparks as it burns

sparkling *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : shining with or reflecting bright points of light ▪ the *sparkling* blue sea ▪ *sparkling* jewels

2 : bright and clever ▪ *sparkling* wit

3 : of the best quality : excellent or outstanding ▪ a *sparkling* performance ▪ The building is a *sparkling* example of modern architecture at its best. ▪ (*Brit*) athletes in *sparkling* [=*superb, brilliant*] form

4 *always used before a noun* : containing bubbles ▪ *sparkling* wine ▪ *sparkling* grape juice

spark plug *noun, pl* ~ **plugs** [*count*] : a part of an engine that produces a spark that makes the fuel burn — see picture at ENGINE

sparky /ˈspɑɚki/ *adj* **spark•i•er; -est** *chiefly Brit, informal* : lively and energetic ▪ *sparky* youngsters ▪ a *sparky* heroine ▪ *sparky* conversation

sparring partner *noun, pl* ~ **-ners** [*count*]

1 : someone who helps a boxer practice : someone a boxer spars with for training

2 : a person that you have serious but friendly arguments with ▪ They have been political *sparring partners* for years.

spar•row /ˈspɛroʊ/ *noun, pl* **-rows** [*count*] : a common type of small bird that usually has brown or gray feathers — see color picture on page C9

sparse /ˈspɑɚs/ *adj* **spars•er; -est** : present only in small amounts : less than necessary or normal ▪ Reliable data is *sparse*.; *especially* : thinly covering an area : not thick or full ▪ *sparse* vegetation ▪ a *sparse* beard ***synonyms*** see MEAGER

– **sparse•ly** *adv* ▪ a *sparsely* populated area ▪ The room was *sparsely* furnished. – **sparse•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

spar•tan *also* **Spar•tan** /ˈspɑɚtn̩/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very bare and simple : lacking the things that make life comfortable or more pleasant ▪ They lived in *spartan* conditions.

spasm /ˈspæzəm/ *noun, pl* **spasms** [*count*]

1 : a sudden uncontrolled and often painful tightening of a muscle ▪ violent back *spasms* ▪ a disease that causes muscle *spasms*

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2 : a sudden and usually brief occurrence of something you cannot control ▪ He was racked with coughing *spasms*. ▪ She was suffering *spasms* of guilt. ▪ *spasms* of joy/rage

spas·mod·ic /spæz'mɑ:dɪk/ *adj*
1 : relating to or caused by a spasm ▪ *spasmodic* movements/jerks
2 : happening suddenly and briefly at different times in a way that is not regular ▪ He made only *spasmodic* attempts to lose weight. ▪ *spasmodic* [=*intermittent*] activity
– **spas·mod·i·cal·ly** /spæz'mɑ:dɪkli/ *adv* ▪ His neck was jerking *spasmodically*. ▪ Outbursts of violence continued *spasmodically* after the war ended.

spas·tic /'spæstɪk/ *adj*
1 *medical* **a** : relating to or affected with spasms ▪ a *spastic* colon ▪ *spastic* paralysis **b** *old-fashioned* : suffering from cerebral palsy or a similar disease that causes uncontrolled movements ▪ a *spastic* child
2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : having movements like spasms : clumsy or awkward ▪ *spastic* fingers ▪ *spastic* dancing
– **spastic** *noun, pl* **-tics** [*count*]

[1]spat *past tense and past participle of* [1]SPIT

[2]spat /'spæt/ *noun, pl* **spats** [*count*] : a short argument about something that is not important ▪ The newlyweds were having another *spat*. — compare [4]SPAT

[3]spat *verb* **spats**; **spat·ted**; **spat·ting** [*no obj*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : to argue or fight : to have a spat ▪ They were typical sisters, *spatting* one minute, playing together the next.

[4]spat *noun, pl* **spats** [*count*] : a cloth or leather covering for the ankle and foot that men wore over their shoes in the past — usually plural ▪ a pair of *spats* — compare [2]SPAT

spate /'speɪt/ *noun, pl* **spates** [*count*] : a large number of things that appear or happen in a short period of time ▪ A *spate* of books on the subject have come out recently. ▪ the recent *spate* [=*rash*] *of* forest fires ▪ There was a *spate* of corporate mergers in the 1980s.
in spate *chiefly Brit, of a river, stream, etc.* : very full : filled with water flowing very fast ▪ The river was *in spate* due to heavy rains.

spa·tial /'speɪʃəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *technical* : of or relating to space and the relationship of objects within it ▪ the *spatial* dimensions of a room ▪ tests of *spatial* ability
– **spa·tial·ly** *adv*

[1]spat·ter /'spætɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter·ing** : to cause drops of a liquid to be thrown forcefully in different directions [+ *obj*] A passing car *spattered* [=*splattered*] mud all over her new coat. ▪ The dog jumped in the pool and *spattered* us with water. ▪ His clothes were *spattered* with paint. [*no obj*] When you cook bacon, the grease *spatters* everywhere. ▪ He showed me how to use the paintbrush so the paint wouldn't *spatter*.

[2]spatter *noun, pl* **-ters** : a mark made when something wet hits a surface [*count*] There were grease *spatters* all over the wall. ▪ The floor was covered with *spatters* of paint. [*noncount*] There was a lot of paint *spatter* on the floor. ▪ (*US*) He cleaned the bug *spatter* off the windshield.

spat·u·la /'spætʃələ/ *noun, pl* **-las** [*count*]
1 *US* **a** : a kitchen tool that has a handle which is bent upward and a wide, thin blade used for lifting and turning foods on a hot surface — called also (*Brit*) *fish slice*; see picture at KITCHEN **b** : a kitchen tool that has a long handle and short, soft blade and that is used especially for mixing, spreading, etc.
2 : a kitchen tool similar to a knife that has a flexible blade and that is used for mixing, spreading, etc. — called also (*Brit*) *palette knife*
3 *Brit* : TONGUE DEPRESSOR

[1]spawn /'spɑ:n/ *verb* **spawns**; **spawned**; **spawn·ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to produce or lay eggs in water — used of animals such as fish or frogs ▪ Salmon *spawn* in late summer or fall.
2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to develop or begin : to produce or create (something) ▪ The health-food craze *spawned* a multimillion-dollar industry. ▪ the incident that *spawned* a generation of student protests ▪ a TV show that *spawned* a host of imitations

[2]spawn *noun* [*noncount*] : the eggs of a fish or frog ▪ Pacific salmon return to Alaskan streams to deposit their *spawn*.

spawning ground *noun, pl* ~ **grounds** [*count*]
1 : a place where animals (such as fish or frogs) go to lay eggs ▪ Pacific salmon swim to their *spawning grounds* in Alaskan rivers.
2 : a place where something is created or produced often in large numbers ▪ The country is a *spawning ground* for terrorists.

spay /'speɪ/ *verb* **spays**; **spayed**; **spay·ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove the sex organs of (a female animal) : to make (a female animal) unable to have babies ▪ Our cat has been *spayed*. — compare NEUTER

spaz /'spæz/ *noun, pl* **spaz·zes** [*count*] *US slang* : a person who is very clumsy or awkward : KLUTZ ▪ I'm a real *spaz* on the ski slopes.

speak /'spi:k/ *verb* **speaks**; **spoke** /'spoʊk/; **spo·ken** /'spoʊkən/; **speak·ing**
1 a [*no obj*] : to say words in order to express your thoughts, feelings, opinions, etc., to someone : to talk to someone ▪ Have you two *spoken* since yesterday? ▪ She and I *spoke* this morning. ▪ He never *speaks* at the meetings. ▪ Without *speaking*, she walked from the room. ▪ They were *speaking* in Japanese. — often + *to* ▪ We need to *speak to* our son's teacher about his grades. ▪ He *spoke to* the police through an interpreter. ▪ They *spoke to* each other in a whisper. — often + *with* in U.S. English ▪ The coach refused to *speak with* the reporters. ▪ May I *speak with* you privately? ▪ I *spoke with* him on the phone yesterday. — often used at the beginning of telephone conversations ▪ "Hello. May I *speak* to Noah?" "*Speaking*." [=I am Noah] ▪ "Hello. This is Noah *speaking*." **b** [*no obj*] : to talk about a particular subject or person — often + *about* or *of* ▪ She *spoke* intelligently *about* the current political situation. ▪ He still *speaks of* his ex-wife with affection. ▪ The company is doing very well, ***financially speaking***. [=is doing very well financially] **c** [*no obj*] : to say words to express yourself in a particular way ▪ When I said you were my best friend, I was *speaking* sincerely. ▪ *Speaking* personally, I don't think you should take the job. [=my personal opinion is that you should not take the job] ▪ ***Generally speaking***, people like her as a leader. [=people in general like her as a leader] ▪ The restaurant isn't too expensive, ***comparatively/relatively speaking***. [=when compared to other restaurants] ▪ ***Speaking as*** a student (myself), I'm concerned about the alarming increase in school violence. **d** [+ *obj*] : to say (something) to someone ▪ She must be *speaking* the truth. ▪ Not a word was *spoken* between them the whole time. ▪ Don't be afraid to ***speak your mind***. [=say what you think] ▪ Do not ***speak a word*** of this to anyone else. [=do not tell anyone else anything about this]
2 : to use your voice to say words [*no obj*] He has laryngitis and can't *speak*. ▪ You're *speaking* too fast/loudly. ▪ She *speaks* with a Southern accent. ▪ I was so surprised I could hardly *speak*. ▪ She got a ***speaking part/role*** in the play. [=she got a part/role for which she says words] ▪ He has a very deep ***speaking voice***. [=his voice is very deep when he speaks] [+ *obj*] The singer *speaks* the last verse instead of singing it.
3 [*no obj*] : to be willing to talk to someone after having a disagreement, fight, etc. ▪ They haven't *spoken* since the argument two years ago. ▪ Are they still not *speaking*? ▪ He apologized, so I'm *speaking* with/to him again. ▪ They're not ***on speaking terms***. [=they're not friendly and do not speak to each other]
4 [+ *obj*] : to use (a particular language) to talk to someone ▪ He can *speak* German and French. ▪ English is widely *spoken* in many parts of the world. ▪ We didn't know what language they were *speaking*. ▪ the Spanish-*speaking* population/world ▪ I can't ***speak a word*** of French. [=I do not know any French]
5 [*no obj*] : to talk about something formally to a group of people : to make or give a speech ▪ She was asked to *speak* at the conference. ▪ He has a talent for *speaking* to large audiences. ▪ While most of the senators *spoke* against tax increases, one senator *spoke* in favor of them. ▪ I have a *speaking* engagement [=I will be giving a speech] this evening. — see also PUBLIC SPEAKING
actions speak louder than words see ACTION
in a manner of speaking see MANNER
so to speak — used to indicate that you are using words in an unusual or figurative way rather than a literal way ▪ We need to be all on the same wavelength, *so to speak*.
speak for [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***speak for (someone)*** : to express the thoughts or opinions of (someone) ▪ They chose him to *speak for* the group. ▪ *Speaking* only *for* myself, I'm against the plan. [=I'm only expressing my own opinion when I say that I'm against the plan] ▪ "We don't want any dessert." "***Speak for yourself***. I want some." — often used figuratively ▪ I have nothing more to say. The facts ***speak for themselves***. [=the facts clearly show what is true] **2** ***speak***

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for (something or someone) *chiefly US* : to show that (something or someone) does or does not deserve to be praised, admired, etc. ▪ It ***speaks well for*** [=*says a lot for*] the company that it donates so much money to local charities. ▪ Her calm reaction to the crisis *speaks well for* her ability to perform under pressure. ▪ The test results ***speak poorly for*** our school system. **3** ***be spoken for*** : to not be available because of already being claimed by someone else or in a relationship with someone else ▪ I'm sorry. This seat *is spoken for*. ▪ I can't go out with you; I'*m* already *spoken for*.

speak of [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***speak of (someone or something)*** : to talk or write about (someone or something) : to mention (a subject) in speech or writing ▪ *Speaking of* Jill, where is she? ▪ It was the first time she *spoke of* going to law school. ▪ She never *speaks of* her suffering during the war. ▪ In the letter, he *spoke of* feeling ill. **2** ***speak of (something)*** : to indicate or suggest (something) ▪ His diaries *speak of* a troubled mind. [=they show that he had a troubled mind] **3** ***speak of (someone or something)*** **a** : to talk about (someone or something) in a specified way ▪ He *spoke* well/highly/favorably *of* both job candidates. **b** *chiefly US* : to show that (someone or something) does or does not deserve to be praised, admired, etc. ▪ The continued success of the business ***speaks well of*** their judgment. [=shows that their judgment is good] ▪ Her bad behavior ***speaks poorly of*** her upbringing.

speak of the devil see DEVIL

speak out [*phrasal verb*] : to speak freely and confidently about something : to express an opinion in an open way ▪ She is never afraid to *speak out* on controversial issues. — often + *against* ▪ Protesters *spoke out against* the decision.

speak the same language see LANGUAGE

speak up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to speak loudly and clearly ▪ "*Speak up*. I can't hear you." **2** : to speak at a meeting, in a class, etc. ▪ Seeing that no one was going to answer the teacher's question, he decided to *speak up*. **3** : to speak freely and confidently about something : to express an opinion openly ▪ Several of us decided to *speak up* about our working conditions. — often + *for* ▪ She is always ready to *speak up for* animal rights.

speak volumes see VOLUME

speak your mind see [1]MIND

to speak of : worth mentioning or noticing ▪ There was no progress *to speak of*.

> ***synonyms*** SPEAK and TALK mean to express yourself by saying words. SPEAK refers to anything that is said, whether it is understood or not and whether it is heard or not. ▪ What language are they *speaking*? ▪ She *spoke* to the class. TALK suggests that there is a listener who understands what is said and often that both people do some speaking. ▪ Do you have time to *talk*? ▪ We *talked* about school.

-speak /ˌspi:k/ *noun combining form* — used to form words that refer to the special languages or words used for particular activities or by particular groups ▪ computer*speak* [=the language used by people talking about computers] ▪ California*speak* [=the type of language used by people in California]

speak•easy /ˈspi:kˌi:zi/ *noun, pl* **-eas•ies** [*count*] : a place where alcoholic drinks were sold illegally in the U.S. during the 1920s

speak•er /ˈspi:kɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers**

1 [*count*] : someone who speaks a particular language ▪ fluent *speakers* of French = fluent French *speakers* — see also NATIVE SPEAKER

2 [*count*] : someone who talks about something to a group of people ▪ I disagree with the last *speaker*. ▪ He is an excellent public *speaker*. ▪ She was invited to be a ***guest speaker*** [=to give a speech] at the conference.

3 ***the Speaker*** : the person who controls the discussions in a legislature ▪ She became ***the Speaker of the House*** (of Representatives).

4 [*count*] : someone who is speaking ▪ improper grammar used by a writer or *speaker* ▪ The word "take" often indicates movement away from the *speaker*, while "bring" indicates movement toward the *speaker*.

5 [*count*] : the part of a radio, television, computer, etc., that changes electric signals into sound ▪ I bought new *speakers* for my stereo system. — see picture at LIVING ROOM; see also LOUDSPEAKER

speak•er•phone /ˈspi:kɚˌfoʊn/ *noun, pl* **-phones** *chiefly US* : a feature on a telephone that allows you to talk and listen to someone without holding the receiver to your head [*count*] We used the *speakerphone* for the call so that everyone could hear what was said. [*noncount*] He put her ***on speakerphone*** so that everyone could hear what she said.

[1]spear /ˈspiɚ/ *noun, pl* **spears** [*count*]

1 : a weapon that has a long straight handle and a sharp point ▪ The hunters used *spears*.

2 : a new part of a plant that is thin and pointed : a shoot or sprout of a plant ▪ *spears* of grass ▪ asparagus *spears*

[2]spear *verb* **spears**; **speared**; **spear•ing** [+ *obj*] : to push a spear or other pointed object into (something) ▪ *spear* a fish ▪ She *speared* an olive with a toothpick.

[1]spear•head /ˈspiɚˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] : a person, thing, or group that organizes or leads something (such as a movement or attack) ▪ Her book was the *spearhead* of the clean water movement.

[2]spearhead *verb* **-heads**; **-head•ed**; **-head•ing** [+ *obj*] : to be the leader of (something, such as a political movement) ▪ She *spearheaded* the campaign for better schools. ▪ The movement was *spearheaded* by the teachers' union.

spear•mint /ˈspiɚˌmɪnt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a plant that has a strong and pleasant flavor and smell and that is grown especially for its oil

spec /ˈspɛk/ *noun, pl* **specs** : a detailed description of work to be done or materials to be used in a project : SPECIFICATION [*count*] — usually plural ▪ technical/design *specs* ▪ products that conform to *specs* [*noncount*] (*US*) ▪ parts built according to *spec*

on spec **1** : without having a definite buyer or customer but with the hope or expectation of finding one when work is completed ▪ He built the house *on spec*. ▪ She wrote the script *on spec*. **2** *chiefly Brit* : without being sure of success but with the hope of success ▪ He wrote to the company *on spec*, hoping for a job.

– see also SPECS

[1]spe•cial /ˈspɛʃəl/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : different from what is normal or usual ▪ This is a *special* case and I want you to handle it personally. ▪ Only under *special* circumstances will you be allowed to retake the test. ▪ Is there any *special* [=*particular*] reason why you're not coming?; *especially* : unusual in a good way : better or more important than others ▪ Your many years of service put you in a *special* category. ▪ Why should you receive any *special* treatment? ▪ It takes a *special* quality to do what he did. ▪ This is a very *special* occasion. ▪ Are you doing anything *special* over the holidays? ▪ The movie was nothing *special*. [=was not particularly good] ▪ We have a *special* guest tonight—the mayor.

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : especially important or loved ▪ a *special* friend ▪ No one is more *special* to me than my wife. ▪ He always made her feel *special*. ▪ He holds a *special* place in her heart.

3 *always used before a noun* **a** : more than is usual ▪ Pay *special* attention to the last paragraph. ▪ Take *special* care on the way down the stairs. ▪ They showed *special* concern for the children. ▪ The report places *special* emphasis on new technology. **b** : additional or extra ▪ a *special* edition of a newspaper ▪ He won't tell us the *special* ingredient in his salad dressing. ▪ This camera has a *special* feature that lets you take panoramic views.

4 *always used before a noun* : relating to or intended for a particular purpose ▪ a *special* diet ▪ He was on *special* assignment for the government. ▪ *special* election coverage ▪ I was given *special* orders not to let you in. ▪ To clean the oven, I had to wear *special* gloves. [=a particular kind of glove] ▪ Do you have any *special* instructions for the babysitter? ▪ a *special* correspondent/prosecutor

[2]special *noun, pl* **-cials** [*count*]

1 : a television or radio program that is not part of a regular series ▪ a one-hour *special* on whales ▪ an after-school *special*

2 : a meal that is not on a restaurant's usual menu ▪ Today's lunch *special* is chili. ▪ The *specials* are on the board.

3 : SALE 2 ▪ They were having a *special* on paper towels so I stocked up.

handyman's special see HANDYMAN

on special *US* : selling at a price that is lower than usual : on sale ▪ Pork chops are *on special* [=(*Brit*) *on special offer*] this week.

special agent *noun, pl* ~ **agents** [*count*] : an agent who works for the FBI

Special Air Service *noun* [*noncount*] : SAS

Special Branch *noun* [*noncount*] : the department of the British police force that deals with political crimes and ter-

rorism • Officers from *Special Branch* are investigating the case.

special character *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count*] : a symbol used in writing, typing, etc., that represents something other than a letter or number • The symbol § is a *special character*.

special delivery *noun* [*noncount*] : a special service that delivers mail more quickly than usual for an extra fee • She sent him a letter by *special delivery*.

special education *noun* [*noncount*] : classes for children who have special needs because of physical or learning problems — called also *special ed*

special effect *noun, pl* ~ **-fects** [*count*] : an image or sound that is created in television, radio, or movies to represent something real (such as an explosion) or imaginary (such as a monster) — usually plural • The movie is worth seeing just for the spectacular *special effects*.

special forces *noun* [*plural*] : a part of an army made up of soldiers specially trained to fight against enemies (such as guerrilla forces or terrorists) who do not belong to a regular army

special interest *noun, pl* ~ **-ests** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a group that tries to influence the people who run a government in order to help a particular business, cause, industry, etc. — often plural • The congressmen were accused of selling out to *special interests*. • contributions made by *special interests* — often used before another noun • *special interest* money/politics • the influence of ***special interest groups***

spe•cial•ism /'spɛʃə,lɪzəm/ *noun, pl* **-isms** [*count*] *Brit* : a particular subject or area of study or practice • The professor's *specialism* [=*specialty*] is labor law. — often + *in* • a doctor whose *specialism* [=*specialty, specialization*] is *in* blood disorders [=a doctor who specializes in blood disorders] • an accounting firm with a *specialism in* corporate mergers

spe•cial•ist /'spɛʃəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

1 a : a person who has special knowledge and skill relating to a particular job, area of study, etc. : EXPERT • She consulted a marketing *specialist* when she decided to go into business. • child development *specialists* • He's a *specialist* in international law. [=he specializes in international law] — compare GENERALIST **b** : a doctor who deals with health problems that relate to a specific area of medicine • He saw a *specialist* for his foot problem. • a leading *cancer* specialist • a *skin* specialist — compare GENERAL PRACTITIONER

2 : a rank in the U.S. Army that is above the rank of private and below the rank of corporal

– **specialist** *adj, always used before a noun* • *specialist* publications

specialist shop *noun, pl* ~ **shops** [*count*] *Brit* : SPECIALTY SHOP

spe•ci•al•i•ty /,spɛʃi'ælәti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : SPECIALTY

spe•cial•ize *also Brit* **spe•cial•ise** /'spɛʃə,laɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [*no obj*] : to limit your business or area of study to one specific subject • Some carpenters do a wide range of jobs, while others *specialize*. — usually + *in* • My mechanic *specializes* in repairing foreign cars.

– **spe•cial•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **spe•cial•i•sa•tion** /,spɛʃələ'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ,spɛʃə,laɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] a law firm whose area of *specialization* is family law [*count*] She studies government with a *specialization* in foreign policy.

specialized *also Brit* **specialised** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : made or used for one particular purpose, job, place, etc. • *specialized* regions of the brain • *specialized* gear for deep-sea fishing • a *specialized* habitat • *specialized* knowledge/skills

spe•cial•ly /'spɛʃəli/ *adv*

1 : for a special purpose : SPECIFICALLY • dresses made *specially* for a wedding • The speech was written *specially* for the occasion. • The room was *specially* designed to be used as a library. • *specially* trained troops

2 : to a special or unusual degree : particularly or especially • I was *specially* pleased with your gift. • people who are not *specially* gifted

3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : in a special manner • I don't want to be treated *specially*.

special needs *noun* [*plural*] : mental, emotional, or physical problems in a child that require a special setting for education • a child with *special needs* — often used before another noun • *special-needs* students • a *special-needs* teacher [=a teacher who teaches children with special needs] • a *special-needs* classroom

special offer *noun, pl* ~ **-fers** [*count*] : a product that is being sold for less than its usual price or the act of selling something for less than the usual price • Shoppers will be able to take advantage of *special offers* after the holidays. • (*Brit*) Fresh turkeys are ***on special offer*** [=(*US*) *on special*] this week.

special school *noun, pl* ~ **schools** [*count*] : a school for children who have physical or mental problems

spe•cial•ty /'spɛʃəlti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*] *US*

1 : something that a person or place is known for making or producing very well • Eggs are my dad's *specialty*. [=(*Brit*) *speciality*] • Buttermilk pie is a Southern *specialty*.

2 : an area of study or business that a person specializes in or has special knowledge of • a doctor whose *specialty* [=(*Brit*) *speciality*] is skin problems

specialty shop *noun, pl* ~ **shops** [*count*] *US* : a shop that sells one type of thing • a cheese *specialty shop*

spe•cies /'spi:ʃiz/ *noun, pl* **species** [*count*]

1 *biology* : a group of animals or plants that are similar and can produce young animals or plants : a group of related animals or plants that is smaller than a genus • There are approximately 8,000 *species* of ants. • All European domestic cattle belong to the same *species*. • laws that protect endangered/threatened *species* — see also SUBSPECIES

2 : a particular group of things or people that belong together or have some shared quality • the different *species* [=*kinds, types*] of criminals

spe•cif•ic /spɪ'sɪfɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *always used before a noun* : special or particular • Is there anything *specific* you want for dinner? • There is a *specific* word for this kind of feeling. • a bird species that requires a *specific* environment • We were each given a *specific* topic to talk about.

2 : clearly and exactly presented or stated : precise or exact • The doctor gave the patient *specific* instructions on how to care for the wound. • Can you be more *specific*? What exactly did the policeman say? • He gave her a ring—or, to be more *specific*, he gave her an engagement ring. • She was very *specific*—you have to use a certain kind of tomato in the sauce. • Give *specific* examples. • Do you have a *specific* [=*certain*] date in mind for your party?

3 a : relating *to* a particular person, situation, etc. • an education plan *specific to* each student's interests and abilities • problems *specific to* this one housing project • a tax regulation *specific to* this kind of business **b** *technical* : having a particular function or effect • highly *specific* antibodies • an antibiotic that is *specific* to/for the organism that causes the disease — see also SPECIFICS

spe•cif•i•cal•ly /spɪ'sɪfɪkli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : in a definite and exact way • The report *specifically* names two companies that were involved. • I *specifically* told her not to bother you. • Knead the bread dough for several minutes, or, more *specifically*, until it forms a smooth ball.

2 — used to indicate the exact purpose or use of something • The show is aimed *specifically* at a female audience. • The new rules apply *specifically* to situations like this. • furniture designed *specifically* for outdoor use

spec•i•fi•ca•tion /,spɛsəfə'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] : a detailed description of work to be done or materials to be used in a project : an instruction that says exactly how to do or make something — usually plural • the architect's *specifications* for a new building • The equipment will be manufactured to your *specifications*.

specific gravity *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a measurement that indicates how dense a substance is by comparing it to the density of water • determining the *specific gravity* of a mineral

spec•i•fic•i•ty /,spɛsə'fɪsəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the quality of being specific • I was impressed by the *specificity* of her instructions.

spe•cif•ics /spɪ'sɪfɪks/ *noun* [*plural*] : the specific facts or details that relate to something • While avoiding *specifics*, he made it pretty clear that the presentation was full of flaws. • I'd like to know the *specifics* [=*particulars*] of your plan. • Let's get down to *specifics*.

spec•i•fy /'spɛsə,faɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] : to name or mention (someone or something) exactly and clearly : to be specific about (something) • Can you *specify* the cause of the argument? • *Specify* the color and quantity when you order. • He clearly *specified* California wine. • The instructions do not *specify* what kind of screws to use. • All subscriptions are for one year unless otherwise *specified*. • At

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the *specified* time, we rang the bell. ▪ She agreed to the terms *specified* in the contract.

spec•i•men /'spɛsəmən/ *noun, pl* **-mens** [*count*]
1 a : something (such as an animal or plant) collected as an example of a particular kind of thing ▪ a museum *specimen* **b :** a small amount or piece of something that can be tested or examined ▪ a urine/blood *specimen* [=*sample*]
2 a : a notable example of something ▪ The church is a magnificent *specimen* of baroque architecture. **b** *humorous* **:** an example of a type of person ▪ Her dance partner is a superb physical *specimen*. ▪ fine *specimens* of manhood

spe•cious /'spi:ʃəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* **:** falsely appearing to be fair, just, or right **:** appearing to be true but actually false ▪ a *specious* argument ▪ He justified his actions with *specious* reasoning.
– **spe•cious•ly** *adv, formal* – **spe•cious•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* ▪ the *speciousness* of his reasoning

speck /'spɛk/ *noun, pl* **specks** [*count*]
1 : a very small piece or spot ▪ There was not a *speck* of dust anywhere. ▪ Soon the balloon was only a *speck* in the sky.
2 : a very small amount **:** BIT ▪ She writes without a *speck* of humor.

specked /'spɛkt/ *adj* **:** marked with many small spots ▪ bread *specked* with black pepper ▪ paint-*specked* pants

speck•le /'spɛkəl/ *noun, pl* **speck•les** [*count*] **:** a small mark of color ▪ a ripe banana with lots of brown *speckles*

speck•led /'spɛkəld/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** covered with many small marks ▪ *speckled* trout ▪ a gold-*speckled* scarf

specs /'spɛks/ *noun* [*plural*] *informal* **:** glasses or spectacles ▪ I have to wear my *specs* when I drive. — see also SPEC

spec•ta•cle /'spɛktɪkəl/ *noun, pl* **-ta•cles**
1 [*count*] **:** a very impressive show ▪ a giant film *spectacle* ▪ a Broadway *spectacle*
2 [*count*] **:** something that attracts attention because it is very unusual or very shocking — usually singular ▪ The photo exhibit was quite a *spectacle*. ▪ She hoped the situation would not become a *spectacle*.
3 *spectacles* [*plural*] *old-fashioned* **:** GLASSES ▪ He peered through his *spectacles*.
make a spectacle of yourself **:** to do something in front of other people that is very embarrassing ▪ You *made a spectacle of yourself* at the party.
rose-colored spectacles see ROSE-COLORED

spec•ta•cled /'spɛktɪkəld/ *adj* **:** wearing glasses ▪ The *spectacled* [=*bespectacled*] clerks bent over their account books.

spec•tac•u•lar /spɛk'tækjələ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** causing wonder and admiration **:** very impressive ▪ a *spectacular* sunset ▪ a *spectacular* play in a football game ▪ The stock market has made a *spectacular* [=*sensational*] recovery. ▪ *spectacular* [=*thrilling*] aerial photography ▪ The autumn foliage was *spectacular*.
– **spec•tac•u•lar•ly** *adv* ▪ He played *spectacularly*. ▪ a *spectacularly* successful novel ▪ The new system failed *spectacularly*. [=it was a complete failure]

spec•tate /'spɛk,teɪt/ *verb* **-tates**; **-tat•ed**; **-tat•ing** [*no obj*] **:** to watch something (such as a sports event) ▪ She no longer participates in sports but merely *spectates*. [=she is is just a spectator]

spec•ta•tor /'spɛk,teɪtə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] **:** a person who watches an event, show, game, activity, etc., often as part of an audience ▪ The *spectators* lining the road cheered the racers on. ▪ The accident attracted a large crowd of *spectators*. ▪ I wasn't a participant in the preparations, merely a *spectator*.

spectator sport *noun, pl* ~ **sports** [*count*]
1 : a sport (such as football, baseball, ice hockey, etc.) that many people watch ▪ People generally don't think of sailboat racing as a *spectator sport*.
2 : something that people watch other people do without becoming involved themselves ▪ For many, politics has become a *spectator sport*.

spec•ter (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **spec•tre** /'spɛktə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *literary* **:** a ghost or spirit of a dead person ▪ "Ghost of the Future," he exclaimed, "I fear you more than any *spectre* I have seen . . . " —Charles Dickens, *A Christmas Carol* (1867)
the specter of (something) **:** something bad that might happen in the future ▪ a nation alarmed/haunted by *the specter of* famine/war ▪ News of the disease ***raised the specter of*** [=made people worry about] a possible plague.

spectra *plural of* SPECTRUM

spec•tral /'spɛktrəl/ *adj*
1 *literary* **:** of, relating to, or suggesting a ghost **:** GHOSTLY ▪ a *spectral* figure
2 *technical* **:** of, relating to, or made by a spectrum ▪ *spectral* lines

spec•tro•scope /'spɛktrə,skoʊp/ *noun, pl* **-scopes** [*count*] *technical* **:** a device that is used to measure the properties of light
– **spec•tro•scop•ic** /,spɛktrə'skɑ:pɪk/ *adj* ▪ *spectroscopic* analysis – **spec•tros•co•py** /spɛk'trɑ:skəpi/ *noun, pl* **-pies** [*count*] ▪ infrared/laser *spectroscopy*

spec•trum /'spɛktrəm/ *noun, pl* **spec•tra** /'spɛktrə/ *or* **spec•trums** [*count*]
1 a : the group of colors that a ray of light can be separated into including red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet **:** the colors that can be seen in a rainbow ▪ beautiful scarves in all the colors of the *spectrum* **b** *technical* **:** an entire range of light waves, radio waves, etc.
2 : a complete range of different opinions, people, etc. ▪ reaching voters across the political *spectrum* [=voters with all the different political beliefs that people have] — often + *of* ▪ the whole *spectrum of* emotions ▪ The city's populations represent a broad/wide *spectrum of* society.

spec•u•late /'spɛkjə,leɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing**
1 : to think about something and make guesses about it **:** to form ideas or theories about something usually when there are many things not known about it [*no obj*] She could only *speculate* about/on her friend's motives. ▪ He *speculated* as to whether she would come. ▪ We don't know what happened—we can only *speculate*. [+ *obj*] — + *that* ▪ Scientists *speculate that* the illness is caused by a virus.
2 [*no obj*] **:** to invest money in ways that could produce a large profit but that also involve a lot of risk ▪ *speculating* on the stock market
– **spec•u•la•tor** /'spɛkjə,leɪtə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] ▪ a land *speculator* ▪ a Wall Street *speculator*

spec•u•la•tion /,spɛkjə'leɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 : ideas or guesses about something that is not known [*noncount*] He dismissed their theories as mere *speculation*. ▪ The book is just a lot of idle *speculation* about the future. ▪ There is *speculation* that he will run for president again. [=some people think that he might run for president again] [*count*] Her *speculations* leave many questions unanswered.
2 [*noncount*] **:** activity in which someone buys and sells things (such as stocks or pieces of property) in the hope of making a large profit but with the risk of a large loss ▪ He lost everything in foolish land *speculation*.

spec•u•la•tive /'spɛkjələtɪv/ *adj*
1 a : based on guesses or ideas about what might happen or be true rather than on facts ▪ His conclusions are highly/purely *speculative*. **b :** tending to think about what might happen or be true **:** tending to speculate ▪ a writer with a *speculative* mind **c :** showing curiosity or uncertainty ▪ She gave him a *speculative* glance. [=she looked at him in a way that showed she was thinking/wondering about him]
2 : involving financial risk **:** of or relating to financial activity that could result in either a large profit or a large loss ▪ a *speculative* boom in housing construction ▪ *speculative* deals
– **spec•u•la•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ The question can only be answered *speculatively*. ▪ She eyed him *speculatively*.

sped *past tense and past participle of* ²SPEED

speech /'spi:ʧ/ *noun, pl* **speech•es**
1 [*count*] **:** a spoken expression of ideas, opinions, etc., that is made by someone who is speaking in front of a group of people ▪ She has to make/give/deliver a *speech* at the convention. ▪ a graduation *speech* about/on embracing future challenges ▪ He kept revising his *speech* [=the words that he had written for his speech] right up until the last minute. ▪ She thanked us in her ***acceptance speech***. [=a speech given by someone receiving an award or prize] — see also STUMP SPEECH
2 [*noncount*] **:** the ability to speak ▪ I was so flustered that I momentarily lost the ***power of speech***. ▪ She has a mild ***speech impediment***. [=a condition that makes it difficult to speak normally] ▪ They fought for ***freedom of speech***. = They fought for the right to/of ***free speech***. [=they fought for the legal right to express their opinions freely]
3 [*noncount*] **:** spoken language ▪ Slang is used mostly in informal/casual *speech*. ▪ Many words are more common in *speech* than in writing.
4 [*noncount*] **:** the manner or style of speaking that is used by a particular person or group ▪ His *speech* was slurred. ▪ local/regional *speech* patterns

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5 [*count*] : a group of lines spoken by a character in a play ▪ I get to perform one of the best *speeches* in the play.
– see also FIGURE OF SPEECH, PART OF SPEECH

speech day *noun, pl* ~ **days** [*count*] *Brit* : an event held once a year in some British schools at which prizes are awarded to students and speeches are given

speech•ify /'spi:ʧəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-ifies**; **-ified**; **-ify•ing** [*no obj*] *informal* + *disapproving* : to make a speech especially in a way that is boring, annoying, etc. ▪ We had to listen to him *speechify* about what a wonderful governor he would be.
– **speechifying** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The political *speechifying* has begun.

speech•less /'spi:ʧləs/ *adj* : unable to speak because of anger, surprise, etc. ▪ I was *speechless* with shock/anger. ▪ Your story ***left me speechless***.

speech therapy *noun* [*noncount*] : treatment or therapy to help people who have speech problems learn to pronounce words correctly
– **speech therapist** *noun, pl* ~ **-pists** [*count*]

speech•writ•er /'spi:ʧˌraɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person whose job is to write speeches that are given by someone else (such as a politician) ▪ She is the President's principal *speechwriter*.

[1]speed /'spi:d/ *noun, pl* **speeds**
1 : the rate at which someone or something moves or travels [*noncount*] The trucks gain/gather *speed* as they drive down the hill. = The trucks pick up *speed* as they drive down the hill. [=the trucks go faster as they drive down the hill] ▪ This instrument measures wind *speed*. ▪ He was running ***at full/top speed***. [=as fast as possible] ▪ The machine was operating ***at high/medium/low speed***. ▪ traveling at nearly the ***speed of light/sound*** [*count*] Under the right conditions the car can reach *speeds* over 200 miles an hour. ▪ The vehicle maintained a *speed* of 40 miles per hour.
2 : the rate at which something happens or is done [*noncount*] The work was done with remarkable *speed*. ▪ They ate their lunch ***at lightning speed***. [=extremely quickly] [*count*] This computer works at a much faster processing *speed* than my old one. ▪ He types at a *speed* of about 50 words per minute. = His typing *speed* is about 50 words per minute.
3 [*noncount*] : the quality of being quick ▪ The machine chops up tree branches and leaves with *speed* and ease.
4 [*count*] *photography* **a** : a measurement that indicates how quickly film reacts to light and that is expressed as a number (such as 100 or 200) ▪ 200 *speed* film **b** : the time during which a camera's shutter is open ▪ faster/slower ***shutter speeds***
5 [*count*] : a gear in a vehicle or bicycle ▪ a three-*speed* bicycle ▪ Her old car has four *speeds*.
6 [*noncount*] *informal* : an illegal drug that makes a person feel more excited and full of energy ▪ He was high on *speed*.
at speed *chiefly Brit* : very quickly : at a fast speed ▪ He ran *at speed* out of the room.
full speed ahead see [1]FULL
up to speed : having the latest information about something ▪ Everyone here is *up to speed*. ▪ Let me ***bring you up to speed*** on our plans. [=let me tell you about the changes in our plans] : having the knowledge that is needed to do or understand something ▪ It will take some time for the new secretary to ***get up to speed***. [=to learn the job]

[2]speed *verb* **speeds**; **sped** /'spɛd/ *or* **speed•ed**; **speed•ing**
1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move fast ▪ A group of kids *sped* past us on their bikes. ▪ They jumped in the car and *sped/speeded* away. ▪ A car was *speeding* down/up the street.
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to move (someone or something) somewhere very quickly ▪ An ambulance *sped* her to the hospital.
3 [*no obj*] : to drive faster than the legal speed limit ▪ I got pulled over twice last month because I was *speeding* on the highway. ▪ Don't *speed*.
4 [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to cause (an action, movement, process, etc.) to happen faster ▪ We kept the plants under artificial lights at night to *speed* their growth. ▪ Is there anything we can do to *speed* the process (along)?
speed up [*phrasal verb*] ***speed up*** *or* ***speed up (something or someone)*** *or* ***speed (something or someone) up*** : to become faster or to make (something or someone) faster ▪ I hate it when cars *speed up* [=*accelerate*] while you're trying to pass them. ▪ The work has been slow so far but it should *speed up* soon. ▪ They add another chemical to the photo developer to *speed up* the process. ▪ I'm afraid there's nothing you can do to *speed* things *up*. ▪ They're working too slowly. How can we *speed* them *up*? — see also SPEEDUP

speed•boat /'spi:dˌboʊt/ *noun, pl* **-boats** [*count*] : a motorboat that can go very fast

speed bump *noun, pl* ~ **bumps** [*count*] : a low raised ridge across a road or parking lot that causes people to drive more slowly — called also (*Brit*) *speed hump*

speed demon *noun, pl* ~ **-mons** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : someone or something that moves or works very fast ▪ The new cook is a regular *speed demon*. ▪ This computer is a real *speed demon* compared with/to my old computer.

speed dial *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : a feature on some telephones that allows a person to call certain phone numbers quickly by pressing only one button ▪ a phone with *speed dial* ▪ I have you on *speed dial*. = I have your number on *speed dial*.
– **speed–dial** *verb* **-dials**; **-dialed**; **-dialing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* ▪ I've added your number to my phone so I can *speed-dial* you now.

speed•er /'spi:dɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who drives faster than the legal speed limit ▪ The cops were out ticketing *speeders* yesterday.

speed hump *noun, pl* ~ **humps** [*count*] *Brit* : SPEED BUMP

speeding *noun* [*noncount*] : the offense of driving faster than the legal speed limit ▪ I got a ticket for *speeding*.

speeding ticket *noun, pl* ~ **-ets** [*count*] : a piece of paper that a police officer gives to someone who was driving too fast and that indicates a fine that the driver will have to pay ▪ I got a *speeding ticket* and a $150 fine.

speed limit *noun, pl* ~ **-its** [*count*] : the highest speed at which you are allowed to drive on a particular road ▪ The *speed limit* here is 55 mph. ▪ She got a ticket for breaking/exceeding the *speed limit*.

speed•om•e•ter /spɪ'dɑ:mətɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : an instrument in a car, truck, etc., that indicates how fast the vehicle is going — called also (*Brit*) *speedo* /'spi:doʊ/; see picture at CAR; compare ODOMETER, TACHOMETER

speed–read•ing /'spi:dˌri:dɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a method of reading something very quickly
– **speed–read** *verb* **-reads**; **-read**; **-reading** [+ *obj*] ▪ I *speed-read* the book in one night.

speed skating *noun* [*noncount*] : the sport of racing on ice skates
– **speed skater** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*]

speed•ster /'spi:dstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sters** [*count*] : someone or something that moves or works very fast ▪ She drives a sporty little *speedster*. ▪ The team has a couple of talented *speedsters*.

speed trap *noun, pl* ~ **traps** [*count*] : an area of road where police hide from drivers and use special equipment to catch people who are driving too fast

speed•up /'spi:dˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** : an increase in the speed or rate of something [*count*] — usually singular ▪ Economists are worried about a possible *speedup* in/of inflation. [*noncount*] I'd like to see some *speedup* in the selection process. — see also *speed up* at [2]SPEED

speed•way /'spi:dˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways**
1 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a track where cars or motorcycles race
2 [*noncount*] *Brit* : the sport of racing motorcycles on a special track

speedy /'spi:di/ *adj* **speed•i•er**; **-est**
1 : moving or able to move quickly : fast or quick ▪ a *speedy* car/boat
2 : happening quickly ▪ a *speedy* process ▪ They wished her a *speedy* recovery.
– **speed•i•ly** /'spi:dəli/ *adv* ▪ They worked *speedily* and efficiently. ▪ We must move *speedily* to address the problem.
– **speed•i•ness** /'spi:dinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]spell /'spɛl/ *verb* **spells**; **spelled** *or chiefly Brit* **spelt** /'spɛlt/; **spell•ing** *chiefly US*
1 a : to say, write, or print the letters of (a word or name) [+ *obj*] How do you *spell* your last name? ▪ You *spelled* "catastrophe" wrong. ▪ "Foggy" is *spelled* with two g's. — sometimes + *out* ▪ Please *spell out* your full name. [*no obj*] He doesn't *spell* very well. **b** [+ *obj*] — used to indicate the letters that form a particular word ▪ S-O-N *spells* "son."
2 [+ *obj*] : to have or lead to (a particular result or effect) ▪ Her boss's resignation *spelled* the end to her troubles. [=her troubles ended when her boss resigned] ▪ The amount of

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planning you do could *spell* [=*mean*] the difference between success and failure. ▪ Their carelessness could ***spell trouble/disaster*** for all of us.

spell out [*phrasal verb*] ***spell (something) out*** *or* ***spell out (something)*** **1 :** to explain the details of (something) clearly ▪ The contract *spelled out* the terms of his employment. ▪ She didn't get the hint, so he had to *spell* it *out* for her. **2 :** to write out (something) in complete words instead of using a number, an abbreviation, etc. ▪ When addressing the invitations, *spell out* "street," "road," etc. ▪ On this line you need to *spell out* the dollar amount. — see also [1]SPELL 1 (above)

– compare [3]SPELL

[2]spell *noun, pl* **spells**

1 [*count*] **a :** a group of secret words that are believed to have magic power ▪ He said a ***magic spell*** of protection. **b :** magic that is performed by saying a group of secret words ▪ In the story, the witch ***casts a spell on/over*** the children. ▪ Drinking the potion will ***break the spell***. [=end the magic] ▪ She felt like she was ***under a spell***. [=affected by magic]

2 [*singular*] **:** a quality that attracts or influences someone or something in a powerful or seemingly magical way ▪ The sound of the phone ringing broke the *spell* of the music. ▪ Many people think she has ***fallen under his spell***, but I think she knows what she's doing.

– compare [4]SPELL

[3]spell *verb* **spells; spelled; spell•ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* **:** to take the place of (another person who has been working or doing something for a period of time) **:** to take over for (someone) ▪ When they're taking care of their grandson, they *spell* [=*relieve*] each other throughout the day. — compare [1]SPELL

[4]spell *noun, pl* **spells** [*count*]

1 : a short period of time usually marked by a particular activity or condition ▪ a dizzy/fainting *spell* ▪ I'm tired and need to sit down for a *spell*. ▪ It looks like we're in for a *spell* of rainy weather. ▪ The flowers died during a ***dry/cold spell***. [=a period of dry/cold weather]

2 : a period spent doing a job or duty ▪ After a *spell* as an editor she went back to teaching.

– compare [2]SPELL

spell•bind•ing /'spɛl,baɪndɪŋ/ *adj* **:** holding your attention completely **:** extremely interesting, entertaining, etc. ▪ I found her performance *spellbinding*. [=*fascinating, riveting*] ▪ He's a *spellbinding* speaker.

spell•bound /'spɛl,baʊnd/ *adj* **:** giving all of your attention and interest to something or someone ▪ The children were *spellbound* by the puppet show. ▪ She's a storyteller that will hold/keep you *spellbound*.

spell–check /'spɛl,ʧɛk/ *verb* **-checks; -checked; -check•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to use a computer program (called a spell-checker) to find and correct spelling errors in (something you have written) ▪ I *spell-checked* my homework.

spell–check•er /'spɛl,ʧɛkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] **:** a computer program that finds and corrects misspelled words in documents, e-mail, etc. — called also *spell-check, spelling checker*

spell•er /'spɛlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] **:** a person who spells words in a particular way ▪ She is a ***bad/good speller***. [=she is bad/good at spelling words]

spell•ing /'spɛlɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*noncount*] **:** the act of forming of words from letters ▪ He's very good at *spelling*. = His *spelling* is very good. [=he spells words correctly] — often used before another noun ▪ Make sure there are no ***spelling mistakes/errors*** in the application. ▪ The students have a ***spelling test*** every Friday.

2 [*count*] **:** the way in which a word is correctly spelled ▪ The American *spelling* is "color" while the British *spelling* is "colour." ▪ The words "made" and "maid" sound alike but have different *spellings*.

spelling bee *noun, pl* **~ bees** [*count*] *chiefly US* **:** a contest in which contestants spell words aloud and are removed from the contest when they spell a word wrong

spelling checker *noun, pl* **~ -ers** [*count*] **:** SPELL-CHECKER

spelt *chiefly Brit past tense and past participle of* [1]SPELL

spe•lunk•er /spɪ'lʌŋkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* **:** a person who explores and studies caves as a hobby — called also *caver*

spe•lunk•ing /spɪ'lʌŋkɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* **:** the sport or practice of exploring or studying caves ▪ Her hobbies include hiking, biking, and *spelunking*. ▪ They love to ***go spelunking***. — called also *caving*

spend /'spɛnd/ *verb* **spends; spent** /'spɛnt/; **spend•ing**

1 : to use (money) to pay for something [+ *obj*] I *spent* $30 on his birthday gift. ▪ They *spend* a lot on clothes and cars. ▪ I want to buy a new car, but I don't have much money to *spend*. ▪ This computer wasn't cheap, but it was money ***well spent***. [=it was worth its price] [*no obj*] Her willingness to *spend* freely made her popular among her friends. ▪ He *spends* lavishly on vacations.

2 [+ *obj*] **:** to allow (time) to pass in a particular place or while doing a particular activity ▪ I *spent* my summer at the beach. ▪ She *spent* eight months living in New York City. ▪ Relaxing with friends is a great way to *spend* a weekend. ▪ Our cat *spends* most of his time sleeping. ▪ Too much of my time is *spent* arguing with customers.

3 [+ *obj*] **:** to use (energy or effort) to do something ▪ She *spends* far too much energy worrying about her daughter. ▪ I wish he *spent* as much (of his) effort/energy on studying as he does on video games. ▪ Our energy/effort(s) would ***be better spent*** (in) solving the problem rather than just complaining about it.

spend the night ✧ If you sleep at a place for a night, you *spend the night* there. ▪ After the party she was too drunk to drive so she *spent the night*. ▪ They *spent the night* at her brother's. If you ***spend the night with*** someone, or if you and someone else ***spend the night together***, you stay with someone overnight and have sex with that person. ▪ We *spent the night together*. ▪ I *spent the night with* her/him.

spend•er /'spɛndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] **:** a person who spends money ▪ The restaurant gives the ***big spenders*** [=people who spend lots of money] special treatment.

spending *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the money that is spent especially by a government or organization ▪ government/federal/public *spending* ▪ They have proposed cuts in military/defense *spending*.

spending money *noun* [*noncount*] **:** extra money that you can spend on whatever you want ▪ She earned *spending money* at an after-school job.

spend•thrift /'spɛnd,θrɪft/ *noun, pl* **-thrifts** [*count*] **:** a person who spends money in a careless or wasteful way

– **spendthrift** *adj* ▪ their *spendthrift* way of life

spent /'spɛnt/ *adj*

1 : used up and no longer useful ▪ *spent* nuclear fuel ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) He was once one of the most powerful men in the government, but now he's largely ***a spent force***. [=he no longer has the power or influence he once had]

2 *somewhat formal* **:** tired and drained of energy ▪ By the end of the race I was completely *spent*. [=*exhausted*]

sperm /'spɚm/ *noun, pl* **sperm** *also* **sperms** *biology*

1 [*count*] **:** a cell that is produced by the male sexual organs and that combines with the female's egg in reproduction ▪ The *sperm* fertilizes the egg. ▪ a man with a low ***sperm count*** [=a man whose body produces few active sperm] — called also *spermatozoon, sperm cell*

2 [*noncount*] **:** fluid that is produced by the male sexual organs which contains sperm cells **:** SEMEN

sper•ma•to•zo•on /spɚ,mætə'zoʊ,ɑ:n/ *noun, pl* **-zoa** /-'zowə/ [*count*] *biology* **:** SPERM 1

sperm bank *noun, pl* **~ banks** [*count*] **:** a place where sperm are collected, stored, and then used to help women become pregnant

sperm cell *noun, pl* **~ cells** [*count*] *biology* **:** SPERM 1

sperm donor *noun, pl* **~ -nors** [*count*] **:** a man who gives his sperm usually to a sperm bank so that it can be used to help women get pregnant

sper•mi•cide /'spɚmə,saɪd/ *noun, pl* **-cides** [*count, noncount*] **:** a substance that is used to kill sperm in order to prevent pregnancy

– **sper•mi•cid•al** /,spɚmə'saɪdəl/ *adj* ▪ a *spermicidal* gel

sperm whale *noun, pl* **~ whales** [*count*] **:** a type of whale that has a very large head and is hunted for its fat and oil

spew /'spju:/ *verb* **spews; spewed; spew•ing**

1 a *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] **:** to flow out of something in a fast and forceful way ▪ Exhaust *spewed* out of the car. ▪ Smoke and ashes *spewed* from the volcano. **b** [+ *obj*] **:** to cause (something) to flow out in a fast and forceful way ▪ The volcano *spewed* hot ash. ▪ The faucet started *spewing* dirty water. — often used figuratively ▪ They *spewed* (out) an endless stream of questions. ▪ He *spewed* insults at his critics.

2 *informal* **:** [1]VOMIT [*no obj*] The dog *spewed* (up) all over

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the rug. [+ *obj*] The dog *spewed* vomit on the rug.

SPF /ˌɛsˌpiːˈɛf/ *noun* : a number that indicates how well a cream, lotion, etc., protects your skin from the sun [*singular*] a sunscreen with an *SPF* of 15 [*noncount*] a sunscreen with *SPF* 15 — called also *sun protection factor*

sphag·num /ˈsfægnəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : PEAT MOSS

sphere /ˈsfiɚ/ *noun, pl* **spheres** [*count*]

1 a : a round object : GLOBE ▪ a glass *sphere* **b** *geometry* : a three-dimensional shape that looks like a ball ▪ All points on a *sphere* are the same distance from the center. — see picture at GEOMETRY

2 *somewhat formal* : an area of influence or activity ▪ Women at that time were confined to the domestic *sphere*. ▪ They recognize that jobs in the ***public/private sphere*** are valuable. ▪ The region has moved back and forth between Spanish and Portuguese ***spheres of influence***. [=has been under the control or influence of Spain and Portugal at different times]

spher·i·cal /ˈsfirɪkəl, ˈsfɛrɪkəl/ *adj* : having the shape of a sphere : ROUND ▪ a *spherical* object

spher·oid /ˈsfiɚˌɔɪd, ˈsfeɚˌɔɪd/ *noun, pl* **-oids** [*count*] *technical* : an object that is somewhat round but not perfectly round

sphinc·ter /ˈsfɪŋktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *medical* : a ring-shaped muscle that surrounds a body opening and that can tighten to close the opening

sphinx *or* **Sphinx** /ˈsfɪŋks/ *noun, pl* **sphinx·es** *or* **Sphinx·es** [*count*] *in ancient Greek and Egyptian stories* : a creature with the body of a lion and the head of a person ▪ a statue of ***the Sphinx***; *also* : something (such as a statue) in the shape of a sphinx ▪ *the* (Great) *Sphinx* of Giza

spic *also* **spick** /ˈspɪk/ *noun, pl* **spics** *also* **spicks** [*count*] *US, informal + offensive* : a person who is a native Spanish-speaker or whose family is from a Spanish-speaking country ✧ The word *spic* is very offensive. Do not use this word.

spic–and–span *or* **spick–and–span** *(chiefly US) also chiefly Brit* **spick and span** *or* **spic and span** /ˌspɪkənˈspæn/ *adj* : very clean and neat ▪ He keeps the house *spic-and-span*.

[1]spice /ˈspaɪs/ *noun, pl* **spic·es**

1 : a substance (such as pepper or nutmeg) that is used in cooking to add flavor to food and that comes from a dried plant and is usually a powder or seed [*count*] herbs and *spices* [*noncount*] The soup needs a little more *spice*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *spice* mix/blend ▪ a *spice* cake ▪ a ***spice rack*** [=a shelf, cabinet, etc., used to hold small containers of spices]

2 [*noncount*] : something that adds interest or excitement ▪ The elaborate costumes added a little *spice* [=*interest*] to the performance. ▪ ***Variety is the spice of life***. [=variety makes life more interesting]

[2]spice *verb* **spices**; **spiced**; **spic·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *not used in progressive tenses* : to flavor (food) with spices ▪ I *spiced* the chicken with ginger. ▪ a highly/heavily/lightly/mildly *spiced* dish

2 : to add interest or excitement to (something) — usually + *up* ▪ They looked for advice on how to *spice up* their living room. ▪ We need to *spice up* our relationship. ▪ We tried to ***spice things up*** by putting on some lively music.

spicy /ˈspaɪsi/ *adj* **spic·i·er**; **-est**

1 *of food* : flavored with or containing strong spices and especially ones that cause a burning feeling in your mouth ▪ This salsa is too *spicy* [=*hot*] for me.

2 : exciting and somewhat shocking ▪ a *spicy* sex scandal ▪ a *spicy* story/tale

– spic·i·ness /ˈspaɪsinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

spi·der /ˈspaɪdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count*] : a small creature that has eight legs and usually creates a web of sticky threads in which it catches insects for food ▪ We watched the *spider* spin its web. — see color picture on page C10

spider monkey *noun, pl* ~ **-keys** [*count*] : a monkey of Central and South America that has long, thin arms and legs and a very long tail

spider plant *noun, pl* ~ **plants** [*count*] : a plant that is often grown in people's houses and that has long narrow leaves and stems which produce smaller plants at the end

spi·der web /ˈspaɪdɚˌwɛb/ *noun, pl* ~ **webs** [*count*] *US* : a network of sticky threads made by a spider and used as a resting place and a trap for food — called also *spider's web, web*; see color picture on page C10; compare COBWEB

spi·dery /ˈspaɪdəri/ *adj* : long and thin like the legs of a spider ▪ *spidery* arms and legs ▪ *spidery* handwriting [=writing that is long, uneven, and often difficult to read]

spiel /ˈspiːl/ *noun, pl* **spiels** [*count*] *informal* : a fast speech that someone has often said before and that is usually intended to persuade people to buy something, agree to something, etc. ▪ I listened to the salesman's *spiel* but still refused to buy anything. ▪ He gave me a long *spiel* about the benefits of joining the club.

spiff /ˈspɪf/ *verb* **spiffs**; **spiffed**; **spiff·ing**

spiff up [*phrasal verb*] ***spiff (someone or something) up*** *or* ***spiff up (someone or something)*** *US, informal* : to make (someone or something) neater or more attractive ▪ She wants to *spiff up* her wardrobe. ▪ A fresh coat of paint would really *spiff* the place *up*. ▪ The company is trying to *spiff up* [=*improve*] its image.

spiffy /ˈspɪfi/ *adj* **spiff·i·er**; **-est** *chiefly US, informal* : neat, stylish, and attractive ▪ a *spiffy* new uniform ▪ She looked very *spiffy* in her new dress.

spig·ot /ˈspɪgət/ *noun, pl* **-ots** [*count*]

1 : a device that controls the flow of liquid from a large container ▪ the *spigot* on a beer keg — called also *tap*

2 *US* : FAUCET; *especially* : an outdoor faucet ▪ Hook the hose up to the *spigot* behind the house.

[1]spike /ˈspaɪk/ *noun, pl* **spikes**

1 [*count*] : a long, thin rod that ends in a point and is often made of metal ▪ There are *spikes* on top of the fence. ▪ The climbers drove metal *spikes* into the ice. ▪ a railroad *spike* [=a large nail used to attach rails to railroad ties]

2 [*count*] : a sudden, rapid increase in something ▪ There's been a *spike* in traffic since the new grocery store opened. ▪ a price *spike*

3 a [*count*] : a metal point attached to the bottom of shoes worn by athletes in some sports — usually plural ▪ I need to replace the *spikes* on my golf shoes. **b** ***spikes*** [*plural*] : shoes with metal points attached to the bottom ▪ Baseball players usually wear *spikes*. ▪ a pair of *spikes* **c** ***spikes*** [*plural*] : women's shoes with high, thin heels ▪ She wore (a pair of) *spikes*. [=*spike heels*]

4 [*count*] : a long, narrow group of flowers that grow on one stem ▪ a *spike* of flowers = a flower *spike*

[2]spike *verb* **spikes**; **spiked**; **spik·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to add alcohol or drugs to (food or drink) ▪ Someone *spiked* the punch at the party. — often + *with* ▪ They *spiked* the punch *with* tequila. ▪ The brownies were *spiked with* marijuana. **b** : to add something that gives flavor or interest to (something) — usually + *with* ▪ She *spiked* the sauce *with* vinegar. ▪ Her writing is *spiked with* sarcasm.

2 [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to increase greatly in a short period of time ▪ The medication caused his blood pressure to *spike*. ▪ Oil and gas prices have *spiked* (upward) again.

3 [+ *obj*] *sports* **a** : to hit (a volleyball) sharply downward towards the ground ▪ She *spiked* the ball and scored the winning point. **b** *US* : to throw (a ball) sharply downward ▪ After he scored a touchdown he *spiked* the ball in the end zone.

4 [+ *obj*] : to form (something, such as hair) into spikes or points ▪ She *spikes* her hair.

5 [+ *obj*] : to pierce or cut (someone or something) with a sharp point or spike ▪ The second baseman was *spiked* by the runner. [=injured by the spikes on the runner's shoes]

6 [+ *obj*] : to prevent (something, such as a story or rumor) from being published or becoming known by many people ▪ The newspaper's editors *spiked* the article.

spike someone's guns *Brit* : to ruin an opponent's plans

spiked /ˈspaɪkt/ *adj* : having sharp points : formed into points ▪ *spiked* [=*spiky*] hair ▪ a lizard with a *spiked* tail

spike heel *noun, pl* ~ **heels** *chiefly US*

1 [*count*] : a very tall and thin heel on women's shoes — called also *spiked heel*

2 ***spike heels*** [*plural*] : shoes with tall, thin heels ▪ She wore (a pair of) *spike heels*. [=*spikes*]

spiky /ˈspaɪki/ *adj* **spik·i·er**; **-est**

1 : having sharp points : formed into points ▪ He has short, *spiky* [=*spiked*] hair. ▪ a plant with *spiky* leaves

2 *Brit, informal* : tending to become angry or annoyed easily ▪ He has a *spiky* personality.

[1]spill /ˈspɪl/ *verb* **spills**; *chiefly US* **spilled** /ˈspɪld/ *or chiefly Brit* **spilt** /ˈspɪlt/; **spill·ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to cause or allow (something) to fall, flow, or run over the edge of a container usually in an accidental way ▪ I accidentally *spilled* coffee all over my new suit. ▪ Clean up the flour you *spilled* on the floor. ▪ a puddle of *spilled* water ▪ She opened her purse and *spilled* its contents (out) onto the table. ▪ The bag ripped open and *spilled* (out) its contents all

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over the floor. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He *spilled* his thoughts out to her. [=he told her his thoughts in a very free and open way] **b** [*no obj*] : to fall or flow over the edge of a container ▪ Milk *spilled* (out) onto the table. ▪ Water *spilled* over the dam. ▪ The bag ripped open and the flour *spilled* (out) onto the floor. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Her hair *spilled* down her back. ▪ All his thoughts suddenly came ***spilling out*** [=he suddenly began to express all his thoughts] **2** [*no obj*] : to move or spread out into a wider place or area ▪ After the movie the crowd *spilled* (out) into/onto the street. ▪ She opened the door and light *spilled* into the room. **3** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to tell (a secret) to someone ▪ an interviewer who gets celebrities to *spill* their secrets ▪ Come on, *spill* it. Who gave you the money?

cry over spilled/spilt milk see ¹CRY

spill blood see BLOOD

spill over [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to be completely covered or filled with something : to be overflowing with something ▪ The platter was *spilling over* with grapes and melon slices and cheeses. ▪ They were *spilling over* with happiness. [=they were very happy] **2** : to spread and begin to affect other people, areas, etc. ▪ The stress at work began to *spill over* into other aspects of his life. — see also SPILLOVER

spill the beans see BEAN

spill your guts see ¹GUT

²spill *noun, pl* **spills** [*count*]

1 : an accident in which liquid is spilled or an amount of liquid that is spilled ▪ Please clean up the *spill* on the kitchen floor. ▪ The coastline was seriously damaged by an ***oil spill***. **2** : an accidental act of falling ▪ She was injured in a *spill* the last time she went riding. ▪ He ***took a spill*** [=he fell] while skiing and broke his leg.

spill•age /ˈspɪlɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-ag•es** *formal* : an occurrence in which something is spilled accidentally [*noncount*] The design of this travel mug helps prevent/reduce/avoid *spillage*. [*count*] an oil *spillage* ▪ small leaks and *spillages*

spill•over /ˈspɪlˌoʊvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-overs** : something that flows out of or spreads beyond a container, space, area, etc. [*count*] Put a pan under the pie to catch any *spillovers*. ▪ We have benefited from a *spillover* of prosperity from neighboring states. [=the prosperity of neighboring states has spread to our state] [*noncount*] Nearby stores were getting some *spillover* from the festival. [=some people who went to the festival also visited the stores] ▪ New technology has a positive ***spillover effect*** into countless fields. — see also *spill over* at ¹SPILL

¹spin /ˈspɪn/ *verb* **spins**; **spun** /ˈspʌn/; **spin•ning**

1 : to turn or cause someone or something to turn around repeatedly [*no obj*] The Earth *spins* [=*rotates*] on its axis once a day. ▪ The car hit a patch of ice and *spun* into the wall. ▪ a *spinning* propeller ▪ He ***spun around*** [=turned around quickly] and looked at me in surprise. [+ *obj*] The children were *spinning* a top. ▪ He grabbed her and ***spun her around*** [=he grabbed her and turned her around quickly]

2 [*no obj*] : to seem to be moving around in a way that makes you feel dizzy or sick ▪ I tried to stand up but the room was *spinning*. ▪ After the night of drinking, ***my head was spinning*** [=I was dizzy] ▪ All of that information ***made my head spin*** [=made me feel confused or dizzy]

3 : to draw out and twist fibers of cotton, wool, silk, etc., into yarn or thread [+ *obj*] She *spun* the silk into thread. ▪ They *spun* the wool into yarn. [*no obj*] tools used for *spinning* — see also SPINNING WHEEL

4 [+ *obj*] *of insects* : to form (something) by producing a fluid that quickly hardens into a thread ▪ a spider *spinning* its web ▪ worms *spinning* silk

5 [+ *obj*] : to tell (a story, especially a story that you create by using your imagination) ▪ He was ***spinning yarns*** [=telling stories] about his adventures in the navy. ▪ She ***spun a tale*** [=made up a story] about her car breaking down to explain why she was late.

6 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move very quickly on wheels or in a vehicle ▪ The motorcycles *spun* [=*sped*] along the country road.

7 [+ *obj*] : to describe (something, such as an event) in a certain way in order to influence what people think about it ▪ Both parties tried to *spin* the debate as a victory for their candidate. ▪ He accused the companies of *spinning* the results of their studies to their own benefit.

8 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US, informal* : to play recorded music at a party or nightclub ▪ We hired my favorite DJ to ***spin records/tunes/discs*** at the party.

spinning in his/her grave see ¹GRAVE

spin off [*phrasal verb*] ***spin off*** *or* ***spin (something) off*** *or* ***spin off (something)*** : to create something new (such as a new television show or company) by basing it on or taking it from something that already exists ▪ The show was so popular that it *spun off* a new series. [=a new series was created based on the show] ▪ The cartoon has *spun off* dolls and other merchandise. ▪ They *spun off* their specialty foods line into a separate company. ▪ The auto parts manufacturer *spun off* from another company. — see also SPIN-OFF

spin on your heel see ¹HEEL

spin out [*phrasal verb*] **1** *US, of a vehicle* : to slide and turn around quickly in an uncontrolled way ▪ The truck *spun out* on a patch of ice. ▪ He took a sharp corner too fast and *spun out*. **2** ***spin (something) out*** *or* ***spin out (something)*** *chiefly Brit* : to make (something) last for a very long time ▪ They're deliberately trying to *spin out* the debate. **3** ***spin out of control*** **a** : to move in a way that is not controlled ▪ The rocket *spun out of control* and crashed. **b** : to keep getting worse in a way that is hard to stop or fix ▪ Her drinking problem is *spinning out of control*.

spin your wheels *US, informal* : to stay in the same condition or position without making progress ▪ I need to look for a new job. I feel like I'm just *spinning my wheels* here.

²spin *noun, pl* **spins**

1 a : the act of turning around and around : an act of spinning [*noncount*] the direction of the Earth's *spin* [*count*] The ice-skater executed graceful jumps and *spins*. **b** : a rapid turning motion given to a ball by someone who throws or hits it [*noncount*] A baseball thrown with *spin* is harder to hit. ▪ She put *spin* on the ball/shot. [*count*] The bowler put a sideways *spin* on the ball. — see also BACKSPIN, TOPSPIN

2 : a certain way of describing or talking about something that is meant to influence other people's opinion of it [*singular*] Each author puts a new/different *spin* on the story. ▪ a positive/favorable *spin* [*noncount*] They claim to report the news with no *spin*. — see also SPIN CONTROL, SPIN DOCTOR

3 [*count*] *informal* : a short trip in a vehicle ▪ He took me for a *spin* in his new car. ▪ Would you like to go for a *spin*?

4 [*count*] : a condition in which an airplane is falling rapidly while turning around and around ▪ The plane went into a *spin*. [=*tailspin*] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The news of her death sent him into a *spin*. [=caused him to become very unhappy, to lose control of his life, etc.]

5 [*singular*] : a state of being mentally confused or anxious ▪ Her head was all ***in a spin***. [=her head was spinning; she was very confused]

spi•na bi•fi•da /ˌspaɪnəˈbɪfədə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a condition in which a person's spine does not develop completely before birth and does not completely cover the spinal cord

spin•ach /ˈspɪnɪʧ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a plant with dark green leaves that are eaten as a vegetable — see color picture on page C4

spi•nal /ˈspaɪnl/ *adj* : of, relating to, or affecting the spine ▪ a *spinal* injury

spinal column *noun, pl* ~ **-umns** [*count*] *technical* : BACKBONE — see picture at HUMAN

spinal cord *noun, pl* ~ **cords** [*count*] : the large group of nerves which runs through the center of the spine and carries messages between the brain and the rest of the body

spinal tap *noun, pl* ~ **taps** [*count*] *medical* : a procedure in which a needle is inserted into the spinal cord in order to take out fluid or inject medicine

spin bowler *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *cricket* : SPINNER 3

spin control *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of trying to control the way something (such as an important event) is described to the public in order to influence what people think about it ▪ political *spin control* ▪ When the defective part was recalled, the company had to do some clever *spin control*.

spin•dle /ˈspɪndl/ *noun, pl* **spin•dles** [*count*]

1 a : a thin rod or stick with pointed ends that is used in making yarn **b** : the long, thin pin on a spinning wheel that is used to make thread

2 : something shaped like a long, thin rod; *especially* : a long, thin part of a machine which turns around something or around which something turns

spin•dly /ˈspɪndli/ *adj* **spin•dli•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : long and thin and usually weak ▪ *spindly* legs

spin doctor *noun, pl* ~ **-tors** [*count*] *informal* : a person (such as a political aide) whose job involves trying to control the way something (such as an important event) is described

to the public in order to influence what people think about it ▪ The *spin doctors* from both sides were already declaring victory for their candidates as soon as the debate ended. — called also *spinner*

spin–dryer *also* **spin–drier** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a machine that partly dries washed clothes by spinning them very fast

– **spin–dry** *verb* **-dries**; **-dried**; **-dry·ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ The clothes were washed and *spin-dried*.

spine /ˈspaɪn/ *noun, pl* **spines**

1 [*count*] : the row of connected bones down the middle of the back : BACKBONE ▪ This X-ray shows her *spine*. — see picture at HUMAN

2 [*count*] : a sharp, pointed part on an animal or plant ▪ Hedgehogs are covered with *spines*. ▪ cactus *spines*

3 [*noncount*] *informal* : courage or strength of character ▪ They lack the *spine* to do what needs to be done.

4 [*count*] : the part of a book to which the pages are attached ▪ Stack the books so that all the *spines* are facing the same way. ✧ A book's spine often has the title and author's name printed on it.

up/down your spine ✧ If something ***sends a chill/shiver up/down your spine*** or if ***a chill/shiver runs up/down your spine***, you become frightened, thrilled, etc. ▪ Her performance of the national anthem *sent a chill up my spine*. [=her performance was thrilling and emotional] ▪ The very thought of what those people did *sends a shiver down my spine*. [=scares me] ▪ A (cold) *shiver ran down my spine* when I heard his voice.

spine–chill·ing /ˈspaɪnˌʧɪlɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very exciting, thrilling, or frightening : SPINE-TINGLING ▪ a *spine-chilling* scream ▪ *spine-chilling* musical moments

spine·less /ˈspaɪnləs/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : lacking courage or strength ▪ a *spineless* coward ▪ *spineless* displays of cowardice

2 : having no spine or spines ▪ Jellyfish are *spineless*. ▪ a *spineless* cactus

– **spine·less·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

spin·et /ˈspɪnət/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*]

1 *US* **a** : a small piano **b** : a small electric organ

2 : a small harpsichord

spine–tingling *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very exciting, thrilling, or frightening ▪ *spine-tingling* suspense ▪ a *spine-tingling* performance

spin·na·ker /ˈspɪnɪkər/ *noun, pl* **-kers** [*count*] : a large triangular sail on a boat that is used when the wind is blowing from behind

spin·ner /ˈspɪnə/ *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*]

1 : someone or something that spins yarn or thread

2 : a small device that spins and that is used by fishermen to attract fish

3 *cricket* : a bowler who throws the ball so that it spins — called also *spin bowler*

4 : SPIN DOCTOR

spin·ney /ˈspɪni/ *noun, pl* **-neys** [*count*] *Brit* : a small group of trees

spinning wheel *noun, pl* ~ **wheels** [*count*] : a machine that was used in the past for making yarn or thread

spin–off /ˈspɪnˌɑːf/ *noun, pl* **-offs** [*count*]

1 : a television program, movie, book, etc., that is based on characters from another television program, movie, book, etc. ▪ a *spin-off* of a hit TV show ▪ The comic book is a *spin-off* of the movie.

2 : a new company created by a large company ▪ companies that are *spin-offs* of large corporations

3 : something useful that results from work done to produce something else ▪ *spin-offs* [=*by-products*] of space research — see also *spin off* at [1]SPIN

spin·ster /ˈspɪnstə/ *noun, pl* **-sters** [*count*] *old-fashioned* + *often disapproving* : an unmarried woman who is past the usual age for marrying and is considered unlikely to marry — now often considered an insulting word ▪ She was afraid of becoming a *spinster*. ▪ my *spinster* aunts

– **spin·ster·hood** /ˈspɪnstəˌhʊd/ *noun* [*noncount*]

spiny /ˈspaɪni/ *adj* **spin·i·er**; **-est** : having or covered with many sharp, pointed parts ▪ a *spiny* fish ▪ *spiny* underbrush/fish

[1]**spi·ral** /ˈspaɪrəl/ *noun, pl* **-rals** [*count*]

1 : a circular curving line that goes around a central point while getting closer to or farther away from it ▪ The glider flew in a wide *spiral* over the field.

2 : a situation in which something continuously increases, decreases, or gets worse — usually singular ▪ an inflationary *spiral* [=a continuous increase in prices] ▪ a *spiral* of problems ▪ Gas prices continued their dizzying ***upward spiral***. [=gas prices got higher] ▪ His drug use drove him into a ***downward spiral***. [=his condition became worse and worse]

3 *American football* : a kick or throw in which the ball spins while moving through the air ▪ The quarterback threw a tight *spiral* to the receiver.

[2]**spiral** *verb* **-rals**; *US* **-raled** *or Brit* **-ralled**; *US* **-ral·ing** *or Brit* **-ral·ling** [*no obj*]

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move in a circle around a central point while getting closer to or farther away from it : to move in a spiral ▪ Smoke *spiraled* up from the chimney. ▪ Vultures *spiraled* [=*circled*] overhead. ▪ The airplane *spiraled* to the ground and crashed.

2 : to greatly increase, decrease, or get worse in a continuous and usually fast and uncontrolled way ▪ The unemployment rate has been *spiraling* upward. ▪ The stock market is *spiraling* downward. ▪ *spiraling* [=rapidly increasing] costs ▪ Let's deal with this crisis before it ***spirals out of control***.

[3]**spiral** *adj, always used before a noun* : winding or circling around a central point and usually getting closer to or farther away from it : shaped or moving like a spiral ▪ a *spiral* seashell ▪ a *spiral* driveway

spi·ral–bound /ˈspaɪrəlˌbaʊnd/ *adj, of a book* : having pages held together along one edge by a continuous piece of wire or plastic that passes through holes in the pages ▪ a *spiral-bound* notebook

spiral staircase *noun, pl* ~ **-cases** [*count*] : a set of stairs that winds around a central post or column

spire /ˈspajə/ *noun, pl* **spires** [*count*] : a tall, narrow, pointed structure on the top of a building ▪ church *spires*

– **spired** /ˈspajəd/ *adj* ▪ a twin-*spired* cathedral

[1]**spir·it** /ˈspɪrət/ *noun, pl* **-its**

1 a : the force within a person that is believed to give the body life, energy, and power [*count*] the *spirits* of my ancestors ▪ Some religions believe that the same *spirit* is reincarnated many times in different bodies. [*noncount*] Yoga is very healthy for both body and *spirit*. ▪ I'm sorry I can't make it to your wedding, but I'll be there ***in spirit*** [=I will be thinking about you] **b** [*count*] : the inner quality or nature of a person ▪ He still has a curious and youthful *spirit*. [=he is still a curious and youthful person] ▪ We will all miss her generous *spirit*.

2 [*count*] : a person ▪ My father was a proud *spirit*. ▪ They are ***kindred spirits***. [=people with similar interests or concerns] — see also FREE SPIRIT

3 a [*count*] : GHOST ▪ evil *spirits* **b** ***the Spirit*** : HOLY SPIRIT

4 a : a desire or determination to do something [*count*] His many disappointments never broke his *spirit*. [=never took away his desire to succeed] ▪ He has a strong ***fighting spirit*** [*noncount*] She's a good athlete with a lot of skill and *spirit*. **b** [*noncount*] : enthusiastic loyalty ▪ The students showed their school *spirit* by having a rally to support the football team.

5 [*singular*] **a** : the attitude or feeling that a person has about a particular job, activity, etc. ▪ He didn't approach the work in/with the right *spirit*. **b** : a shared attitude or feeling that relates to a particular time, place, activity, etc. — often + *of* ▪ the *spirit of* the times ▪ a new *spirit of* cooperation ▪ the *spirit of* competition ▪ We all ***got/entered into the spirit of*** the holidays. ▪ You'd have more fun if you'd just relax and *get into the spirit of* things.

6 *spirits* [*plural*] : feelings of happiness or unhappiness ▪ *Spirits* were low [=people were unhappy] after our team lost again. ▪ We need to do something to ***lift your spirits***. [=to make you feel better/happier] ▪ It's hard work, but try to ***keep your spirits up***. [=keep a happy and positive attitude] ▪ We were all ***in high spirits*** [=*happy, cheerful*] after the game. ▪ She was ***in low spirits***. [=she was unhappy] ▪ He's still in the hospital, but he's ***in good spirits***. [=happy and positive] — see also HIGH-SPIRITED, LOW-SPIRITED

7 [*noncount*] : the real meaning or intention of something (such as a law) ▪ They seem to be more concerned with obeying the letter of the law than with understanding ***the spirit of the law***. [=what was intended by the law when it was written]

8 *spirits* [*plural*] : strong alcoholic drinks : LIQUOR ▪ The store sells wines and *spirits*.

as/when the spirit moves you : when you feel like it : when the time is right ▪ I'll write *when the spirit moves me*.

moving spirit see MOVING

that's the spirit *informal* — used to express approval of

S

someone's attitude ▪ "I know I can do it if I keep trying." "Yeah, *that's the spirit*!" [=that's the right attitude to have]

the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak — used to say that you want to do something but you cannot because you do not have the strength or energy; often used humorously ▪ I try to get up early and exercise, though sometimes *the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.*

– see also SURGICAL SPIRIT, WHITE SPIRIT

[2]spirit *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **-its; -it·ed; -it·ing** [+ *obj*] : to carry (someone or something) away secretly ▪ The singer was *spirited* away in a limousine after the show. ▪ Some of the funds had been *spirited away* to other accounts.

spir·it·ed /'spirətəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : full of courage or energy : very lively or determined ▪ We had a *spirited* [=*lively*] discussion. ▪ The team put up a *spirited* defense. ▪ She's a very *spirited* young lady. — see also HIGH-SPIRITED, LOW-SPIRITED, MEAN-SPIRITED, PUBLIC-SPIRITED

– **spir·it·ed·ly** *adv*

spir·it·less /'spirətləs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : lacking courage, energy, or cheerfulness ▪ a *spiritless* performance

spirit level *noun, pl ~* **-vels** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : [1]LEVEL 5

[1]spir·i·tu·al /'spirɪʧəwəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : of or relating to a person's spirit ▪ Doctors must consider the emotional and *spiritual* needs of their patients. ▪ I'm working on my *spiritual* growth/development. [=the growth of my mind and spirit]

2 : of or relating to religion or religious beliefs ▪ I regularly consult our pastor about *spiritual* matters. ▪ an influential *spiritual* leader

3 : having similar values and ideas : related or joined in spirit ▪ The Romantic composers saw Beethoven as a *spiritual* ancestor. ▪ France will always be the ***spiritual home*** of wine lovers.

– **spir·i·tu·al·ly** *adv* ▪ She was physically and *spiritually* exhausted. ▪ a *spiritually* uplifting performance

[2]spiritual *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] : a religious folk song that was sung originally by African-Americans in the southern U.S. ▪ The congregation sang hymns and *spirituals*.

spir·i·tu·al·ism /'spirɪʧəwə,lɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a belief that the spirits of dead people can communicate with living people

– **spir·i·tu·al·ist** /'spirɪʧəwəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

spir·i·tu·al·i·ty /,spirɪʧə'wæləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being concerned with religion or religious matters : the quality or state of being spiritual ▪ a man of deep *spirituality* [=a very religious man] ▪ We studied Eastern traditions of *spirituality*.

[1]spit /'spɪt/ *verb* **spits**; **spat** /'spæt/ *or chiefly US* **spit**; **spitting**

1 a [*no obj*] : to force saliva from your mouth ▪ She saw him *spit* on the sidewalk. ▪ I scolded the child for *spitting* at another student. ▪ He *spit/spat* in my face. **b** [+ *obj*] : to force (something, such as food or liquid) from your mouth — often + *out* ▪ He took a taste of the soup and quickly *spat/spit* it *out*. ▪ She *spit out* her gum before class. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Our manager was ***spitting blood/venom*** [=was extremely angry] when he found out what had happened. ▪ I'm so angry, I could ***spit nails***!

2 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) in a quick and angry way ▪ She *spat* a few nasty remarks at him as he left. ▪ "You make me sick!" he *spat*.

3 [*no obj*] : to throw off or send out something (such as sparks or drops of fat) especially while burning or cooking ▪ The meat was *spitting* in the pan. ▪ The wet wood hissed and *spat* in the fireplace.

4 *informal* : to rain or snow lightly [*no obj*] Take your umbrella, ***it's spitting***. ▪ a cold, *spitting* rain [+ *obj*] The sky briefly *spat* rain.

spit it out *informal* — used to tell someone to say something that he or she does not want to say or is having a hard time saying. ▪ "Come on, *spit it out*! What happened?"

spit up [*phrasal verb*] ***spit up or spit (something) up or spit up (something)*** *US, informal, of babies* : to vomit or throw up a usually small amount of food or liquid ▪ The baby *spit up* all over my blouse. ▪ The baby *spat up* his breakfast.

[2]spit *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the liquid produced in your mouth : SALIVA ▪ I wiped the *spit* [=*drool, spittle*] off the baby's chin.

2 : someone who looks very much like someone else : SPITTING IMAGE ▪ She's the ***spit and image of*** her mother. = (*Brit*) She's the ***(dead) spit of*** her mother.

spit and vinegar *US, informal* : strength and energy ▪ She's 80 years old but still full of *spit and vinegar*.

– compare [3]SPIT

[3]spit *noun, pl* **spits** [*count*]

1 : a thin pointed rod or stick that is used for holding meat over a fire to cook it

2 : a narrow piece of land that goes out into a body of water ▪ a narrow *spit* of land

– compare [2]SPIT

spit and polish *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : careful attention to making something clean and polished ▪ All the car needs is some *spit and polish*.

spit·ball /'spɪt,bɑ:l/ *noun, pl* **-balls** [*count*] *US*

1 : a small piece of paper that is chewed and rolled into a ball so that it can be thrown or shot at someone ▪ The kids were shooting *spitballs* at each other.

2 *baseball* : an illegal pitch in which the ball is made wet with saliva or sweat

[1]spite /'spaɪt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a desire to harm, anger, or defeat another person especially because you feel that you have been treated wrongly in some way ▪ He is jealous and full of *spite*. ▪ an act of *spite* ▪ You only denied his request ***out of (pure) spite***.

in spite of : without being prevented by (something) : DESPITE — used to say that something happens or is true even though there is something that might prevent it from happening or being true ▪ He failed the test *in spite of* all his studying. ▪ She went ahead *in spite of* the snow. ▪ They made it on time ***in spite of the fact*** that they got a flat tire.

in spite of yourself : even though you do not want to or expect to ▪ I ended up having a good time *in spite of myself*.

[2]spite *verb* **spites**; **spit·ed**; **spit·ing** [+ *obj*] : to deliberately annoy, upset, or hurt (someone) ▪ He only did it to *spite* me.

cut off your nose to spite your face see [1]NOSE

spite·ful /'spaɪtfəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having or showing a desire to harm, anger, or defeat someone : having or showing spite ▪ She's just being *spiteful*. ▪ a *spiteful* remark

– **spite·ful·ly** *adv* ▪ She *spitefully* refused my request.

– **spite·ful·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

spitting distance *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : a short distance ▪ Our house is ***within spitting distance*** of the park.

spitting image *noun, pl ~* **-ages** [*count*] : someone who looks very much like someone else — usually singular ▪ She is ***the spitting image of*** her mother.

spit·tle /'spɪtl̩/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the liquid produced in your mouth : saliva or spit ▪ *Spittle* sprayed from his lips as he shouted at them.

spit·toon /spɪ'tu:n/ *noun, pl* **-toons** [*count*] : a container that people spit into ✧ Spittoons were common in the past but are now rare. — called also (*chiefly US*) *cuspidor*

spit–up *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal* : a small amount of vomit from a baby ▪ She wiped the *spit-up* off the baby's chin.

spiv /'spɪv/ *noun, pl* **spivs** [*count*] *Brit slang, old-fashioned* : a man who makes money dishonestly ▪ a smooth-talking *spiv*

[1]splash /'splæʃ/ *verb* **splash·es**; **splashed**; **splash·ing**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] *of a liquid* : to move, fall, or hit something in a noisy or messy way ▪ Water/Mud *splashed* everywhere. ▪ He dropped the bottle and bleach *splashed* onto the floor. ▪ We could hear the waves *splashing* against the side of the boat.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cause (water or another liquid) to move in a noisy way or messy way ▪ The baby *splashed* the water. ▪ Don't *splash* water at your brother. ▪ I accidentally *splashed* some water on the floor. ▪ She *splashed* cold water on her face. **b** : to make (someone or something) wet with large drops of water or another liquid ▪ Don't *splash* your brother. ▪ We were *splashed* by a passing car. ▪ She *splashed* her face with cold water.

3 [*no obj*] : to move through water in a noisy and messy way ▪ The kids love *splashing* (around) in the pool. ▪ The dog was *splashing* through the waves.

4 [+ *obj*] : to mark (something) with patches of color or light ▪ The sunset *splashed* the sky with red. — often used as *(be) splashed with* ▪ The canvas *was splashed with* bold colors.

splash across/over [*phrasal verb*] ***splash (something) across/over (something)*** : to put (something, such as a photograph or news headline) in a place or position where it will be easily seen by many people ▪ The scandal was *splashed across* the front page. ▪ Her picture was *splashed* (all) *over* the news.

splash down [*phrasal verb*] *of a spacecraft* : to land in the ocean ▪ The space capsule *splashed down* in the Gulf of Mexico. — see also SPLASHDOWN

splash out [*phrasal verb*] ***splash out*** *or* ***splash out (something)*** *or* ***splash (something) out*** *Brit, informal* : to spend a lot of money ▪ If you really want to *splash out* [=*splurge*], let's go to dinner and a show in town. ▪ We can't afford to *splash out* that much money for luxuries.

[2]splash *noun, pl* **splash•es**

1 [*count*] **a** : the sound made when someone or something hits liquid or when liquid hits something — usually singular ▪ He listened to the gentle *splash* of the waves against the boat. ▪ We heard a *splash* from the pool. ▪ The bird dived into the pond with a *splash*. **b** : the movement of liquid when something hits it — usually singular ▪ There was barely a *splash* when the diver hit the water. ▪ I was hit by the *splash* when a truck drove through the puddle.

2 [*count*] : a mark or spot made when a liquid is splashed on something — often + *of* ▪ You've got *splashes of* mud on your pants.

3 [*count*] : a small area of bright color or light — + *of* ▪ a *splash of* color ▪ *splashes of* light on the floor

4 [*singular*] *informal* : a small amount of liquid added to a drink — usually + *of* ▪ coffee with just a *splash of* cream

make a splash *informal* : to attract a lot of attention in an exciting way ▪ The young director is *making* (quite) *a splash* in Hollywood. ▪ The news of her arrest *made a* huge *splash*.

splash•down /ˈsplæʃˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs** [*count, noncount*] : the landing of a spacecraft in the ocean — see also *splash down* at [1]SPLASH

splash guard *noun, pl* ~ **guards** [*count*] *US* : MUD FLAP

splashy /ˈsplæʃi/ *adj* **splash•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : having a bright or exciting quality that attracts attention or is meant to attract attention ▪ bright *splashy* colors ▪ big, *splashy* movie musicals ▪ a *splashy* ad

splat /ˈsplæt/ *noun, pl* **splats** [*singular*] *informal* : the sound made when something wet hits a surface ▪ The water balloon hit the ground and broke with a *splat*.

– **splat** *verb* **splats**; **splat•ted**; **splat•ting** [*no obj*] *informal* ▪ A bug *splatted* on the windshield.

[1]splat•ter /ˈsplætɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing**

1 [*no obj*] **a** *of a liquid* : to move, fall, or hit something in large drops ▪ Mud *splattered* everywhere when the wet dog shook himself. ▪ Rain *splattered* against the windows. **b** *of something that contains liquid* : to hit something and break apart ▪ A big bug *splattered* against the windshield of the car. ▪ The egg *splattered* on the floor.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cause (a liquid) to move or fall in large drops ▪ You're *splattering* paint everywhere. **b** : to make (something) wet or dirty with large drops of liquid ▪ The paint *splattered* my clothes. — often used as *(be) splattered with* ▪ My clothes *were splattered with* paint.

[2]splatter *noun, pl* **-ters** : a mark or spot made by a large drop of liquid [*count*] I had paint *splatters* on my jeans. ▪ There were mud *splatters* all over the carpet. [*noncount*] Blood *splatter* was found at the crime scene.

splay /ˈspleɪ/ *verb* **splays**; **splayed**; **splay•ing** : to move (things, especially your legs, fingers, etc.) out and apart from each other [+ *obj*] He sat with his legs *splayed* apart. ▪ Her son was *splayed out* [=*spread out, stretched out*] on the couch watching TV. ▪ She *splayed* her fingers to show off her manicure. [*no obj*] His fingers *splayed* out over the table as he steadied himself.

spleen /ˈspli:n/ *noun, pl* **spleens**

1 [*count*] : an organ located near your stomach that destroys worn-out red blood cells and produces white blood cells ▪ a ruptured *spleen* — see picture at HUMAN

2 [*noncount*] *literary* : feelings of anger ▪ I listened patiently while she ***vented her spleen***. [=while she expressed her angry feelings]

splen•did /ˈsplɛndəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : very impressive and beautiful ▪ The balcony gave us a *splendid* [=*magnificent*] view of the river.

2 *somewhat old-fashioned* : very good : EXCELLENT ▪ We have a *splendid* opportunity to do something really useful. ▪ I have some *splendid* news. ▪ "We'll be coming out to visit over the summer." "Oh, *splendid*!"

– **splen•did•ly** *adv* ▪ She performed *splendidly*.

splen•dor (*US*) *or Brit* **splen•dour** /ˈsplɛndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-dors**

1 [*noncount*] : great and impressive beauty ▪ The palace had lost much of its original *splendor*. ▪ the *splendor* of nature

2 *US* **splendors** *or Brit* **splendours** [*plural*] : things that are very beautiful or impressive ▪ architectural *splendors* — often + *of* ▪ the *splendors of* the countryside

sple•net•ic /splɪˈnɛtɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly Brit, formal* : very angry and annoyed ▪ *splenetic* political commentators ▪ a *splenetic* rant

[1]splice /ˈsplaɪs/ *verb* **splic•es**; **spliced**; **splic•ing** [+ *obj*]

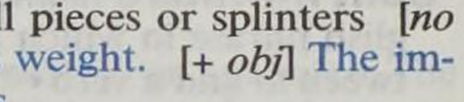
1 : to join ropes, wires, etc., by weaving or twisting them together

2 : to join (pieces of film, magnetic tape, etc.) by connecting their ends together

get spliced *Brit, informal* : to get married ▪ So, when are you two *getting spliced*?

– **splic•er** /ˈsplaɪsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

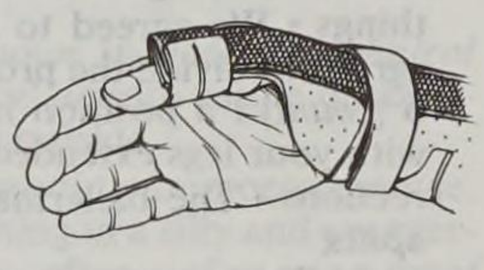
[2]splice *noun, pl* **splic•es** [*count*] : the place where two things (such as two pieces of rope or film) have been joined by being spliced together



splice

spliff /ˈsplɪf/ *noun, pl* **spliffs** [*count*] *Brit slang* : a marijuana cigarette : JOINT

splint /ˈsplɪnt/ *noun, pl* **splints** [*count*] : a piece of wood, metal, plastic, etc., that is used to hold a broken bone in the correct position while it heals ▪ His leg was in a *splint*. ▪ a wrist *splint*



splint

[1]splin•ter /ˈsplɪntɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : a thin, sharp piece of something (such as wood, glass, etc.) that has broken off a larger piece : SLIVER ▪ I got a *splinter* in my finger. ▪ There were *splinters* of glass everywhere.

– **splin•tery** /ˈsplɪntɚi/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ planks of *splintery* wood

[2]splinter *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing**

1 : to break (something) into small pieces or splinters [*no obj*] The board *splintered* under his weight. [+ *obj*] The impact of the crash *splintered* the glass.

2 : to divide or split a group of people into smaller groups [*no obj*] groups that have *splintered* off to form new political movements [+ *obj*] a political party that has been *splintered* by disagreements

– **splintered** *adj* ▪ a *splintered* tree stump

splinter group *noun, pl* ~ **groups** [*count*] : a group of people that has separated from a larger group (such as a political party)

[1]split /ˈsplɪt/ *verb* **splits**; **split**; **split•ting**

1 : to break apart or into pieces especially along a straight line [*no obj*] The board *split* in two. ▪ The floorboards are starting to warp and *split* (up). ▪ The hull of the ship *split* apart on the rocks. ▪ A large chunk of ice *split* off/away from the iceberg and crashed into the water. [+ *obj*] *split* (up) a log ▪ She *split* the muffin and gave me half.

2 a : to separate or divide into parts or groups [*no obj*] The class *split* into several small groups. ▪ Two of the band members *split* off to form their own band. — often + *up* ▪ Let's *split up* and look for the lost dog. [+ *obj*] The teacher *split* the class into groups. ▪ The river *splits* the town in two. — often + *up* ▪ Families were often *split up* during the war. **b** : to separate or divide into groups that disagree [*no obj*] The party is *split* over/on the issue of taxes. ▪ The church *split* into moderate and conservative factions. [+ *obj*] The budget issue has *split* (up) the town. ▪ Opinion is *split* on the wording of the new law.

3 [+ *obj*] : to divide (something, such as money or food) among two or more people or things ▪ We should *split* [=*share*] the costs. ▪ Why don't we just *split* a pizza for dinner? ▪ She *splits* her time between Boston and New York. [=she spends time in both Boston and New York] ▪ The prize money should be *split* (up) evenly.

4 : to cut, rip, or tear (something) especially along a straight line [+ *obj*] I *split* my lip when I fell. ▪ He bent over and *split* the seat of his pants. [*no obj*] His pants *split* when he bent over.

5 *informal* : to end or cause the end of a relationship [*no obj*] My parents *split* when I was little. — usually + *up* ▪ The band *split up* just after they released their new album. [+ *obj*] — + *up* ▪ Creative differences eventually *split up* the band.

6 [*no obj*] *informal* + *somewhat old-fashioned* : to leave

S

quickly ▪ "Let's *split*!" [=let's get out of here]

split hairs see HAIR

split on [*phrasal verb*] ***split on (someone)*** *Brit, informal* : to give information about the secret or criminal activity of (someone) to the police ▪ He would never *split on* [=(*US*) *inform on*] his chums.

split the difference : to agree to an amount that is halfway between two given amounts ▪ He thought I should pay $40 and I thought I should pay $30, so we decided to *split the difference* at $35.

split the ticket *US* : to vote for candidates from more than one political party — see also SPLIT TICKET

split your sides (laughing) *informal* : to laugh very hard ▪ The movie was hilarious. I (almost) *split my sides laughing*.

[2]split *noun, pl* **splits**

1 [*count*] : a narrow break, tear, or crack ▪ There's a *split* down the back of your jacket.

2 [*count*] : a division or separation in a group that is caused by a disagreement ▪ The new policy has caused a *split* in the organization. ▪ a *split* between liberals and conservatives

3 [*count*] : a clear separation or difference between two or more things ▪ a wide *split* of opinions

4 [*singular*] **a** : a part of something that has been divided ▪ Here's your *split* [=*portion, share*] of the proceeds. **b** : the act of dividing something among two or more people or things ▪ We agreed to a fifty-fifty *split* of the profit. [=we agreed to divide the profits equally]

5 [*count*] : a position in which you are sitting on the floor with your legs extended in a straight line and in opposite directions ▪ The ballerina did a *split*. = The ballerina did ***the splits***.

– see also BANANA SPLIT

split ends *noun* [*plural*] : hairs that have become dry or damaged and have split apart at the end ▪ She has *split ends*. ▪ You should trim off your *split ends*.

split–fingered fastball *noun, pl* ~ **-balls** [*count*] *baseball* : a fast pitch that drops quickly as it nears the batter — called also *split-finger, splitter*

split infinitive *noun, pl* ~ **-tives** [*count*] *grammar* : an English phrase in which an adverb or other word is placed between *to* and a verb ▪ "To really start" is an example of a *split infinitive*. ✧ Some people feel that the use of split infinitives should be avoided, but they are common in both speech and writing.

split–lev•el /ˈsplɪtˈlɛvəl/ *adj* : divided so that the floor in one part is about halfway between two floors in the other part ▪ a *split-level* house

– **split–lev•el** /ˈsplɪtˌlɛvəl/ *noun, pl* **-levels** [*count*] *US* ▪ They bought a nice *split-level* in a quiet neighborhood.

split pea *noun, pl* ~ **peas** [*count*] : a dried pea that has had the outer skin removed and that is split into two parts ▪ *split pea* soup

split personality *noun, pl* ~ **-ties** [*count*] : a condition in which a person behaves in two very different ways at different times — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a city with a *split personality*

split second *noun* [*singular*] : a very short period of time ▪ In a *split second*, it was all over.

split–second *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : done very quickly ▪ a *split-second* decision

2 : very accurate or precise ▪ *split-second* timing

split•ter /ˈsplɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]

1 : a device that divides or splits something (such as wood or electronic signals) ▪ a log *splitter* ▪ a three-way phone line *splitter*

2 *baseball* : SPLIT-FINGERED FASTBALL

split ticket *noun, pl* ~ **-ets** [*count*] *US* : a ballot on which a voter votes for candidates from more than one political party

splitting headache *noun, pl* ~ **-aches** [*count*] : a very bad headache

splodge /ˈsplɑːʤ/ *noun, pl* **splodg•es** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : SPLOTCH ▪ a *splodge* of ink

splotch /ˈsplɑːʧ/ *noun, pl* **splotch•es** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a large spot or mark of dirt, paint, etc. ▪ There's an ink *splotch* [=(*Brit*) *splodge*] on your shirt. ▪ *splotches* of ink/rust

– **splotched** /ˈsplɑːʧt/ *adj* ▪ Her pants were *splotched* with paint. [=there were splotches of paint on her pants] – **splotchy** /ˈsplɑːʧi/ *adj* **splotch•i•er**; **-est** ▪ *splotchy* skin

splurge /ˈsplɚʤ/ *verb* **splurg•es**; **splurged**; **splurg•ing** [*no obj*] *informal* : to spend more money than usual on something for yourself ▪ You should let yourself *splurge* once in a while. — often + *on* ▪ We decided to *splurge on* a bottle of good wine for dinner.

– **splurge** *noun, pl* **splurges** [*count*] *informal* — usually singular ▪ She went on a shopping *splurge*. [=*spree*] ▪ This year's big *splurge* [=expensive purchase] was a new car.

splut•ter /ˈsplʌtɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to make a series of short, loud noises like the noises of someone who is struggling to breathe ▪ She coughed and *spluttered* as she climbed out of the icy water. ▪ The old lawn mower *spluttered* [=*sputtered*] to life. [=noisily started working]

2 : to say (something) in short, confused phrases [*no obj*] When I demanded an explanation, he just stood there *spluttering*. [+ *obj*] She *spluttered* an excuse. ▪ "Th-that's simply not true," he *spluttered*.

– **splutter** *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]

[1]spoil /ˈspojəl/ *verb* **spoils**; **spoiled** *or chiefly Brit* **spoilt** /ˈspojəlt/; **spoil•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to have a bad effect on (something) : to damage or ruin (something) ▪ The fight *spoiled* the party. ▪ The camping trip was *spoiled* by bad weather. ▪ Don't let one mistake *spoil* your day. ▪ He always *spoils* everything. ▪ Don't *spoil* your appetite by snacking too much. ▪ Exposure to air will *spoil* the wine. ▪ I *spoiled* the sauce by adding too much garlic.

2 [*no obj*] : to decay or lose freshness especially because of being kept too long ▪ The milk/fruit was beginning to *spoil*.

synonyms see [1]DECAY

3 [+ *obj*] *disapproving* **a** : to give (someone, such as a child) everything that he or she wants : to have a bad effect on (someone) by allowing too many things or by not correcting bad behavior ▪ Her grandparents *spoil* her. — often used as *(be) spoiled* ▪ He *was spoiled* by his parents. ▪ a *spoiled* brat ▪ That child is ***spoiled rotten***. [=very spoiled] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ We've *been spoiled* lately by/with this beautiful weather. [=we've had so much beautiful weather that we expect the weather always to be beautiful] ▪ (*Brit*) Customers are ***spoiled/spoilt for choice*** [=customers have a lot of choices] when buying a new car. **b** : to treat (someone) very well ▪ The hotel *spoils* their guests with fine dining and excellent service. ▪ She always *spoils* me on my birthday. ▪ You should *spoil* yourself with a day at the spa.

(be) spoiling for : to have a strong desire for (something, such as a fight) ▪ They *are spoiling for* a fight/argument. ▪ The team *is spoiling for* a rematch.

[2]spoil *noun, pl* **spoils** [*count*] *formal*

1 : something stolen or taken by thieves, soldiers, etc. — usually plural; usually used with *the* ▪ The pirates divided *the spoils* among themselves. ▪ ***the spoils of war***

2 : something valuable or desirable that someone gets by working or trying hard — usually plural; usually used with *the* ▪ We shared *the spoils* of victory. ▪ *the spoils* of success

spoil•age /ˈspoɪlɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : the process or result of decaying ▪ food *spoilage* ▪ The milk should be refrigerated to prevent *spoilage*.

spoil•er /ˈspoɪlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person or thing that spoils something: such as **a** : a political candidate who cannot win but who prevents another candidate from winning by taking away votes **b** *chiefly US* : a person or team that surprisingly defeats a competitor that is expected to win ▪ They played (the role of) the *spoiler* and ruined our chance to play in the finals. **c** : information about the things that happen in a movie, book, etc., that spoils the surprise or suspense for someone who has not seen it or read it yet ▪ The review contains a few *spoilers*, so don't read it if you haven't seen the movie.

2 a : a long narrow part on the back of an automobile that prevents it from lifting off the road at high speeds **b** : a part of an airplane's wing that may be raised to control the amount of lift produced by the wing

spoil•sport /ˈspojəlˌspoɚt/ *noun, pl* **-sports** [*count*] *informal* : someone who spoils other people's fun or enjoyment ▪ Oh, don't be a *spoilsport*. Let them try it. ▪ Dad's a *spoilsport*. He won't let us play football.

spoilt *chiefly Brit spelling of* [1]SPOIL

[1]spoke *past tense of* SPEAK

[2]spoke *noun, pl* **spokes** [*count*] : one of the bars that connect the center of a wheel to the rim ▪ The stick got caught in the wheel's *spokes*. — see picture at BICYCLE

[1]spo•ken /ˈspoʊkən/ *past participle of* SPEAK

[2]spoken *adj*

1 : using speech and not writing ▪ a *spoken* statement ▪ the *spoken* word/language

2 : speaking in a specified manner — used in combination ▪ She is soft-*spoken*. ▪ a plain*spoken* man [=a man who speaks plainly] — see also WELL-SPOKEN

spokes·man /'spoʊksmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /'spoʊksmən/ [*count*] : someone who speaks for or represents a person, company, etc. ▪ A White House *spokesman* answered questions from the reporters. — often + *for* ▪ a *spokesman for* the musician/company ▪ The success of his books has made him a *spokesman for* his generation. ▪ a *spokesman for* AIDS awareness

spokes·per·son /'spoʊks,pəsn̩/ *noun, pl* **spokes·peo·ple** /'spoʊks,pi:pəl/ [*count*] : a man or woman who speaks for or represents someone or something ▪ a statement from the company's *spokesperson*

spokes·wom·an /'spoʊks,wʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom·en** /'spoʊks,wɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who speaks for or represents someone or something ▪ The company's *spokeswoman* addressed the reporters.

[1]sponge /'spʌnʤ/ *noun, pl* **spong·es**

1 [*count*] : a piece of light natural or artificial material that becomes soft when it is wet, is able to take in and hold liquid, and is used for washing or cleaning ▪ a kitchen *sponge* — sometimes used figuratively ▪ His mind is (like) a *sponge*. [=he remembers a lot of information easily] — see picture at KITCHEN

2 [*count*] : a type of sea animal from which natural sponges are made

3 [*count, noncount*] *Brit* : SPONGE CAKE ▪ a slice of *sponge*

4 [*count*] *informal + disapproving* : someone who gets something from someone else without doing or paying anything in return : SPONGER ▪ He's a lazy *sponge*.

5 [*count*] : a device like a sponge that is used by women to prevent pregnancy ▪ a contraceptive *sponge*

[2]sponge *verb* **sponges; sponged; spong·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to clean or wipe (something) with a sponge ▪ He *sponged* the table. ▪ She *sponged* up the spilt milk. ▪ He *sponged* off his face. ▪ She *sponged* the dirt off her shirt. **b** : to put (paint) on a surface with a sponge ▪ She *sponged* the paint on the walls. = She *sponged* the walls.

2 *informal + disapproving* : to get money, food, etc., from (someone) without doing or paying anything in return [+ *obj*] She always *sponges* meals from us. [*no obj*] — often + *off* ▪ She lives at home and *sponges off* her parents.

sponge bath *noun, pl* ~ **baths** [*count*] *US* : a bath in which someone or something is not placed in water but is cleaned with a wet, soapy sponge or cloth ▪ The nurse gave him a *sponge bath*.

sponge cake *noun, pl* ~ **cakes** : a very light cake made with flour, eggs, and sugar [*count*] a lemon *sponge cake* [*noncount*] layers of *sponge cake*

spong·er /'spʌnʤɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal + disapproving* : someone who gets money, food, etc., from someone else without doing or paying anything in return ▪ Her brother's a lazy *sponger*.

spongy /'spʌnʤi/ *adj* **spong·i·er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : soft and full of holes or water : resembling a sponge ▪ *spongy* bread ▪ The ground was *spongy*.
– **spong·i·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]spon·sor /'spɑ:nsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sors** [*count*]

1 a : a person or organization that pays the cost of an activity or event (such as a radio or television program, sports event, concert, etc.) in return for the right to advertise during the activity or event ▪ Our company is a *sponsor* of the race. ▪ corporate *sponsors* **b** : a person or organization that gives someone money for participating in a charity event (such as a walk or race) ▪ I have over 50 *sponsors* for next week's race. **c** : an organization that gives money to an athlete for training, clothes, equipment, etc., in return for the right to use the athlete for advertising ▪ Her *sponsors* include a major sneaker company.

2 a : someone who takes the responsibility for someone or something ▪ He agreed to be my *sponsor* so that I could join the club. ▪ The senator is a *sponsor* of the proposed bill. **b** : a person who teaches and guides someone in religious or spiritual matters ▪ She was my *sponsor* at my confirmation. [=she helped to prepare me for my confirmation]

[2]sponsor *verb* **-sors; -sored; -sor·ing** [+ *obj*] : to be a sponsor for (something or someone) ▪ The radio station *sponsored* the concert. ▪ The tournament is *sponsored* by local businesses. ▪ Will you *sponsor* me for the charity race? ▪ He *sponsored* me at my confirmation. ▪ She *sponsored* the new tax bill. ▪ *sponsored* events — sometimes used in combination ▪ a state-*sponsored* study ▪ government-*sponsored* programs

spon·sor·ship /'spɑ:nsɚ,ʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships**

1 : an arrangement in which a sponsor agrees to give money to someone or something [*noncount*] You cannot race without *sponsorship*. ▪ He receives millions of dollars in *sponsorship*. ▪ *sponsorship* deals [*count*] She has a *sponsorship* from the sneaker company. ▪ corporate *sponsorships*

2 [*noncount*] : the act of sponsoring someone or something — often + *of* ▪ The group protested the tobacco company's *sponsorship of* the tournament.

spon·ta·ne·i·ty /,spɑ:ntə'nejəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being spontaneous ▪ the *spontaneity* of their behavior ▪ She liked his *spontaneity*.

spon·ta·ne·ous /spɑn'teɪnijəs/ *adj*

1 : done or said in a natural and often sudden way and without a lot of thought or planning ▪ *spontaneous* laughter ▪ a *spontaneous* kiss/decision ▪ The comment was completely *spontaneous*.

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : doing things that have not been planned but that seem enjoyable and worth doing at a particular time ▪ He's a guy who's *spontaneous* and fun.
– **spon·ta·ne·ous·ly** *adv* ▪ He laughed *spontaneously*. ▪ She acted *spontaneously*. ▪ They *spontaneously* decided to go to the beach.

spontaneous combustion *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : burning that is caused by chemical actions inside of something rather than by heat from the outside

spoof /'spu:f/ *noun, pl* **spoofs** [*count*] : a humorous movie, book, play, etc., that copies something in a silly and exaggerated way ▪ a Shakespearean *spoof* — often + *of* or *on* ▪ a *spoof of* horror films ▪ a *spoof on* Shakespeare's play
– **spoof** *verb* **spoofs; spoofed; spoof·ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ The movie *spoofs* horror films.

[1]spook /'spu:k/ *noun, pl* **spooks** [*count*] *informal*

1 : [1]GHOST 1 ▪ scary *spooks*

2 *chiefly US* : [1]SPY 1 ▪ a CIA *spook*

[2]spook *verb* **spooks; spooked; spook·ing** *chiefly US, informal*

1 [+ *obj*] : to scare or frighten (a person or animal) ▪ The noise *spooked* the cat. ▪ The little girl was *spooked* by scary masks.

2 [*no obj*] : to become frightened ▪ She doesn't *spook* easily. — usually used of an animal ▪ The horse *spooked* and ran away.

spooky /'spu:ki/ *adj* **spook·i·er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : strange and frightening ▪ a *spooky* movie ▪ The music was pretty *spooky*. ▪ a *spooky* old house ▪ He looks *spooky*. = He's *spooky* looking. ▪ a *spooky* coincidence [=a very strange coincidence that makes you feel uneasy]

spool /'spu:l/ *noun, pl* **spools** [*count*] : a round object that is made to have something (such as thread, wire, or tape) wrapped around it ▪ a *spool* of film ▪ (*US*) a *spool* of thread [=(*Brit*) a cotton reel] — see picture at SEWING

[1]spoon /'spu:n/ *noun, pl* **spoons** [*count*]

1 : an eating or cooking tool that has a small shallow bowl attached to a handle ▪ a wooden *spoon* — see picture at PLACE SETTING; see also TABLESPOON, TEASPOON

2 : SPOONFUL — often + *of* ▪ two *spoons of* sugar

born with a silver spoon in your mouth see BORN
– see also GREASY SPOON

[2]spoon *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **spoons; spooned; spoon·ing** [+ *obj*] : to move or pick up (food) with a spoon ▪ She *spooned* the gravy onto her potatoes. ▪ He *spooned* the ice cream into a bowl.

spoo·ner·ism /'spu:nə,rɪzəm/ *noun, pl* **-isms** [*count*] : a humorous mistake in which a speaker switches the first sounds of two or more words ▪ the *spoonerism* "tons of soil" for "sons of toil"

spoon–feed /'spu:n,fi:d/ *verb* **-feeds; -fed** /-,fɛd/; **-feed·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to feed (someone) with a spoon ▪ She *spoon-fed* the baby.

2 *disapproving* : to give someone information in a way that requires or allows no further thinking or effort ▪ The material was *spoon-fed* to the students. ▪ The students are being *spoon-fed* facts and dates without having any opportunity for discussion. ▪ Misleading facts about the war are being *spoon-fed* to the public.

spoon·ful /'spu:n,fʊl/ *noun, pl* **-fuls** [*count*] : as much as a spoon can hold — often + *of* ▪ one *spoonful of* sugar

spo·rad·ic /spə'rædɪk/ *adj* : happening often but not regu-

larly : not constant or steady ▪ *Sporadic* cases of the disease were reported. ▪ *sporadic* [=*intermittent*] gunfire/fighting
– **spo·rad·i·cal·ly** /spə'rædɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The gunfire was heard *sporadically*. [=*intermittently*] ▪ Occurrences of the disease were *sporadically* reported.

spore /'spoɚ/ *noun, pl* **spores** [*count*] *biology* : a cell made by some plants that is like a seed and can produce a new plant ▪ mold *spores*

[1]sport /'spoɚt/ *noun, pl* **sports**
1 a [*count*] : a contest or game in which people do certain physical activities according to a specific set of rules and compete against each other ▪ My favorite (competitive) *sports* are tennis and volleyball. ▪ the *sport* of boxing ▪ Do you play a *sport*? = Do you play any *sports*? ▪ Baseball is a ***team sport*** [=a sport played by teams] — often used in the plural especially in U.S. English to refer to sports in a general way ▪ My brother likes *sports*. [=he enjoys playing and/or watching games such as football, baseball, basketball, golf, etc.] ▪ I like watching *sports* on TV. ▪ She likes to ***play sports*** — see also SPECTATOR SPORT, WINTER SPORT **b** [*noncount*] *Brit* : sports in general ▪ He's not interested in *sport*. [=(*US*) *sports*] ▪ She likes to ***play sport***
2 : a physical activity (such as hunting, fishing, running, swimming, etc.) that is done for enjoyment [*count*] Ice-skating with friends is my favorite *sport*. [*noncount*] He hunts and fishes ***for sport*** [=he hunts and fishes because he enjoys it and not as a job or because he needs food for survival] — see also BLOOD SPORT
3 [*count*] **a** — used with *good, bad*, etc., to say if someone has behaved politely or not after losing a game or contest ▪ He lost but he was a ***good sport*** about it. [=he was not rude or angry about losing] ▪ Don't be a ***poor/bad sport*** [=don't be angry or rude if you lose] **b** *informal + old-fashioned* : someone who is kind or generous ▪ ***Be a (good) sport*** and let him play with you. **c** *informal + old-fashioned* — used as a friendly way to address someone (especially a man) ▪ See you later, *sport*. ▪ Hey, *sport* [=*buddy*]. Can you tell me where the nearest gas station is?
in sport *somewhat formal + old-fashioned* : in a joking way : in a way that is not serious ▪ Don't take offense. I was only saying it *in sport*. [=*in fun*]
make sport of *somewhat formal + old-fashioned* : to laugh at and make jokes about (someone or something) in an unkind way ▪ They *made sport of* [=*made fun of*] the way he talked.

[2]sport *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : done for enjoyment rather than as a job or for food for survival ▪ *sport* fishing/hunting
2 *chiefly US* : participating in an activity (such as hunting or fishing) for enjoyment rather than as a job or for food for survival ▪ a *sport* fisherman — compare SPORTS

[3]sport *verb* **sports**; **sport·ed**; **sport·ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to wear (something) in a way that attracts attention ▪ She showed up at the party *sporting* a bright red hat.
2 [*no obj*] *literary* : to play in a happy and lively way ▪ The lambs *sported* [=*frolicked*] in the meadow.

sport coat *noun, pl* ~ **coats** [*count*] *US* : a man's coat that is like the top part of a suit but is less formal — called also *sports coat, sports jacket, (US) sport jacket*; see color picture on page C15

sport·ing /'spoɚtɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : of, relating to, or used in sports ▪ *sporting* events ▪ *sporting* dogs ▪ (*US*) a store that sells ***sporting goods*** = a ***sporting goods store***
2 : fairly good — used in the phrase ***a sporting chance*** ▪ There is *a sporting chance* that your plan will work. ▪ He may not win, but he should at least be given *a sporting chance* [=a fair chance] to succeed.
3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly Brit* : done or behaving in a way that treats the other people in a sport or competition fairly ▪ It wasn't very *sporting* of you to trip him. ▪ a *sporting* gesture [=a gesture that shows good sportsmanship] — opposite UNSPORTING

sport of kings *noun*
the sport of kings *somewhat old-fashioned* : the sport of racing horses : HORSERACING

sports /'spoɚts/ *adj, always used before a noun* : of, relating to, or suitable for sports ▪ a *sports* team/fan ▪ a *sports* center ▪ the *sports* section/pages of the newspaper ▪ *sports* equipment/facilities ▪ a *sports* bra — compare [2]SPORT

sports bar *noun, pl* ~ **bars** [*count*] *US* : a bar that has televisions for watching sports and is decorated with sports items

sports car *noun, pl* ~ **cars** [*count*] : a low, small car that seats two people and that is made for fast driving — see picture at CAR

sports·cast /'spoɚtsˌkæst, *Brit* 'spɔ:tsˌkɑ:st/ *noun, pl* **-casts** [*count*] *US* : a television or radio broadcast of a sports event or of news about sports

sports·cast·er /'spoɚtsˌkæstɚ, *Brit* 'spɔ:tsˌkɑ:stə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : someone who describes the action of a sports event or gives news about sports during a sportscast

sports coat *noun, pl* ~ **coats** [*count*] : SPORT COAT

sports day *noun, pl* ~ **days** [*count*] *Brit* : FIELD DAY

sport shirt *noun, pl* ~ **shirts** [*count*] *US* : an informal shirt; *especially* : POLO SHIRT — called also *sports shirt*

sports jacket *noun, pl* ~ **-ets** [*count*] : SPORT COAT

sports·man /'spoɚtsmən/ *noun, pl* **sports·men** /'spoɚtsmən/ [*count*]
1 *US* : a man who participates in outdoor activities like hunting and fishing
2 *chiefly Brit* : a man who participates in sports ▪ a champion *sportsman* [=*athlete*] ▪ He was a keen *sportsman* all his life.

sports·man·like /'spoɚtsmənˌlaɪk/ *adj* : fair, respectful, and polite toward other players when participating in a sport : showing sportsmanship ▪ She is always *sportsmanlike* when she plays. ▪ *sportsmanlike* behavior — opposite UNSPORTSMANLIKE

sports·man·ship /'spoɚtsmənˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : fair play, respect for opponents, and polite behavior by someone who is competing in a sport or other competition ▪ He's a great player who's also admired for his *sportsmanship*. ▪ She showed good/bad/poor *sportsmanship*.

sports medicine *noun* [*noncount*] : a field of medicine that relates to the prevention and treatment of injuries and other health problems that affect people who play sports

sports shirt *noun, pl* ~ **shirts** [*count*] : SPORT SHIRT

sports·wear /'spoɚtsˌweɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : clothes that people wear for playing sports
2 *chiefly US* : comfortable clothes that people wear for informal activities

sports·wom·an /'spoɚtsˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom·en** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who participates in sports ▪ a champion *sportswoman*

sports·writ·er /'spoɚtsˌraɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who writes about sports for a newspaper, magazine, etc.

sport–util·i·ty vehicle /'spoɚtju'tɪlətɪ-/ *noun, pl* ~ **-hicles** [*count*] : SUV

sporty /'spoɚti/ *adj* **sport·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *of clothing* : attractive and suitable for informal wear ▪ a *sporty* jacket/shirt
2 *of a car* : having the qualities or appearance of a sports car ▪ a *sporty* red convertible
3 *chiefly Brit* : liking sports : active in and good at sports : ATHLETIC ▪ *sporty* children

[1]spot /'spɑ:t/ *noun, pl* **spots** [*count*]
1 a : a small area of a surface that is different from other areas ▪ The wood still has some rough *spots*. ▪ The chair's original paint is still visible in *spots*. ▪ He fell through a weak *spot* in the ice. — often + *on* ▪ The dog is black with a white *spot on* its chest. ▪ There are wet *spots on* the floor. ▪ a sore *spot on* his hand ▪ He tries to cover up the bald *spot on* his head. ▪ a bruised *spot on* the apple — see also BEAUTY SPOT, SUNSPOT **b** : a small amount of a substance that is on something ▪ The tablecloth had a couple of *spots*. ▪ There were mud *spots* on the back of his pants. ▪ rust *spots* on the metal — often + *of* ▪ a *spot of* grease ▪ There was a tiny *spot of* ketchup at the corner of her mouth. ▪ There wasn't a *spot of* dust anywhere. **c** : a small mark or lump on your skin, on the surface of a plant, etc. ▪ I noticed some red *spots* on my arms. ▪ *spots* of rot on the leaf **d** *Brit* : PIMPLE ▪ a teenager with *spots* on his face
2 : a particular space or area : PLACE ▪ This looks like a good *spot* for a picnic. ▪ a sunny/shady *spot* ▪ a quiet *spot* by the river ▪ our family's favorite vacation *spot* ▪ We had trouble finding a parking *spot*. [=*space*] ▪ The battle happened exactly on/at this *spot* over 150 years ago. ▪ There are *spots* in the essay where the writer drifts from his argument. ▪ This is a good *spot* to stop the movie. — see also BLACK SPOT, HOT SPOT, NIGHTSPOT, TROUBLE SPOT, *bright spot* at BRIGHT
3 : a particular position in a competition, organization, program, etc. ▪ The teams are battling for the last play-off *spot*. ▪

The band deserves a better *spot* in the festival's lineup. ▪ The talk show has been moved to a daytime *spot*. ▪ He's trying out for a *spot* on the team. ▪ With such a large lead, the team is in a comfortable *spot*.

4 : an appearance on a television or radio program ▪ The host has several guest *spots* lined up tonight.

5 : a short announcement or advertisement on television or radio ▪ advertising *spots*

6 : a difficult or embarrassing position or situation — usually singular ▪ When the truth came out, they found themselves in an awful *spot*. [=*fix*, *mess*, *predicament*] ▪ You put me ***in a (tight) spot***

7 *Brit* : a small amount *of* something ▪ I had a *spot of* [=*bit of*] trouble putting the bicycle together. ▪ How about a *spot of* tennis before lunch? ▪ a *spot of* lunch ▪ Just a *spot of* brandy, please. ▪ They had a ***spot of bother*** with the Inland Revenue.

a leopard can't change its spots see LEOPARD

hit the spot *informal, of food or drink* : to be very enjoyable or satisfying ▪ That dinner really *hit the spot*. [=I enjoyed that dinner very much]

knock spots off *Brit, informal* : to be much better than (someone or something) ▪ They *knock spots off* the competition.

on the spot **1** : right away at the place that has been mentioned : IMMEDIATELY ▪ I offered him the job when he came for an interview, and he accepted the offer *on the spot*. ▪ When the boss saw him stealing, he was fired *on the spot*. **2** : at the place where something is happening ▪ She was *on the spot* reporting on the fire soon after the alarm was sounded. **3** : in a difficult or dangerous position or situation ▪ The question put me ***on the spot*** **4** *Brit* : in the same location without moving forward or backward ▪ running/jogging *on the spot* [=(*US*) *in place*]

– see also BLIND SPOT, SOFT SPOT

[2]spot *verb* **spots**; **spot•ted**; **spot•ting** [+ *obj*]

1 *not used in progressive tenses* : to see or notice (someone or something that is difficult to see or find) ▪ She *spotted* a deer in the woods. ▪ He *spotted* a typo. ▪ Can you *spot* [=*recognize*] the difference between the pictures? ▪ The band's lead singer was recently *spotted* with a well-known actress.

2 *US* **a** : to give (an opponent) a specified advantage at the beginning of a race, game, etc., in order to make a competition more even ▪ They *spotted* us five points, and we still lost. ▪ (*golf*) He *spotted* him two strokes a hole. **b** *informal* : to lend (someone) a small amount of money ▪ I'm a little short of cash. Can you *spot* me five bucks?

3 *American football* : to put (the football) at the appropriate place on the field in preparation for the next play ▪ The official *spotted* the ball at the 10-yard line.

4 : to mark (something) with spots ▪ A trail of blood *spotted* the snow. — usually used as *(be) spotted with* ▪ His pants *were spotted with* mud. [=there were spots of mud on his pants]

[3]spot *adj, always used before a noun, finance* : relating to goods or shares that are paid for and delivered immediately instead of at a future time ▪ the difference between futures and *spot* commodities ▪ the *spot* price of wheat/oil ▪ the *spot* market ▪ *spot* cash [=cash paid immediately for something]

spot check *noun, pl* ~ **checks** [*count*] : an act of looking at a few things or people in a group in order to find possible problems ▪ Police carried out *spot checks* of/on cars at the border.

spot–check /ˈspɑːtˌʧɛk/ *verb* **-checks**; **-checked**; **-check•ing** : to check (something) quickly for problems especially by looking at a few things or people in a group [+ *obj*] He *spot-checked* the data for errors. ▪ Police *spot-checked* cars at the border. [*no obj*] — often + *for* ▪ She *spot-checked for* errors.

spot•less /ˈspɑːtləs/ *adj* : perfectly clean ▪ a *spotless* kitchen ▪ She keeps her room *spotless*. — often used figuratively ▪ He has a *spotless* record/reputation.

– **spot•less•ly** *adv* ▪ The house is ***spotlessly clean***

[1]spot•light /ˈspɑːtˌlaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-lights**

1 [*count*] **a** : a device that directs a narrow, bright beam of light on a small area ▪ They aimed the *spotlight* at the center of the stage. **b** : the area of light created by a spotlight ▪ A *spotlight* moved across the stage. ▪ The actor stood in the *spotlight*. ▪ performing under the *spotlights*

2 ***the spotlight*** : public attention or notice ▪ a baseball star who hates *the spotlight* ▪ They're always ***in the spotlight*** ▪ School violence is once again ***under the*** media ***spotlight*** [=getting a lot of attention from the media] ▪ The news article ***turned/put the spotlight on*** the city's financial problems.

[2]spotlight *verb* **-lights**; **-light•ed** *or* **-lit**; **-light•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to shine a spotlight on (someone or something) ▪ She was *spotlighted* as she sang her solo. ▪ a *spotlit* area

2 : to give special attention to (something) ▪ The news *spotlighted* the city's financial problems.

spot–on /ˈspɑːtˈɑːn/ *adj, chiefly Brit, informal* : exactly correct : completely accurate ▪ The weather forecast was *spot-on*. ▪ a *spot-on* impersonation

spot•ted /ˈspɑːtəd/ *adj* : marked with spots ▪ a *spotted* cat

spotted dick *noun, pl* ~ **dicks** [*count, noncount*] *Brit* : a hot dessert that is like a moist cake made with suet and currants or raisins

spot•ter /ˈspɑːtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]

1 : someone who looks for a particular type of person or thing ▪ a *trend* spotter ▪ plane *spotters* — see also TRAINSPOTTER

2 : a person who watches and helps someone who is exercising in order to help prevent injuries ▪ When you lift weights, you should always have a *spotter*.

spot•ty /ˈspɑːti/ *adj* **spot•ti•er**; **-est**

1 *chiefly US* : not always good : good in some parts or at some times but not others ▪ Her work has been *spotty*. ▪ The service at that restaurant is a little *spotty*. ▪ students with *spotty* attendance records ▪ *spotty* [=*inconsistent*] data/results

2 : marked with spots ▪ The photograph was *spotty*. ▪ (*Brit*) a *spotty* [=*pimply*] youth

spouse /ˈspaʊs/ *noun, pl* **spous•es** [*count*] : someone who is married : a husband or wife ▪ my brothers and sisters and their *spouses*

– **spou•sal** /ˈspaʊzəl/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *spousal* abuse/consent/support

[1]spout /ˈspaʊt/ *verb* **spouts**; **spout•ed**; **spout•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to shoot out (a liquid) with force ▪ The well was *spouting* oil. ▪ The volcano *spouted* lava. **b** [*no obj*] : to flow out with force ▪ Blood *spouted* [=*spurted*] (out) from the wound.

2 : to say or talk about (something) in a way that is boring or annoying [+ *obj*] He started *spouting* poetry. — often + *off* ▪ He *spouted off* a long list of statistics to prove his point. [*no obj*] She kept *spouting* on and on about politics. — often + *off* ▪ I'm tired of hearing him *spout off* about his adventures.

[2]spout *noun, pl* **spouts** [*count*]

1 : a tube, pipe, or hole out of which a liquid flows ▪ Water was flowing from/down the *spout*. ▪ the *spout* of a tea kettle — see also DOWNSPOUT, WATERSPOUT

2 : a sudden strong stream of liquid ▪ a *spout* of water/blood

up the spout *Brit, informal* — used to describe something that has completely failed, been ruined, etc. ▪ The economy's *up the spout*. ▪ His marriage is going *up the spout*. [=*down the drain*]

sprain /ˈspreɪn/ *verb* **sprains**; **sprained**; **sprain•ing** [+ *obj*] : to injure (a joint) by twisting it in a sudden and painful way ▪ I fell and *sprained* [=*twisted*] my ankle/wrist. ▪ a *sprained* ankle — compare STRAIN

– **sprain** *noun, pl* **sprains** [*count*] ▪ My wrist isn't broken. It's just a bad *sprain*.

sprang *past tense of* [2]SPRING

sprat /ˈspræt/ *noun, pl* **sprats** [*count, noncount*] : a small fish that is used for food

[1]sprawl /ˈsprɑːl/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **sprawls**; **sprawled**; **sprawl•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to lie or sit with your arms and legs spread wide apart ▪ The kids *sprawled* on the floor to watch TV. ▪ He *sprawled* (out) on the couch. ▪ One punch ***sent him sprawling*** to the floor. [=caused him to fall to the floor in a violent and uncontrolled way] ▪ She tripped and ***went sprawling*** into the table.

2 : to spread or develop in an uneven or uncontrolled way ▪ The city *sprawls* along the coastline. ▪ The bushes were *sprawling* along the road.

– **sprawled** *adj* ▪ He saw her *sprawled* across the bed. ▪ He was *sprawled* (out) in his chair. – **sprawling** *adj* ▪ a *sprawling* city ▪ It was hard to follow the *sprawling* plot of the novel.

[2]sprawl *noun*

1 [*singular*] : a group of things (such as buildings) that cover an area in an uneven and ugly way — often + *of* ▪ a *sprawl of* stores and restaurants

2 [*noncount*] : URBAN SPRAWL ▪ efforts to stop/prevent *sprawl*

[1]spray /ˈspreɪ/ *noun, pl* **sprays**

1 a [*count*] : liquid that is forced out of a container in a

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stream of very small drops ▪ The paint was applied in a fine *spray*. **b** : a liquid substance that is used or applied by being forced out of a container in a stream of very small drops [*count*] A nasal/nose *spray* should help you breathe better. ▪ Hand me the bug *spray*. [*noncount*] a can of hair *spray* — see also PEPPER SPRAY **c** [*count*] : the act of putting a liquid on something in a stream of small drops : the act of spraying something ▪ Give your hair one more *spray* to be sure it stays in place. ▪ a quick *spray* of perfume

2 [*noncount*] : very small drops of water moving through the air ▪ sea *spray*

3 [*count*] : a stream of liquid in the form of very small drops — often + *of* ▪ a *spray of* water/blood ▪ The car splashed a *spray of* mud on me. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a *spray of* bullets [=a number of bullets that are shot quickly] ▪ A *spray of* gravel hit the car.

– compare ³SPRAY

²spray *verb* **sprays; sprayed; spray·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to put a stream of small drops of liquid on (someone or something) ▪ She *sprayed* herself with perfume. ▪ I *sprayed* the plants (with a pesticide). ▪ The crops are *sprayed* monthly. ▪ We were *sprayed* by water from the crashing waves. **b** : to put (something) on a surface or into the air using a special container that produces a stream of small drops of liquid ▪ The boys *sprayed* graffiti on the wall. ▪ He *sprayed* the paint evenly over the surface. ▪ She *sprayed* some perfume into the air.

2 [*no obj*] : to flow out in a stream of very small drops ▪ The soda *sprayed* from the bottle. ▪ The blood *sprayed* onto the wall.

3 [+ *obj*] : to shoot many bullets at someone or something ▪ The gunmen *sprayed* the house with bullets. = The gunmen *sprayed* bullets into the house. ▪ They *sprayed* the crowd with bullets.

4 a [*no obj*] *of a cat* : to wet something (such as a bush) with urine ▪ Cats may *spray* to mark their territory. **b** [+ *obj*] *of a skunk* : to wet (an animal or person) with a liquid that has a very bad smell ▪ He was *sprayed* by a skunk. ▪ The skunk *sprayed* the dog.

³spray *noun, pl* **sprays** [*count*]

1 : a branch of a plant that usually has flowers and is used as a decoration — often + *of* ▪ a *spray* [=*sprig*] *of* apple blossoms

2 : an attractive arrangement of flowers — often + *of* ▪ a *spray of* roses

– compare ¹SPRAY

spray can *noun, pl* ~ **cans** [*count*] : a can that contains a liquid (such as paint) that can be sprayed

spray·er /ˈsprejɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a device that is used for spraying a liquid on or into something ▪ a paint *sprayer*

spray paint *noun, pl* ~ **paints** : paint that is sprayed onto a surface from a can that you can hold in one hand [*noncount*] a can of *spray paint* ▪ I used *spray paint* on the table. [*count*] *Spray paints* cannot be sold to children.

– **spray–paint** *verb* **-paints; -paint·ed; -paint·ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ I'm going to *spray-paint* the table. ▪ Graffiti was *spray-painted* on the wall.

¹spread /ˈsprɛd/ *verb* **spreads; spread; spread·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to open, arrange, or place (something) over a large area ▪ The newspaper was *spread* across his lap. ▪ Her notes were *spread* all over the desk. ▪ Help me *spread* the cloth on the table. — often + *out* ▪ He *spread out* the map on the table. = He *spread* the map *out* on the table. ▪ The cards were *spread out* across the table. ▪ The city is *spread out* over a wide area. [=the city covers a wide area] **b** : to place (things) over a large area ▪ We *spread* fertilizer on our yard. ▪ The seeds are *spread* by wind, birds, and animals.

2 a [*no obj*] : to become larger or to affect a larger area : to move into more places ▪ The fire *spread* quickly through the building. ▪ The cancer has *spread* to her throat. ▪ The use of computer technology has *spread* into all fields of work. ▪ The odor *spread* throughout the room. ▪ The plant will *spread*. [=the plant will produce more plants in the area around it] ▪ The fashion quickly *spread* from France to England. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to be present in more places throughout a large area ▪ Flies *spread* diseases. ▪ Missionaries were sent to the colonies to *spread* Christianity. ▪ The religion was *spread* through/over much of Europe.

3 a [*no obj*] : to pass from person to person ▪ Her determination and desire to win *spread* to the other players. **b** [*no obj*] : to become known by many people ▪ The rumor *spread* quickly. ▪ The news ***spread like wildfire***. [=the news became known very quickly] **c** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to become known by many people ▪ He was *spreading* lies/gossip/rumors about her. ▪ People are ***spreading the word*** [=telling others] about his book.

4 : to move (parts of your body) outward or away from each other [+ *obj*] She *spread* [=*stretched*] her arms wide and hugged him. ▪ The bird *spreads* its wings. ▪ *Spread* your fingers wide apart. — often + *out* ▪ *Spread out* your toes. = *Spread* your toes *out*. ▪ There's no room on the couch to *spread* yourself *out*. ▪ *Spread* your arms *out*. [*no obj*] — + *out* ▪ There's no room on the couch to *spread out*. [=*stretch out*]

5 [*no obj*] *of a smile or other facial expression* : to appear and slowly grow more apparent ▪ A smile slowly *spread* across her face. ▪ A look of disbelief *spread* across/over their faces.

6 [+ *obj*] : to put a layer of (something) on top of something else ▪ He *spread* butter on the bread. = He *spread* the bread with butter. ▪ She carefully *spread* the plaster over the hole. ▪ *Spread* the glue evenly on the paper.

7 [+ *obj*] : to divide up (something) over a period of time or among members of a group ▪ The payments are *spread* over a period of six years. ▪ You should ***spread the wealth***. [=share your money or good fortune with others] — often + *out* ▪ I plan to *spread* the work *out* over the next couple of weeks. ▪ The course is *spread out* over two semesters.

spread out [*phrasal verb*] : to move apart from the other members of a group especially to search an area ▪ The police *spread out* [=*fanned out*] to search the area faster. — see also ¹SPREAD 1a, 4, 7 (above)

spread your net wide see ¹NET

spread your wings see ¹WING

²spread *noun, pl* **spreads**

1 [*noncount*] : growth or increase that causes something to cover a larger area, affect a larger number of people, etc. — often + *of* ▪ We need to slow the *spread of* the disease/virus. ▪ the *spread of* infection ▪ the *spread of* new technology ▪ the *spread of* drugs in the city ▪ the *spread of* civilization/religion/peace

2 : a soft food that is spread on bread, crackers, etc. [*count*] She offered crackers and a cheese *spread*. [*noncount*] He uses low-fat *spread* on his toast.

3 [*count*] : the total distance between the two outer edges of something — usually singular; often + *of* ▪ the *spread of* a bird's wings ▪ The plant has a *spread of* three feet.

4 [*count*] *informal* : a large meal — usually singular ▪ We always have a huge *spread* for Thanksgiving.

5 [*count*] : something (such as an advertisement or a series of photos) that covers two or more pages in a newspaper or magazine ▪ a two-page *spread*

6 [*count*] *US* : BEDSPREAD

7 [*count*] *US* : a large farm or ranch — usually singular ▪ He bought a *spread* of 100 acres. ▪ They have quite a *spread*.

8 [*count*] : a variety or range of things or people — usually singular; often + *of* ▪ The poll showed a large *spread of* opinions.

spread–ea·gled /ˈsprɛdˌi:gəld/ *adj* : with arms and legs spread wide apart ▪ He lay *spread-eagled* on the bed. ▪ a *spread-eagled* position

spread·er /ˈsprɛdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or thing that spreads something ▪ Mosquito are *spreaders* of disease. ▪ a manure/seed *spreader* ▪ a *spreader* of gossip/lies

spread·sheet /ˈsprɛdˌʃi:t/ *noun, pl* **-sheets** [*count*]

1 : a computer program that calculates numbers and organizes information in columns and rows

2 : a document that has columns and rows which are used to calculate numbers and organize information

spree /ˈspri:/ *noun, pl* **sprees** [*count*] : a short period of time when you do a lot of something ▪ a buying/shopping/spending *spree* [=*binge*] ▪ They went on a killing/crime *spree*.

sprig /ˈsprɪg/ *noun, pl* **sprigs** [*count*] : a small twig or stem that has leaves or flowers on it ▪ a *sprig* of parsley

spright·ly /ˈspraɪtli/ *adj* **spright·li·er; -est** : full of life and energy — used especially to describe an older person ▪ a *sprightly* old woman of 80

– **spright·li·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

¹spring /ˈsprɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **springs**

1 : the season between winter and summer : the season when plants and trees begin to grow [*count*] We'll plant the seeds next *spring*. ▪ We've had a rainy *spring*. ▪ the *spring* of 1984 [*noncount*] a beautiful day in early/late *spring* ▪ The first few weeks of *spring* were unusually warm. — often used before another noun ▪ our *spring* catalog ▪ a new *spring* wardrobe ▪ *spring* colors/flowers

2 a [*count*] : a twisted or coiled piece of metal that returns to its original shape when it is pressed down or stretched ▪ The mattress is old and some of the *springs* are broken. — see also BOX SPRING **b** [*noncount*] : the ability of something to return to its original shape when it is pressed down, stretched, twisted, etc. ▪ The cushion has lost its *spring*.
3 [*count*] : a source of water coming up from the ground ▪ a mineral *spring* — see also HOT SPRING
4 [*singular*] : a lively and energetic quality ▪ She had a *spring* in her step.
5 [*singular*] : a quick sudden leap up or forward ▪ The deer gave a *spring* and was gone. — see also HANDSPRING

[2]spring *verb* **springs**; **sprang** /ˈspræŋ/ *or* **sprung** /ˈsprʌŋ/; **sprung**; **spring·ing**
1 [*no obj*] **a** : to move or leap suddenly forward or upward ▪ The lion was waiting to *spring*. ▪ The deer *sprang* up the path. ▪ I *sprang* to my feet. ▪ He *sprang* out of his seat and ran to the door. **b** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move quickly to a different position ▪ The lid *sprang* open/shut. ▪ The branch *sprang* back and hit her. ▪ The rope stretches and *springs* back into shape. [=returns to its original shape]
2 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to help (someone) to get out of or escape from jail, prison, etc. ▪ He tried to *spring* his accomplice. ▪ His lawyer managed to get him *sprung* from prison.
spring a leak : to start to leak : to suddenly let water in or out through a crack or break ▪ The boat/pipe *sprang a leak*.
spring a surprise : to do, ask, or say something that is not expected ▪ Everyone knows she's not likely to *spring a surprise*. ▪ The teacher *sprang a surprise* on us and gave a quiz.
spring a trap : to capture someone or something (such as an animal or criminal) with a trap — often + *on* ▪ Police *sprang a trap on* the drug smugglers.
spring for [*phrasal verb*] ***spring for (something)*** *US, informal* : to pay for (something) : to spend money on (something) ▪ She refuses to *spring for* a new coat. ▪ I'll *spring for* dinner.
spring from [*phrasal verb*] ***spring from (something)*** *informal* : to start from or be caused by (something) ▪ The idea *sprang from* [=*came from*] a dream I had.
spring from the loins see LOIN
spring into/to action/life : to become suddenly very active and energetic ▪ They *sprang into action* as soon as they received their orders. ▪ The crowd *sprang to life* after the first goal was scored.
spring on [*phrasal verb*] ***spring (something) on (someone)*** : to surprise (someone) with (something, such as a request or announcement) ▪ You should try to prepare them for your decision instead of just *springing* it *on* them suddenly.
spring to mind see [1]MIND
spring up [*phrasal verb*] : to grow or appear suddenly ▪ The weeds *sprang up* overnight. ▪ New housing developments are *springing up* all over the state.
tears spring to your eyes ✧ If *tears spring to your eyes*, you suddenly start to cry. ▪ *Tears sprang to his eyes* when he read about the accident.

spring·board /ˈsprɪŋˌboɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*]
1 : a strong, flexible board that is used for jumping very high in gymnastics or diving
2 : something that helps you start an activity or process ▪ The news served as a *springboard* for a class discussion.

spring·bok /ˈsprɪŋˌbɑːk/ *noun, pl* **springbok** *or* **spring·boks** [*count*] : a small, very fast deer that lives in Africa

spring break *noun, pl* ~ **breaks** *US* : a vacation from classes at a school usually for a week in the spring; *especially* : such a vacation at a college or university [*noncount*] Many students go to Florida for/on *spring break*. [*count*] How was your *spring break*?

spring chicken *noun, pl* ~ **-ens** [*count*] *informal + humorous* : a young person — usually used in negative statements to say that someone is not young ▪ She's ***no spring chicken***, that's for sure.

spring–clean *verb* **-cleans**; **-cleaned**; **-cleaning** [+ *obj*] : to clean (a place) thoroughly in the spring ▪ It's time to *spring-clean* the house and air out the place.
– **spring–clean** *noun* [*singular*] *Brit* ▪ It's time to give the house a *spring-clean*. – **spring–cleaning** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We were busy with *spring-cleaning*.

spring fever *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling of wanting to go outdoors and do things because spring is coming and the weather is getting warmer ▪ The children all have *spring fever*.

spring–loaded *adj* : containing a metal spring that presses one part against another ▪ a *spring-loaded* mousetrap

spring onion *noun, pl* ~ **-ions** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : GREEN ONION

spring peeper *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : PEEPER

spring roll *noun, pl* ~ **rolls** [*count*] : EGG ROLL

spring tide *noun, pl* ~ **tides** [*count*] : a tide in which the sea rises and falls more than usual ✧ Spring tides happen when the moon, earth, and sun are aligned with each other.

spring·time /ˈsprɪŋˌtaɪm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the season of spring ▪ *Springtime* is her favorite time of year. ▪ It's beautiful here ***in (the) springtime***. [=in the spring]

spring training *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : the time in the spring when baseball teams prepare for the regular season by playing practice games

springy /ˈsprɪŋi/ *adj* **spring·i·er**; **-est**
1 : returning to an original shape when pressed down, twisted, stretched, etc. ▪ a *springy* bed ▪ *springy* vines
2 : having or showing lively and energetic movement ▪ He walks with a *springy* step.
– **spring·i·ness** /ˈsprɪŋinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The cushion has lost its *springiness*.

[1]sprin·kle /ˈsprɪŋkəl/ *verb* **sprin·kles**; **sprin·kled**; **sprin·kling**
1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to drop or spread small pieces or amounts of something over something ▪ He *sprinkled* water on the plants. ▪ I *sprinkled* grass seed over the soil. ▪ She *sprinkled* grated cheese on the pasta. = She *sprinkled* the pasta with grated cheese. — often used figuratively ▪ The essay is *sprinkled* with quotations. [=there are quotations in different parts of the essay] **b** : to put small drops of liquid on (someone or something) ▪ She *sprinkled* the clothes before ironing them.
2 [*no obj*] *US* : to rain lightly ▪ "Is it raining?" "It's just *sprinkling* a little."

[2]sprinkle *noun*
1 [*singular*] : a light rain ▪ a *sprinkle* of rain ▪ It rained last night, but it was just a *sprinkle*.
2 [*singular*] : a small amount that is sprinkled on something ▪ She topped the pasta with a *sprinkle* of parsley. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ We've received a *sprinkle* [=a very small number] of complaints.
3 *sprinkles* [*plural*] *US* : tiny candies that are put on top of a sweet food (such as ice cream) ▪ chocolate *sprinkles*

sprin·kler /ˈsprɪŋklɚ/ *noun, pl* **-klers** [*count*]
1 : a device that is used to spray water on plants or soil — see picture at GARDENING
2 : a device in a building that sprays water if there a is fire

sprin·kling /ˈsprɪŋklɪŋ/ *noun* [*singular*] : a small amount that is sprinkled on something ▪ She put a *sprinkling* of parsley on the pasta. [=she sprinkled a small amount of parsley on the pasta] — often used figuratively ▪ We received only a *sprinkling* of suggestions. [=only a few suggestions]

[1]sprint /ˈsprɪnt/ *verb* **sprints**; **sprint·ed**; **sprint·ing** [*no obj*] : to run or go very fast for a short distance ▪ He *sprinted* to class. ▪ The bicycle racers *sprinted* for the finish line.
– **sprint·er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[2]sprint *noun, pl* **sprints**
1 [*count*] : a race over a short distance at a very fast speed
2 [*singular*] : a short period of running or going very fast ▪ He made a *sprint* for the finish line.

sprite /ˈspraɪt/ *noun, pl* **sprites** [*count*] *in stories* : a small creature that has magical powers : an elf or fairy ▪ a water *sprite*

spritz /ˈsprɪts/ *verb* **spritz·es**; **spritzed**; **spritz·ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to spray (something) quickly with a small amount of liquid ▪ Make sure to *spritz* the plants with water every day. ▪ She *spritzed* her hair with hairspray.
– **spritz** *noun, pl* **spritzes** [*count*] ▪ a *spritz* of water

spritz·er /ˈsprɪtsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a drink made of wine mixed with soda water ▪ a white wine *spritzer*

sprock·et /ˈsprɑːkət/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*] : a wheel that has a row of teeth around its edge which fit into the holes of something (such as a bicycle chain or a piece of film) and cause it to turn when the wheel turns; *also* : any one of the teeth on such a wheel

sprog /ˈsprɑːg/ *noun, pl* **sprogs** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a child or baby ▪ a cute little *sprog*

[1]sprout /ˈspraʊt/ *verb* **sprouts**; **sprout·ed**; **sprout·ing**
1 : to produce new leaves, buds, etc. [*no obj*] seeds *sprouting* in the spring ▪ Potatoes will *sprout* in the bag if kept in a

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warm place. [+ *obj*] The garden is *sprouting* weeds. ▪ The tree is already *sprouting* leaves.

2 : to grow or develop (something) [+ *obj*] He *sprouted* a beard since the last time I saw him. ▪ She dreamed that her boss had *sprouted* horns. [*no obj*] Hair *sprouted* on his face.

3 [*no obj*] : to appear suddenly and in large numbers — often + *up* ▪ Dozens of new restaurants have been *sprouting up* [=*popping up*] around the city.

[2]sprout *noun, pl* **sprouts**

1 [*count*] : a new part (such as a leaf or bud) that is growing on a plant

2 *sprouts* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : very young plants that come from alfalfa or bean seeds and that are used as a vegetable

3 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : BRUSSELS SPROUT

[1]spruce /ˈspru:s/ *noun, pl* **spruc•es** *also* **spruce**

1 [*count*] : a type of tree that has long, thin needles instead of leaves and that stays green throughout the year

2 [*noncount*] : the wood of a spruce tree

[2]spruce *verb* **spruces**; **spruced**; **spruc•ing**

spruce up [*phrasal verb*] ***spruce (someone or something) up*** *or* ***spruce up (someone or something)*** : to make (someone or something) look cleaner, neater, or more attractive ▪ We *spruced up* the room with a fresh coat of paint. ▪ I need to *spruce* myself *up* a bit before we go out to dinner.

[3]spruce *adj* **spruc•er**; **-est** *somewhat old-fashioned* : neat, clean, or stylish in appearance ▪ He looked very *spruce* in his new suit.

– **spruce•ly** *adv* ▪ a *sprucely* decorated room

sprung *past tense and past participle of* [2]SPRING

spry /ˈspraɪ/ *adj* **spri•er** *or* **spry•er** /ˈsprajɚ/; **spri•est** *or* **spry•est** /ˈsprajəst/ : full of life and energy — used especially to describe an older person ▪ She's 64 and still as *spry* as she was at 30.

– **spry•ly** *adv* – **spry•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

spud /ˈspʌd/ *noun, pl* **spuds** [*count*] *informal* : POTATO 1

spume /ˈspju:m/ *noun* [*noncount*] *literary* : bubbles that form on ocean waves : FOAM

spun *past tense and past participle of* [1]SPIN

spun glass *noun* [*noncount*] : FIBERGLASS

spunk /ˈspʌŋk/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *informal* : spirit, courage, and determination ▪ That little girl has a lot of *spunk*.

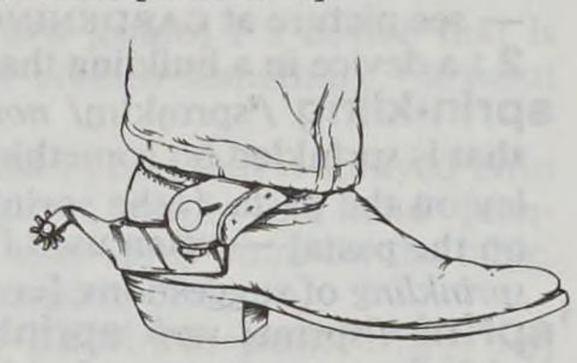
2 *Brit slang, impolite* : SEMEN

spunky /ˈspʌŋki/ *adj* **spunk•i•er**; **-est** *informal* : full of spirit, courage, and determination ▪ a *spunky* little girl

– **spunk•i•ness** /ˈspʌŋkinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]spur /ˈspɚ/ *noun, pl* **spurs**

1 [*count*] : a sharp pointed object that is attached to the heel of a horse rider's boot and that is pressed into the horse's side to make the horse go faster



spur

2 [*singular*] : something that makes you want to do something or that causes something to happen : INCENTIVE — often + *to* ▪ The reward was offered as a *spur to* greater work/achievement. ▪ a *spur to* the imagination

3 [*count*] : a mass of sharp rock on the side of a mountain

4 [*count*] : a short section of railway track that leads from the main line

on/at the spur of the moment ✧ If something is done *on/at the spur of the moment*, it is done immediately without planning. ▪ We decided *on the spur of the moment* to go to the beach. — see also SPUR-OF-THE-MOMENT

win/earn your spurs : to do something which shows that you deserve to be respected or noticed ▪ He *earned/won his spurs* by doubling the company's profits in the past year.

[2]spur *verb* **spurs**; **spurred**; **spur•ring** [+ *obj*]

1 : to encourage (someone) to do or achieve something ▪ The reward *spurred* them to work harder. — often + *on* ▪ His encouragement *spurred* them *on* to finish the project.

2 : to cause (something) to happen or to happen more quickly ▪ Lower interest rates should *spur* economic growth.

3 : to urge (a horse) to go faster by pushing spurs into its sides ▪ He *spurred* the horse onward.

spu•ri•ous /ˈspjɚrijəs/ *adj*

1 : not genuine, sincere, or authentic ▪ *spurious* [=*fake*] gems ▪ *spurious* [=*insincere*] kindness

2 : based on false ideas or bad reasoning ▪ *spurious* claims/justifications

– **spu•ri•ous•ly** *adv* – **spu•ri•ous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

spurn /ˈspɚn/ *verb* **spurns**; **spurned**; **spurn•ing** [+ *obj*] *literary* : to refuse to accept (someone or something that you do not think deserves your respect, attention, affection, etc.) ▪ She *spurned* [=*rejected*] their offer. ▪ a *spurned* lover

spur–of–the–moment *adj, always used before a noun* : done suddenly and without planning ▪ They made a *spur-of-the-moment* decision to go the movies. — see also *on/at the spur of the moment* at [1]SPUR

[1]spurt /ˈspɚt/ *verb* **spurts**; **spurt•ed**; **spurt•ing**

1 : to pour out or come out quickly and suddenly [*no obj*] Water *spurted* from the broken pipe. ▪ Blood was *spurting* out of his nose. ▪ Flames *spurted* from the open window. [+ *obj*] His nose *spurted* blood.

2 [*no obj*] : to move at a fast speed for a short distance ▪ He *spurted* [=*sprinted*] for the finish line.

[2]spurt *noun, pl* **spurts** [*count*]

1 : an amount of liquid, flame, etc., that comes out of something suddenly ▪ a *spurt* of water/blood ▪ a *spurt* of venom

2 : a short period of greatly increased effort, activity, or development ▪ a *spurt* of hard work ▪ When he was 11 he had a ***growth spurt***. [=he grew quickly and suddenly in a short period of time] ▪ They worked on the house ***in spurts***, whenever they had time.

3 *US* : a short period of time ▪ They played well for a brief *spurt* but then started losing again.

sput•ter /ˈspɚtɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to make loud sounds like explosions ▪ The motor *sputtered* and died.

2 : to speak quickly or in a confused way because you are upset, surprised, etc. [*no obj*] He was *sputtering* with rage. [+ *obj*] She *sputtered* an angry protest. ▪ "You, you have to be kidding!" he *sputtered*.

– **sputter** *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] ▪ The motor gave a *sputter* and died.

spu•tum /ˈspju:təm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a thick liquid that comes up from your lungs when you are sick

[1]spy /ˈspaɪ/ *noun, pl* **spies** [*count*]

1 : a person who tries secretly to get information about a country or organization for another country or organization ▪ He was a *spy* for the CIA. ▪ a Cold War *spy* — often used before another noun ▪ a *spy* novel/thriller [=a novel/thriller about spies] ▪ a *spy* camera/plane [=a camera/plane used for spying]

2 : someone who secretly watches the movement or actions of other people ▪ My coworker is a *spy* for the boss. ▪ the neighborhood *spy*

[2]spy *verb* **spies**; **spied**; **spy•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to try secretly to get information about a country, organization, etc. : to act as a spy ▪ They were accused of *spying* for a foreign government. — often + *on* ▪ They were accused of *spying on* a rival company.

2 [+ *obj*] : to see or notice (someone or something) ▪ She *spied* [=*caught sight of*] a friend in the crowd.

spy on [*phrasal verb*] ***spy on (someone or something)*** : to watch (someone) secretly ▪ He *spies on* his neighbors. ▪ Have you been *spying on* me? — see also [2]SPY 1 (above)

spy out [*phrasal verb*] **1 *spy (something) out*** *or* ***spy out (something)*** : to notice, find, or learn about (something) by looking often in a secret way ▪ They were trying to *spy out* the enemy's position. **2 *spy out the land*** *chiefly Brit* : to find or get more information about a situation secretly and before making a decision

spy•glass /ˈspaɪˌglæs, *Brit* ˈspaɪˈglɑ:s/ *noun, pl* **-glass•es** [*count*] : a small telescope used by sailors in the past

spy•ware /ˈspaɪˌweɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : computer software that secretly records information about the way you use your computer

sq. *abbr* square

squab•ble /ˈskwɑ:bəl/ *verb* **squab•bles**; **squab•bled**; **squab•bling** [*no obj*] : to argue loudly about things that are not important ▪ The children were *squabbling* over the toys.

– **squabble** *noun, pl* **squabbles** [*count*] ▪ A *squabble* broke out among the children.

squad /ˈskwɑ:d/ *noun, pl* **squads** [*count*]

1 : a part of a police force that deals with a specific type of crime ▪ the bomb/fraud/vice *squad*

2 : a small organized group of soldiers ▪ an elite infantry *squad* ▪ the *squad* leader

3 : a group of people who are involved in a particular activity ▪ a rescue *squad* ▪ the cheerleading *squad* ▪ a *squad* of searchers

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4 *sports* : a group of people from which a team is chosen ▪ the Olympic gymnastics *squad*
– see also FIRING SQUAD

squad car *noun, pl* ~ **cars** [*count*] : POLICE CAR

squad•die *or* **squad•dy** /ˈskwɑːdi/ *noun, pl* **squad•dies** [*count*] *Brit slang* : a soldier of low rank : a soldier who is not an officer

squad•ron /ˈskwɑːdrən/ *noun, pl* **-rons** [*count*] : a military unit consisting of soldiers, ships, or aircraft ▪ a bomber/reconnaissance *squadron*

squadron leader *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a high-ranking officer in the British air force

squal•id /ˈskwɑːləd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : very dirty and unpleasant ▪ The family lived in *squalid* conditions. ▪ a *squalid* [=*run-down*] apartment building
2 : immoral or dishonest ▪ a *squalid* affair ▪ *squalid* behavior
– **squal•id•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]squall /ˈskwɑːl/ *verb* **squalls**; **squalled**; **squall•ing** [*no obj*] : to cry loudly ▪ a *squalling* baby

[2]squall *noun, pl* **squalls** [*count*] : a loud cry ▪ The baby gave a sudden *squall* of hunger. — compare [3]SQUALL

[3]squall *noun, pl* **squalls** [*count*] : a sudden violent wind often with rain or snow ▪ a snow *squall* — compare [2]SQUALL
– **squally** /ˈskwɑːli/ *adj* **squall•i•er**; **-est** ▪ a *squally* day

squa•lor /ˈskwɑːlɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : very bad and dirty conditions ▪ The family was living in *squalor*. ▪ I was shocked by the *squalor* of their surroundings.

squan•der /ˈskwɑːndɚ/ *verb* **-ders**; **-dered**; **-der•ing** [+ *obj*] : to use (something) in a foolish or wasteful way ▪ She *squandered* her inheritance/allowance. ▪ He vowed not to *squander* this opportunity. ▪ The government *squandered* [=*wasted*] the money on failed programs.
– **squan•der•er** /ˈskwɑːndɚɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[1]square /ˈskweɚ/ *noun, pl* **squares** [*count*]
1 : a four-sided shape that is made up of four straight sides that are the same length and that has four right angles ▪ The fabric is decorated with circles and *squares*. ▪ Cut the brownies into *squares*. — often + *of* ▪ a *square of* tile/cloth — see picture at GEOMETRY; compare RECTANGLE
2 : any of the squares on a board for playing games (such as chess and checkers) ▪ The board has red and black *squares*. — see picture at CHESS
3 *mathematics* : the number that results from multiplying a number by itself ▪ The *square* of 2 [=2^2] is 4. [=2 x 2 = 4] — compare [1]CUBE 2
4 : an open area in a village, city, etc., where two or more streets meet ▪ The bank is located at the main *square*. ▪ the market/town *square*
5 *somewhat old-fashioned, informal + disapproving* : someone who does not like or try unusual things that other people consider exciting, interesting, etc. ▪ Don't be such a *square*. Let's try something different for a change.
6 *technical* : a flat tool that is used to mark or check angles ▪ a carpenter's *square* — see picture at CARPENTRY; compare T SQUARE
7 *chiefly US, informal* : SQUARE MEAL ▪ I try to have three *squares* a day.

[2]square *adj* **squar•er**; **squar•est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : shaped like a square : having four straight sides that are the same length and four right angles at each corner ▪ The room is *square*. ▪ a *square* box **b** : forming a right angle ▪ The room has four *square* corners. ▪ Make sure the post is *square* to the floor. [=make sure that there is a right angle where the post and the floor meet]
2 — used to describe a measurement that is produced by multiplying something's length and width ▪ a tile measuring one *square* foot [=a tile that is one foot long and one foot wide] ▪ a *square* inch/meter/mile — compare CUBIC
3 : shaped more like a right angle than a curve ▪ a *square* jaw ▪ *square* shoulders ✧ This sense of *square* often suggests strength and toughness.
4 *somewhat old-fashioned* : honest and fair ▪ a *square* deal ▪ She is *square* in all her dealings. — see also *fair and square* at [1]FAIR
5 *somewhat old-fashioned, informal + disapproving* — used to describe someone who does not like or try unusual things that other people consider exciting, interesting, etc. ▪ He's nice but he's kind of *square*.
6 a *informal* : having nothing owed by either side : EVEN ▪ Here's the rest of the money. Now we're *square*. [=now we don't owe each other anything] **b** *not used before a noun* : having the same number of points : TIED ▪ The teams were ***all square*** after the first half.
a square peg in a round hole see [1]PEG

[3]square *verb* **squares**; **squared**; **squar•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (something) square : to give (something) straight edges, flat surfaces, or sharp, even corners ▪ The machine *squares* the wood into flat boards. — often + *off* ▪ I still need to *square off* the end of the board.
2 *mathematics* : to multiply (a number) by itself ▪ If you *square* 3, you get 9. — usually used as *(be) squared* ▪ 3 *squared* is/equals 9. [=3 x 3 = 9] — compare [2]CUBE 2
3 : to pay money that is owed for (something) ▪ We *squared* [=*settled*] our accounts. — often + *up* ▪ Is this enough money to *square up* my part of the bill?
4 : to make the score of (something, such as a game or series) the same : TIE ▪ The goal *squared* the game 2–2. ▪ Their win *squares* the series at three games apiece.
square away [*phrasal verb*] ***square (something) away*** *or* ***square away (something)*** *US* : to put (something) in an organized and proper state or condition — often used as *(be/get) squared away* ▪ I need to *get* my work *squared away* [=*taken care of*] before I leave for vacation. ▪ I can finally relax since everything *is squared away*.
square off [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to prepare to fight : to get into the position of two people who are going to fight each other ▪ The two men *squared off*, but no punches were thrown. **b** : to fight or argue — often + *against* ▪ They *squared off against* each other in a heated debate. **2** : to compete in a contest ▪ The two teams will *square off* again tomorrow. — often + *against* ▪ They *squared off against* each other in the election. — see also [3]SQUARE 1 (above)
square up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to turn so that you are facing something or someone directly ▪ She *squared up* (with/to the basket) for a three-point shot. ▪ They *squared up* for a fight. [=they faced each other and prepared to fight] — see also [3]SQUARE 3 (above) **2** ***square up to (someone or something)*** : to begin to deal with (a difficult person or situation) in a direct way ▪ We need to *square up to* this problem. ▪ He's finally *squaring up to* his critics.
square with [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***square with (something)*** : to agree with (something) ▪ Your story doesn't *square with* the facts. **2** ***square (something) with (something)*** : to make (something) agree with (something) ▪ How can they *square* what they've done *with* what they've said? **3** ***square (something) with (someone)*** : to get agreement about or approval of (something) from (someone) ▪ I'll go on the trip if I can ***square it with*** my parents. [=if my parents will agree to let me go]
square yourself : to turn so that you are facing something or someone directly ▪ He *squared himself* and prepared for the hit.
square your shoulders : to stand with your shoulders pulled back in a straight line in a way that shows you are ready to do or deal with something directly ▪ She stood up straight and *squared her shoulders*.

[4]square *adv* : in a direct way ▪ She ran *square* [=*directly, right*] into me. ▪ Look (at) me *square* in the eye and tell me you're not lying.

square bracket *noun, pl* ~ **-ets** [*count*] : [1]BRACKET 3a

square dance *noun, pl* ~ **dances** [*count*] : a dance for four couples that begins with each couple facing one of the other couples so that the four couples form a square
– **square dancer** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] – **square dancing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We enjoy *square dancing*. = We like to ***go square dancing***.

square knot *noun, pl* ~ **knots** [*count*] *US* : a strong and simple type of knot — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *reef knot*

square•ly /ˈskweɚli/ *adv*
1 : in a direct and honest way ▪ We must face these problems/issues *squarely*. ▪ It's time to deal *squarely* with the facts.
2 : in the exact location or position that is mentioned : EXACTLY, RIGHT ▪ literature that is *squarely* in/within the American tradition ▪ Their marketing campaign is aimed *squarely* at adolescents. ▪ The dart hit the board *squarely* in the middle/center. ▪ Look me *squarely* in the eye and tell me you're not lying.
3 : in a way that makes direct contact ▪ He hit the ball *squarely*. ▪ Her feet were *squarely* planted.
4 : in a way that is not limited in any way : COMPLETELY ▪ The responsibility lies *squarely* with us.

square meal *noun, pl* ~ **meals** [*count*] : a full or complete meal ▪ Inmates receive three *square meals* a day.

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square one *noun* [*noncount*] : the beginning stage or starting point ▪ His idea didn't work, so he had to ***go back to square one***. [=he had to start over] ▪ They lost everything and found themselves ***back at square one***.

square root *noun, pl* ~ **roots** [*count*] *mathematics* : a number that produces a specified number when it is multiplied by itself ▪ The *square root* of 9 is 3. — compare CUBE ROOT

squar•ish /'skwerɪʃ/ *adj* : having a shape that is almost like a square ▪ a *squarish* face ▪ The dog's nose is *squarish*.

[1]squash /'skwɑ:ʃ/ *verb* **squash•es**; **squashed**; **squash•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to press (something) into a flat or flatter shape ▪ She *squashed* the bug. ▪ He *squashed* his nose against the window. ▪ The tomatoes got *squashed*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to stop (something) from continuing by doing or saying something ▪ She tried to *squash* [=*quash*] the rumors. ▪ His poor performance *squashed* any hope he had of a promotion. ▪ The boss *squashed* my idea immediately.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move into a space that is very tight or crowded [*no obj*] Four of us *squashed* [=*squeezed*] into the backseat. ▪ (*Brit*) ***Squash up*** [=move closer together] to make room for one more person. [+ *obj*] Someone had *squashed* all the ribbons together in one box. — often used as *(be) squashed* ▪ We *were squashed* between the table and wall. ▪ The ribbons had all *been squashed* together into one box.

[2]squash *noun, pl* **squashes**

1 [*noncount*] : a game played by two people with rackets and a rubber ball in a court with four walls ▪ We play *squash* [=(*Brit*) *squash rackets*] once a week. ▪ a *squash* court/racket — see picture at RACKET

2 [*count, noncount*] *Brit* : a drink made with fruit juice, sugar, and water ▪ a glass of lemon *squash*

3 [*singular*] *Brit* : a situation in which people or things are pushed into a space that is too small or crowded ▪ It's a real *squash* with six people in the car.

– compare [3]SQUASH

[3]squash *noun, pl* **squash** *or* **squashes** : a type of vegetable (such as a pumpkin) that has a usually hard skin and that is eaten cooked [*noncount*] Would you like some *squash*? [*count*] I cooked two *squashes*. — see color picture on page C4; see also BUTTERNUT SQUASH, SUMMER SQUASH, WINTER SQUASH — compare [2]SQUASH

squashy /'skwɑ:ʃi/ *adj* **squash•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly Brit* : soft and easy to press into a different shape ▪ *squashy* [=*squishy*] cushions/pillows ▪ a *squashy* sofa

[1]squat /'skwɑ:t/ *verb* **squats**; **squat•ted**; **squat•ting** [*no obj*]

1 : to bend your knees and lower your body so that you are close to your heels or sitting on your heels ▪ He *squatted* behind the bush to avoid being seen. ▪ a *squatting* position [=a position in which you are squatting] — often + *down* ▪ She *squatted down* to pick up the paper.

2 : to live in a building or on land without the owner's permission and without paying ▪ A family has been *squatting* in that house for months.

[2]squat *noun, pl* **squats**

1 [*count*] : a position in which your knees are bent and your body lowered so that you are close to your heels or sitting on your heels

2 [*noncount*] *US slang* : the least amount : anything at all ▪ I don't know *squat* [=*diddly-squat*] about baseball. ▪ He didn't do *squat* all day. ▪ The car is worth *squat*. [=nothing at all]

3 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : an empty building that squatters live in ▪ She lives in a *squat*.

[3]squat *adj* **squat•ter**; **squat•test** : short and thick ▪ a *squat* man = a man with a *squat* body ▪ a *squat* tower

squat•ter /'skwɑ:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : someone who lives in a building or on land without the permission of the owner and without paying : someone who squats

squaw /'skwɑ:/ *noun, pl* **squaws** [*count*] *often offensive* : a Native American woman

squawk /'skwɑ:k/ *verb* **squawks**; **squawked**; **squawk•ing** [*no obj*]

1 *of a bird* : to make a short, harsh cry ▪ The crow *squawked* loudly.

2 : to complain or protest loudly or with strong feeling ▪ The customers *squawked* about the high prices. ▪ Opponents of the project have been *squawking*.

– **squawk** *noun, pl* **squawks** [*count*] ▪ The bird gave a *squawk*. ▪ *squawks* from customers

[1]squeak /'skwi:k/ *verb* **squeaks**; **squeaked**; **squeak•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to make a short, high-pitched cry or noise ▪ I could hear the mouse *squeaking*. ▪ She *squeaked* when I pinched her. ▪ My shoes *squeak* when I walk. ▪ The wheel *squeaks* when it turns. ▪ a *squeaking* sound/wheel

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to barely succeed at doing something : to almost lose or fail but to finally succeed, win, etc. ▪ The team *squeaked* into the finals. [=the team almost did not get into the finals] ▪ She *squeaked* out a 5–4 win. [=she won narrowly by getting 5 points while her opponent got 4] ▪ The bill *squeaked* through the Senate. [=it barely got enough votes to be accepted] ▪ He *squeaked* into office by fewer than 2,000 votes.

3 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) in a high-pitched voice especially because you are nervous or excited ▪ "I can't believe it!" she *squeaked*.

[2]squeak *noun, pl* **squeaks** [*count*] : a sharp, high-pitched cry or sound ▪ She gave/let out a *squeak*.

squeak•er /'skwi:kɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal* : a contest (such as a game or an election) that is won by only a small amount ▪ The election was a *squeaker*. [=the election was very close] ▪ They won in a 10–9 *squeaker*.

squeaky /'skwi:ki/ *adj* **squeak•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : making or likely to make a sharp, high-pitched sound ▪ a *squeaky* door ▪ Her voice is *squeaky*.

a/the squeaky wheel gets the grease/oil see [1]WHEEL

– **squeak•i•ly** /'skwi:kəli/ *adv* – **squeak•i•ness** /'skwi:kinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

squeaky–clean *adj*

1 : completely clean ▪ The glass is *squeaky-clean*. ▪ *squeaky-clean* hair

2 : not connected with or involving anything morally wrong ▪ He has a *squeaky-clean* reputation/image.

[1]squeal /'skwi:l/ *verb* **squeals**; **squealed**; **squeal•ing**

1 : to make or cause (something) to make a long, high-pitched cry or noise [*no obj*] The pigs were *squealing*. ▪ The car ***squealed to a stop***. — often + *with* or *in* ▪ The children *squealed with/in* delight when they saw the clown. [+ *obj*] He ***squealed the tires*** and drove off.

2 [*no obj*] *informal* + *disapproving* : to tell someone in authority (such as the police or a teacher) about something wrong that someone has done ▪ She *squealed* to the teacher. ▪ "How did they find out?" "Someone must have *squealed*." [=*snitched*] ▪ He ***squealed on*** [=*informed on*] his friend.

3 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) in a high and excited voice ▪ "Let me go," she *squealed*.

– **squeal•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal* + *disapproving* ▪ I won't tell anyone what you did. I'm no *squealer*.

[2]squeal *noun, pl* **squeals** [*count*] : a long, high-pitched cry or noise ▪ She heard the pig's *squeals*. — often + *of* ▪ a *squeal of* delight ▪ We heard the *squeal of* the brakes.

squea•mish /'skwi:mɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : afraid to deal with or do things that might hurt or offend people — often used in negative statements ▪ Journalists can't be *squeamish*. ▪ My parents are not *squeamish* about talking about sex. ▪ As a supervisor, you can't be *squeamish* about firing people. **b** : having an unpleasantly nervous or doubtful feeling ▪ I used to be *squeamish* about eating raw fish.

2 : easily shocked, offended, or disgusted by unpleasant things ▪ I'm too *squeamish* to watch horror movies.

3 : having a sick feeling in the stomach : suffering from nausea ▪ She gets *squeamish* [=*queasy*] at the sight of blood.

the squeamish : squeamish people : people who are easily shocked or offended by unpleasant things ▪ The movie is ***not for the squeamish***.

– **squea•mish•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ You'll have to get over your *squeamishness* about firing people.

squee•gee /'skwi:ˌʤi:/ *noun, pl* **-gees** [*count*] : a tool that has a blade of rubber attached to a handle and that is used for spreading or wiping liquid on, across, or off a surface (such as a window or floor)

– **squeegee** *verb* **-gees**; **-geed**; **-gee•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ He *squeegeed* the water into the drain.

squeez•able /'skwi:zəbəl/ *adj* : having parts or sides that can be pressed together ▪ a *squeezable* bottle of ketchup ▪ *squeezable* toys

[1]squeeze /'skwi:z/ *verb* **squeez•es**; **squeezed**; **squeez•ing**

1 : to press together the parts and especially the opposite sides of (something) [+ *obj*] *Squeeze* the bottle/tube. ▪ He lightly *squeezed* her hand and smiled. ▪ Gently *squeeze* the

fruit to see if it's ripe. ▪ She ***squeezed her eyes shut.*** [=she closed her eyes very tightly] [*no obj*] Hold it securely but don't *squeeze* too hard.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to get or remove (something) by squeezing something ▪ He *squeezed* the juice from the orange. ▪ She *squeezed* out some ketchup. = She *squeezed* some ketchup out. ▪ freshly *squeezed* orange juice — sometimes used figuratively ▪ They can't *squeeze* much more money out of the business.

3 [+ *obj*] : to pull back on (a gun's trigger) with your finger ▪ He took aim and *squeezed* [=*pulled*] the trigger. — see also SQUEEZE OFF (below)

4 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move into or through a small or crowded space [*no obj*] We had to *squeeze* past/by the people in the aisles. ▪ trying to *squeeze* into tight jeans ▪ The cat *squeezed* through the opening. ▪ We all *squeezed* into the elevator. ▪ (*Brit*) ***Squeeze up*** [=move closer together], please. We need to make room for one more person. [+ *obj*] We can *squeeze* one more person in the back seat. ▪ The instructor *squeezed* a lot of information into one week. ▪ We were all *squeezed* [=*squashed*] into the elevator.

5 [+ *obj*] : to barely succeed at getting or doing (something) ▪ The police *squeezed* a confession from her. — often + *out* ▪ The team *squeezed out* a victory. ▪ The police *squeezed* a confession *out* of her.

6 [+ *obj*] **a** : to decrease the amount of (something, such as money) ▪ Rising costs have *squeezed* profits. **b** : to cause financial problems for (a business or organization) ▪ The availability of music on the Internet has *squeezed* the record industry. **c** *informal* : to force (someone) to give you something or to do something by using threats or pressure ▪ The banks are *squeezing* them for more money. ▪ She tried to *squeeze* me for $100.

squeeze in [*phrasal verb*] ***squeeze (someone or something) in*** *or* ***squeeze in (someone or something)*** : to find time for (someone or something) ▪ I can try to *squeeze* you *in* after my one o'clock appointment. ▪ The teacher tried to *squeeze in* a few more lessons before school vacation.

squeeze off [*phrasal verb*] ***squeeze off (a round)*** : to fire (a shot) by squeezing the trigger of a gun ▪ He quickly *squeezed off* four rounds.

squeeze out [*phrasal verb*] ***squeeze out (someone or something)*** *or* ***squeeze (someone or something) out*** : to force (someone or something) out of a position, place, etc. ▪ The city's low-income residents have been *squeezed out* [=have been forced to leave their homes] by rising real estate prices. ▪ These big stores have *squeezed out* a lot of the smaller locally owned shops.

[2]squeeze *noun, pl* **squeezes**

1 [*singular*] : a situation in which people or things are crowded together ▪ Fifty guests will be a bit of a *squeeze*. ▪ It'll be a ***tight squeeze***, but we can all fit.

2 [*count*] : an act of squeezing something — usually singular ▪ He gave the bottle a good *squeeze*. ▪ She gave his hand a *squeeze*. [=she squeezed his hand]

3 [*count*] : a small amount that is gotten or removed from something (such as a piece of fruit) by squeezing it — often + *of* ▪ a *squeeze of* lemon/lime

4 a [*count*] : a situation in which there is not enough of something — usually singular ▪ There is a serious housing *squeeze* [=*shortage*] in the city. [=there are not enough houses, apartments, etc., available] ▪ a credit *squeeze* [=a situation in which it is difficult for people, companies, etc., to get credit] **b** ***the squeeze*** *informal* : a situation that causes feelings of stress and pressure ▪ We are really ***feeling the squeeze*** since I lost my job. ▪ The government is ***putting the squeeze on*** tax evaders.

5 [*noncount*] *chiefly US slang* : a romantic partner : a boyfriend or girlfriend ▪ So who's your current *squeeze*? ▪ She's my ***main squeeze***.

squeeze bottle *noun, pl* ~ **-tles** [*count*] : a plastic bottle that forces out its contents when it is squeezed : a squeezable bottle

squelch /'skwɛlʧ/ *verb* **squelch•es**; **squelched**; **squelch•ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to stop (something) from continuing by doing or saying something ▪ A statement was made to *squelch* [=*squash, scotch, quash*] the rumors. ▪ Police *squelched* [=*quelled*] the protest. = The protest was *squelched* by police.

squib /'skwɪb/ *noun, pl* **squibs** [*count*] : a small firecracker

damp squib *Brit* : something that is disappointing because it is not as exciting or effective as expected ▪ The stock turned out to be something of a *damp squib*.

squib kick *noun, pl* ~ **kicks** [*count*] *American football* : a kickoff in which the ball is kicked so that it bounces along the ground

squid /'skwɪd/ *noun, pl* **squid** *or* **squids** [*count*] : a sea animal that has a long, thin, soft body and 10 long arms



squid

squig•gle /'skwɪgəl/ *noun, pl* **squig•gles** [*count*] : a short line with many curves : a short, wavy line ▪ His handwriting looks like a bunch of *squiggles*.

– **squig•gly** /'skwɪgli/ *adj* **squig•gli•er**; **-est** ▪ *squiggly* lines

[1]squint /'skwɪnt/ *verb* **squints**; **squint•ed**; **squint•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to look at something with your eyes partly closed ▪ She had to *squint* to read the small print. ▪ They were *squinting* into the sun. [=looking toward the sun with their eyes partly closed] ▪ He *squinted* through the haze of smoke.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (your eyes) to partly close ▪ I had to *squint* my eyes to focus on the tiny letters.

3 [*no obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to have a medical condition that makes your eyes unable to look in the same direction ▪ I noticed that he *squints*.

[2]squint *noun, pl* **squints**

1 [*singular*] : a condition in which you are looking at something with your eyes partly closed : an act of squinting ▪ Her gaze narrowed into a *squint*.

2 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a medical condition in which your eyes are unable to look in the same direction — usually singular ▪ She was born with a *squint*.

3 [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : a quick look — + *at* ▪ He took a *squint at* the document. ▪ Have a *squint at* this.

squinty /'skwɪnti/ *adj* **squint•i•er**; **-est** *of the eyes* : partly closed or seeming to be partly closed ▪ He looked at me with *squinty* eyes. ▪ a *squinty*-eyed scowl

squire /'skwaɪɚ/ *noun, pl* **squires** [*count*]

1 : a young man in the Middle Ages who helped a knight before eventually becoming a knight himself

2 : a man in the past in England who owned most of the land in a village or district in the country

3 *Brit, informal* + *old-fashioned* — used to address a man whose name is unknown ▪ "Where to, *squire*?" asked the taxi driver.

squirm /'skwɚm/ *verb* **squirms**; **squirmed**; **squirm•ing** [*no obj*] : to make a lot of twisting movements because you are nervous, uncomfortable, bored, etc. ▪ The baby *squirmed* a lot when I tried to hold him. ▪ She *squirmed* under her father's angry stare. ▪ The children *squirmed* with delight. ▪ He tried to hold onto her but she *squirmed* free. ▪ The frog *squirmed* out of his hands. ▪ The gory details of the story had me *squirming* in my seat. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a Congressional investigation that is making the industry *squirm* [=making people in the industry very nervous and uncomfortable]

– **squirmy** /'skwɚmi/ *adj* **squirm•i•er**; **-est** ▪ an audience of *squirmy* kids

[1]squir•rel /'skwɚrəl, *Brit* 'skwɪrəl/ *noun, pl* **squir•rels** *also* **squirrel** [*count*] : a small animal with a long tail and soft fur that lives in trees — see picture at RODENT

[2]squirrel *verb* **-rels**; *US* **-reled** *or Brit* **-relled**; *US* **-rel•ing** *or Brit* **-rel•ling**

squirrel away [*phrasal verb*] ***squirrel away (something)*** *or* ***squirrel (something) away*** : to put (something) in a safe or secret place especially so that it can be kept for future use ▪ She's *squirreled* a lot of money *away* in a secret bank account. ▪ Most of his money is *squirreled away* somewhere.

squir•rel•ly *also* **squir•rely** /'skwɚrəli, *Brit* 'skwɪrəli/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US, informal*

1 : tending to move around a lot : RESTLESS ▪ It was the end of the school year, when all the kids get a little *squirrelly*.

2 : very odd, silly, or foolish ▪ *squirrelly* behavior

[1]squirt /'skwɚt/ *verb* **squirts**; **squirt•ed**; **squirt•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to suddenly force (a liquid) out through a small opening ▪ He *squirted* some oil on the door hinge. ▪ She *squirted* ketchup all over her fries. ▪ Some snakes can *squirt* venom from their mouths. **b** [*no obj*] *of a liquid* : to suddenly be forced out through a small opening ▪ Water *squirted* out from/of a hole in the pipe. ▪ Juice from the lemon *squirted* into my eye.

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) wet with a

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stream of liquid — often + *with* ▪ My brother *squirted* me *with* the hose. [=made me wet with water from the hose] ▪ He *squirted* the door hinge *with* oil.

²squirt *noun, pl* **squirts** [*count*]
1 : a small amount of liquid that is produced by squeezing or squirting something — often + *of* ▪ He added a *squirt of* lemon (juice) to the fish.
2 *informal* **a :** an annoying person who is small and usually young ▪ an annoying little *squirt* who kept pestering me ▪ Listen *squirt*, I'm in charge here. **b :** CHILD ▪ She started playing guitar when she was just a little *squirt*.

squirt gun *noun, pl* **~ guns** [*count*] *US* **:** WATER PISTOL

squish /'skwɪʃ/ *verb* **squish•es; squished; squish•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **:** to press (something) into a flatter shape **:** SQUASH ▪ She *squished* the bug. ▪ The cake accidentally got *squished*.
2 : to move into a space that is tight or crowded **:** SQUASH [*no obj*] We *squished* together to make more room. [+ *obj*] We managed to *squish* four people in the backseat of the car. — often used as *(be) squished* ▪ Four of us *were squished* together in the backseat.
3 [*no obj*] **:** to make the sound that is made when something very wet is pressed, stepped on, etc. ▪ His wet shoes *squished* when he walked.

squishy /'skwɪʃi/ *adj* **squish•i•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] **:** soft and often wet ▪ The ground was wet and *squishy*. ▪ *squishy* cushions

Sr. (*chiefly US*) *or Brit* **Sr** *abbr* **1** senior **2** sister

SS *abbr* **1** saints **2** Social Security **3** steamship

SSN *abbr* Social Security number

st *abbr, Brit* stone ▪ She weighs 7*st* 5lbs. [=7 stone and 5 pounds]

St. (*chiefly US*) *or Brit* **St** *abbr* **1** saint **2** street

-st *symbol* — used in writing after the number 1 for the word *first* ▪ He's in the 1*st* [=*first*] grade. ▪ It is her 21*st* birthday.

¹stab /'stæb/ *noun, pl* **stabs** [*count*]
1 : a wound made by a pointed weapon (such as a knife) ▪ He died from a *stab* to the heart. [=died from being stabbed in the heart] ▪ a *stab* wound/victim
2 : a sudden, strong feeling of physical or emotional pain — + *of* ▪ a *stab of* pain/regret/doubt/fear
3 *informal* **:** an attempt to do something successfully — often + *at* ▪ She ***took/made a stab at*** solving the problem. [=she made an attempt to solve the problem] ▪ Let me ***give it a stab***. = Let me ***have a stab at it*** [=let me try to do it]
a stab in the back **:** an action or way of behaving that hurts someone who trusts you **:** an act of betrayal ▪ I can't believe that someone I had helped and supported would steal from me. It's *a* real *stab in the back*.
a stab in the dark **1 :** a guess that is based on very little or no information or evidence ▪ They don't really know how much the work will cost. They're just taking *a stab* [=*shot*] *in the dark*. **2 :** an attempt that is not likely to succeed ▪ It's *a stab* [=*shot*] *in the dark*, but we should try anyway.

²stab *verb* **stabs; stabbed; stab•bing**
1 [+ *obj*] **:** to wound (someone or something) with a pointed weapon (such as a knife) ▪ He *stabbed* her with a dagger. ▪ The victim was *stabbed* in the chest five times.
2 : to quickly or suddenly push a pointed object into or toward someone or something [+ *obj*] He *stabbed* the piece of meat with a fork. = He *stabbed* the fork into the piece of meat. ▪ She *stabbed* [=*jabbed*] the air with her pen as she spoke. [*no obj*] — often + *at* ▪ She *stabbed at* the dead animal with a stick.
stab (someone) in the back **:** to hurt (someone who trusts you) by not giving help or by doing something morally wrong **:** to betray (someone) ▪ He's the kind of person who gets you to trust him but then *stabs you in the back*.

¹stab•bing /'stæbɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-bings** [*count*] **:** an attack in which someone is wounded with a pointed weapon (such as a knife) ▪ a fatal *stabbing*

²stabbing *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : of or relating to a stabbing ▪ a *stabbing* victim [=a person who has been stabbed] ▪ a *stabbing* death
2 : felt very suddenly in part of your body **:** very sharp and sudden ▪ She felt a *stabbing* pain in her back.

sta•bil•i•ty /stə'bɪlətɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the quality or state of being stable: such as **a :** the quality or state of something that is not easily changed or likely to change ▪ the country's political and economic *stability* **b :** the quality or state of something that is not easily moved ▪ Test the platform for *stability* before using it. **c :** the quality or state of someone who is emotionally or mentally healthy ▪ There are some questions about the applicant's mental *stability*.

sta•bi•lize *also Brit* **sta•bi•lise** /'steɪbəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-liz•es; -lized; -liz•ing**
1 : to become stable or to make (something) stable: such as **a :** to stop quickly changing, increasing, getting worse, etc. [*no obj*] The country's population has *stabilized* at 3.2 million. ▪ Prices have *stabilized*. [+ *obj*] The government's efforts to *stabilize* prices have not succeeded. ▪ Even the administration's most vocal critics agree that the President has succeeded in *stabilizing* the economy. — opposite DESTABILIZE **b** [+ *obj*] **:** to make (something) less easily moved ▪ We'll use ropes to *stabilize* the platform. **c** [+ *obj*] *technical* **:** to give (something) a chemical structure or to put (something) into a physical state that does not change easily ▪ a process that *stabilizes* the vaccine
2 [+ *obj*] **:** to make (something) steady ▪ drugs that *stabilize* a patient's heartbeat ▪ The pilots were able to *stabilize* the airplane and land safely.
– sta•bi•li•za•tion *also Brit* **sta•bi•li•sa•tion** /ˌsteɪbələ'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌsteɪbəˌlaɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ political/economic *stabilization*

sta•bi•liz•er *also Brit* **sta•bi•lis•er** /'steɪbəˌlaɪzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers**
1 [*count*] **:** a device or substance that is used to make something stable or steady: such as **a :** a device that is used to keep a ship steady in rough seas **b :** the part of an airplane's tail that cannot be moved **c :** a substance that is added to something (such as a food mixture) to keep it in a desired condition
2 *stabilisers* [*plural*] *Brit* **:** TRAINING WHEELS

¹sta•ble /'steɪbəl/ *adj* **sta•bler; sta•blest** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 a : in a good state or condition that is not easily changed or likely to change ▪ a *stable* community/government ▪ They have a *stable* relationship. ▪ Children need to be raised in a *stable* environment. ▪ a *stable* income ▪ The economy is *stable*. **b** *medical* **:** not getting worse or likely to get worse ▪ The patient is *stable*. ▪ (*US*) She is ***in stable condition*** after suffering multiple injuries. = (*Brit*) She is ***in a stable condition*** after suffering multiple injuries.
2 : not easily moved ▪ Make sure the platform is *stable*. ▪ The ladder doesn't seem very *stable*. [=*secure*]
3 : emotionally or mentally healthy **:** calm and reasonable ▪ a mentally/emotionally *stable* person
4 *technical* **:** having a chemical structure or physical state that does not change easily ▪ a *stable* compound/element

²stable *noun, pl* **stables** [*count*]
1 : a building in which horses are kept, fed, and cared for ▪ She rode the horse back to the *stable*. ▪ a horse *stable* — sometimes used in the plural form ***stables*** especially to mean a place where horses are kept for riding lessons ▪ She rode the horse back to the *stables*. ▪ riding *stables*
2 a : the group of racehorses that belong to the same owner ▪ There have been three winners from his *stable* this season. **b :** a group of people (such as athletes, writers, or performers) who work for or are trained by the same person, organization, or business ▪ a *stable* of actors/writers **c :** a group of products that are made by the same company ▪ A new model will be added to the car company's *stable* of sedans.

³stable *verb* **sta•bles; sta•bled; sta•bling** [+ *obj*] **:** to put or keep (a horse) in a stable ▪ She *stabled* the horse. ▪ Where do you *stable* your horses?

sta•ble•mate /'steɪbəlˌmeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-mates** [*count*] **:** a horse, person, product, etc., that belongs to the same stable as another horse, person, product, etc. ▪ horses that are *stablemates* ▪ a new car model and its *stablemates*

stac•ca•to /stə'kɑːtoʊ/ *adj*
1 *music* **:** short and not sounding connected ▪ *staccato* notes/chords ▪ the *staccato* blasts of a horn — compare LEGATO
2 : sudden and brief ▪ the dialogue's *staccato* sentences ▪ *staccato* movements
– staccato *adv* ▪ playing/singing *staccato*

¹stack /'stæk/ *noun, pl* **stacks**
1 [*count*] **:** a usually neat pile **:** a group of things that are put one on top of the other ▪ He had arranged the letters in *stacks*. ▪ She took a magazine from near the top of the *stack*. — often + *of* ▪ a *stack of* dishes/papers — see also HAYSTACK
2 [*count*] **:** a large amount of something — usually + *of* ▪ There is a *stack of* evidence against her. ▪ They have *stacks of* money.
3 [*count*] **:** a tall chimney on a factory, ship, etc., for carrying smoke away **:** SMOKESTACK

4 *the stacks* : the rows of shelves where books are stored in a library ▪ I couldn't find the book in *the stacks*.

blow your stack see [1]BLOW

[2]stack *verb* **stacks; stacked; stack•ing**

1 : to arrange (things) in a stack : to put (things) in a usually neat pile [+ *obj*] She spent the afternoon splitting and *stacking* firewood. ▪ She *stacked* the plates in the cupboard. ▪ He *stacked* the books on the table. — often + *up* ▪ She *stacked* the wood *up* against the fence. [*no obj*] The chairs don't *stack*. [=the chairs cannot be put in a stack; the chairs cannot be stacked]

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cheat at a card game by arranging (a deck of cards) in a special way ▪ The other players accused him of ***stacking the deck*** **b** — used to describe a situation in which one person, team, etc., is given an advantage over others often in a way that is unfair ▪ In many ways, the ***cards are stacked against*** immigrants. [=immigrants face unfair and difficult circumstances] ▪ There are things you can do to ***stack the odds*** in your favor. [=to make it more likely for you to win, succeed, etc.] ▪ The ***odds are stacked against*** you. [=the odds are against you; you do not have a good or fair chance of winning, succeeding, etc.]

stack up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to increase in number or amount to a total that is difficult to deal with ▪ Cars quickly *stacked up* behind the bus. ▪ My bills are *stacking up*. [=*piling up*] **2** : to be good enough or equally good ▪ The camera doesn't *stack up* [=*measure up*] when it comes to performance. ▪ This model *stacks up* well when compared with other cameras. [=the camera is as good as or better than others] **3 *stack up against (something or someone)* or *stack (something or someone) up against (something or someone)*** : to compare (something or someone) with others of the same kind ▪ How does this computer *stack up against* other models? [=how good is it compared to other models?] ▪ How does he *stack up against* the other candidates? ▪ The camera does pretty well when you *stack* it *up against* the competition.

stack•able /ˈstækəbəl/ *adj* : able to be arranged in a stack ▪ The chairs are *stackable*. ▪ *stackable* plastic crates

stacked /ˈstækt/ *adj, informal + impolite, of a woman* : having large breasts

sta•di•um /ˈsteɪdijəm/ *noun, pl* **-ums** [*count*] : a very large usually roofless building that has a large open area surrounded by many rows of seats and that is used for sports events, concerts, etc.

[1]staff /ˈstæf, *Brit* ˈstɑːf/ *noun, pl* **staffs** *or* **staves** /ˈsteɪvz/

1 *pl* ***staffs*** **a** : a group of people who work for an organization or business [*count*] The entire *staff* has done a great job this year. ▪ The *staff* is at a meeting. ▪ a teaching/sales/editorial/coaching/pitching *staff* ▪ the hospital/library/kitchen *staff* ▪ The department has a *staff* of 40 (people). ▪ She's a new member of the *staff*. ▪ He has been ***on the staff*** [=a member of the staff] for 25 years. [*noncount*] (*US*) There are 100 people ***on staff*** [=working as members of the staff] ▪ (*Brit*) She's a new ***member of staff*** ▪ a *staff* member/director/writer/meeting — see also WAITSTAFF **b** [*count*] : a group of military officers who help a commanding officer but who do not take part in active fighting ▪ The general's *staff* is planning the army's next move. — see also CHIEF OF STAFF, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

usage *Staff* may be used as a plural noun to mean the members of a staff. ▪ The company employs 20 full-time *staff*. ▪ The *staff* are at a meeting.

2 *pl* ***staves*** [*count*] **a** *old-fashioned* : a long stick that you carry in your hand for support while walking **b** : a long stick that is carried as a symbol of authority ▪ a bishop's *staff*

3 *pl* ***staves*** [*count*] *music* : the five horizontal lines and the spaces between them on which music is written — called also *stave*

staff of life *literary* : a basic food; *especially* : BREAD

[2]staff *verb* **staffs; staffed; staff•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to supply (an organization or business) with workers ▪ We'll need 300 workers to properly *staff* the hotel. — often used as *(be) staffed* ▪ The department *is staffed* with an equal number of men and women. ▪ The office *is* fully *staffed*. — see also OVERSTAFFED, SHORT-STAFFED, UNDERSTAFFED

2 : to work for (an organization or business) as a member of a staff ▪ the 300 workers who *staff* the hotel — often used as *(be) staffed* ▪ The organization *is staffed* by volunteers.

– staffing *adj* ▪ *staffing* needs/problems/levels

staff•er /ˈstæfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a member of a staff ▪ newspaper *staffers* ▪ a congressional *staffer* [=a person who is a member of a congressman's or congresswoman's staff]

staff nurse *noun, pl* ~ **nurses** [*count*] : a nurse who is on the staff of a hospital — compare CHARGE NURSE

staff officer *noun, pl* ~ **-cers** [*count*] : an officer who is a member of a military commander's staff

staff sergeant *noun, pl* ~ **-geants** [*count*] : an officer in the army, air force, or marines with a rank above a sergeant

stag /ˈstæg/ *noun, pl* **stags** *or* **stag** [*count*] : an adult male deer

go stag *US* : to go to a party or other social event by yourself ▪ He's *going stag* [=going alone] to the party. — see also STAG PARTY

[1]stage /ˈsteɪʤ/ *noun*

1 [*count*] : a particular point or period in the growth or development of something ▪ an early/late *stage* of the disease ▪ children at the same *stage* of development ▪ the first/last *stage* [=*phase*] of the plan

2 a : a raised platform in a theater, auditorium, etc., where the performers stand [*count*] The actors walked out onto the *stage*. ▪ She has ***shared a stage with*** [=performed with] many great actors. ▪ The band ***took the stage*** [=walked onto the stage] and the concert began. [*noncount*] He was ***on stage*** for the entire show. ▪ an actor with a commanding ***stage presence*** [=an actor with a powerful quality that attracts attention on the stage] — see picture at THEATER; see also BACKSTAGE, CENTER STAGE, OFFSTAGE **b** [*noncount*] : the art or profession of acting and especially of acting in theaters ▪ He is a star of *stage* [=*theater*], screen, and television. ▪ She ***went on the stage*** [=became an actor] at age 15. ▪ a *stage* actor/play

3 [*singular*] : a place or area of activity in which the things that happen are watched with great interest by many people ▪ She has become an important figure on the national political *stage*. [=an important figure in national politics] ▪ He has no intention of leaving the political *stage*. ▪ The company wants to compete on the world *stage*.

4 [*count*] : a section of a rocket that has its own fuel and engine ▪ a three-*stage* missile

in stages : in a series of separate steps rather than all at one time ▪ The changes will be made *in stages*. ▪ The new law will be implemented *in stages*.

set the stage (for something) : to make (something) possible or likely ▪ His discoveries *set the stage for* a revolution in medical research. ▪ Her early training *set the stage for* her later success.

[2]stage *verb* **stag•es; staged; stag•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to produce (a play, performance, etc.) on a stage ▪ The school *stages* two plays each year.

2 a : to organize and produce (a public event) ▪ The students *staged* a protest/demonstration. ▪ The school is *staging* a track meet. **b** : to arrange or do (something that is intended to get a lot of public attention) ▪ The prisoners are *staging* a hunger strike. ▪ The photograph of the two leaders shaking hands was deliberately *staged*.

3 : to succeed in doing or making (something) ▪ His career as a singer appeared to be over, but then he ***staged a comeback*** ▪ The company has ***staged a (remarkable) recovery*** in the past two years.

stage•coach /ˈsteɪʤˌkoʊʧ/ *noun, pl* **-coach•es** [*count*] : a large carriage pulled by horses that was used in the past to carry passengers and mail along a regular route

stage direction *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] : a written instruction in a play telling an actor what to do

stage door *noun, pl* ~ **doors** [*count*] : the door at the back of a theater that is used by actors and the people who work in the theater

stage fright *noun* [*noncount*] : a nervous feeling felt by someone who is going to appear in front of an audience ▪ She got over her *stage fright* by the second act. ▪ I get *stage fright* whenever I have to speak in front of a large group of people.

stage•hand /ˈsteɪʤˌhænd/ *noun, pl* **-hands** [*count*] : someone who prepares the scenery, lights, etc., for a performance on a stage

stage left *adv* : on the left side of a stage when you are on the stage and facing the audience ▪ The actor exited *stage left*.

stage–man•age /ˈsteɪʤˌmænɪʤ/ *verb* **-ag•es; -aged; -ag•ing**

1 : to organize the details of (a performance in a theater) [+ *obj*] She *stage-managed* last year's production of the school

S

play. [*no obj*] She was hired to *stage-manage* for the show. [=to be the show's stage manager]

2 [+ *obj*] : to carefully plan and arrange (something) in order to achieve a desired effect ▪ The press conference was carefully *stage-managed*, and only approved questions were allowed. ▪ He *stage-managed* his son's tennis career.

stage manager *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a person who is in charge of the stage, scenery, lighting, etc., for a performance in a theater

stage name *noun, pl* ~ **names** [*count*] : a name used by an actor instead of the actor's real name

stage right *adv* : on the right side of a stage when you are on the stage and facing the audience ▪ The actor exited *stage right*.

stage•struck /'steɪdʒˌstrʌk/ *adj* : very interested in the theater; *especially* : having an eager desire to become an actor ▪ He was a *stagestruck* young man with dreams of stardom.

stage whisper *noun, pl* ~ **-pers** [*count*]

1 : a loud whisper by an actor that can be heard by the audience but which the other actors on the stage pretend not to hear

2 : a loud whisper that is intended to be heard by everyone ▪ "I've had more than I can stand," she complained in a *stage whisper*.

stagey *variant spelling of* STAGY

stag•fla•tion /ˌstæg'fleɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : an economic situation in which prices of goods and services continually increase, many people do not have jobs, and businesses are not very successful

[1]stag•ger /'stægɚ/ *verb* **-gers**; **-gered**; **-ger•ing**

1 : to move or cause (someone) to move unsteadily from side to side [*no obj*] The drunk *staggered* away/off. ▪ She *staggered* over to the sofa. [+ *obj*] A hard slap on the back *staggered* him.

2 [+ *obj*] : to shock or surprise (someone) very much ▪ Their indifference *staggers* me. ▪ It *staggers* me to see how much money they've spent on this project.

3 [+ *obj*] : to arrange (things) in a series of different positions or times ▪ They *staggered* the runners' starting positions. ▪ *stagger* work shifts — see also STAGGERED

[2]stagger *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : an unsteady movement while walking or standing ▪ He walked with a slight *stagger*.

staggered *adj*

1 : extremely shocked or surprised ▪ I'm just *staggered* at/by her attitude.

2 : arranged so that things are positioned at different places or happen at different times ▪ *staggered* finish lines ▪ *staggered* conference dates

stag•ger•ing /'stægərɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very large, shocking, or surprising ▪ *staggering* medical bills ▪ The storm caused a *staggering* amount of damage.

– **stag•ger•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ The bills are *staggeringly* large.

stag•ing /'steɪdʒɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 : the performance of a play on a stage [*count*] She has acted in several *stagings* [=*productions*] of the play. [*noncount*] The *staging* of the play was more difficult than expected.

2 [*noncount*] : a temporary raised platform that a person can sit or stand on while working ▪ Once the *staging* [=*scaffolding*] is in place we can start painting the ceiling.

staging area *noun, pl* ~ **areas** [*count*] : a place where soldiers gather and military equipment is prepared before a mission

staging post *noun, pl* ~ **posts** [*count*] : a place where people can stop for rest, supplies, etc., during a long journey

stag•nant /'stægnənt/ *adj*

1 : not flowing ▪ a *stagnant* puddle ▪ *stagnant* water/air

2 : not active, changing, or progressing ▪ a *stagnant* economy ▪ *stagnant* wages [=wages that are not increasing]

stag•nate /'stægˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nat•ing** [*no obj*] : to stop developing, progressing, moving, etc. : to be or become stagnant ▪ Wages have *stagnated* recently. ▪ Their relationship is *stagnating*. ▪ a puddle of *stagnating* water

– **stag•na•tion** /stæg'neɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

stag party *noun, pl* ~ **-ties** [*count*] : a party for men only that is usually on the night before a man's wedding — called also (*Brit*) *stag night*

stagy *or* **stag•ey** /'steɪdʒi/ *adj* **stag•i•er**; **-est** : looking or seeming like something from a performance on a stage rather than something natural ▪ an artificial and *stagy* manner ▪ a *stagy* gesture ▪ The movie looks *stagy*.

staid /'steɪd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : serious, boring, or old-fashioned ▪ a *staid* and solemn businessman ▪ a *staid* demeanor/manner

– **staid•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]stain /'steɪn/ *verb* **stains**; **stained**; **stain•ing**

1 a : to leave a mark on something [+ *obj*] The red wine *stained* the carpet. ▪ a wine-*stained* carpet [*no obj*] Be careful—grape juice *stains*. **b** [*no obj*] : to be marked or damaged by a stain ▪ This fabric *stains* easily.

2 [+ *obj*] : to use a special liquid to change the color of (something) ▪ He *stained* the wood a dark cherry color.

3 [+ *obj*] : to damage or spoil (something, such as someone's reputation) ▪ The accusations *stained* his reputation.

– **stain•er** /'steɪnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[2]stain *noun, pl* **stains** [*count*]

1 : a mark made on a surface, a piece of clothing, etc., that is very hard or impossible to remove ▪ There's a juice/wine *stain* on the floor. ▪ She has a *stain* on her shirt. ▪ Will those grass *stains* wash out? — see also BLOODSTAIN

2 : a special liquid that is used to change the color of something (such as wood or cloth)

3 : something that causes people to have less respect for someone : something that damages a person's reputation — usually singular ▪ The accusation left a *stain* that followed him the rest of his life. ▪ a *stain* on her honor/reputation

– **stain•less** /'steɪnləs/ *adj* ▪ He has a *stainless* reputation.

stained glass *noun* [*noncount*] : colored glass that is used to make pictures and patterns in windows ▪ a cathedral with beautiful *stained glass* windows

stainless steel *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of steel that does not rust

stair /'steɚ/ *noun, pl* **stairs**

1 *stairs* [*plural*] : a series of steps that go from one level or floor to another ▪ She ran down the *stairs*. ▪ He waited at the foot/bottom of the *stairs*. ▪ She slipped and fell down the *stairs*. ▪ The *stairs* lead to the roof. ▪ We had to climb another ***flight/set of stairs*** to get to the roof.

2 [*count*] : one of the steps in a set of stairs ▪ a squeaky *stair* ▪ He tripped on the bottom *stair* and almost fell.

3 [*singular*] *literary* : STAIRCASE ▪ climbing the *stair*

stair•case /'steɚˌkeɪs/ *noun, pl* **-cas•es** [*count*] : a set of stairs and its supporting structures ▪ a wooden *staircase* — see also MOVING STAIRCASE, SPIRAL STAIRCASE

stair–climb•er /'steɚ'klaɪmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : an exercise machine on which you make a continuous series of upward steps like someone who is climbing stairs — see picture at GYM

stair•way /'steɚˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways** [*count*] : a set of stairs that go from one level or floor to another ▪ He took the *stairway* up to the third floor. [=he went to the third floor by walking up the stairs]

stair•well /'steɚˌwɛl/ *noun, pl* **-wells** [*count*] : a space in a building where stairs are located

[1]stake /'steɪk/ *noun, pl* **stakes**

1 [*count*] : a pointed stick or post that is pushed into the ground especially to mark a place or to support something

2 *the stake* : a post that a person was tied to and burned on in the past as a form of punishment ▪ Joan of Arc was burned at *the stake*.

3 *stakes* [*plural*] : something (such as money) that you could win or lose in a game, contest, etc. ▪ a poker game with high *stakes* ▪ The *stakes* are too high/low/big.

4 [*count*] **a** : an interest or share in a business ▪ They have a *stake* in the company. [=they own part of the company] ▪ a majority *stake* **b** : an interest or degree of involvement in something ▪ We all have a *stake* in the health of our economy. [=the health of our economy affects us all]

at stake : in a position to be lost or gained ▪ Millions of dollars are *at stake* in the battle over his inheritance. ▪ Thousands of jobs are *at stake*. ▪ Many lives are *at stake*. ▪ My reputation is *at stake* if this project fails. [=my reputation will be lost/damaged if this project fails]

go to the stake for/over *Brit* : to defend (something or someone) even though your actions or statements may cause you trouble or harm ▪ She's willing to *go to the stake for* her beliefs.

pull up stakes *US, informal* : to leave your job or home ▪ Her career was going nowhere, so she decided it was time to *pull up stakes*.

[2]stake *verb* **stakes**; **staked**; **stak•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to risk the loss of (something, such as money) — usually + *on* ▪ She *staked* [=*bet, wagered*] all her money *on* the race. ▪ He *staked* [=*risked*] his reputation *on* the success of the new

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plan. ▪ The corporation *staked* billions of dollars *on* the deal. ▪ She *staked* everything *on* one last attempt. ▪ That's the man who robbed the bank. ***I would stake my life on it*** [=I am absolutely sure]

2 : to support (something, such as a plant) with stakes ▪ She *staked* the tomatoes to keep them from falling over.

stake out [*phrasal verb*] ***stake (something) out*** *or* ***stake out (something)*** **1** : to mark the limits of (an area) with stakes ▪ *stake out* a mining area ▪ We *staked out* the area where the pool will be installed. **2** : to watch (a place) secretly especially because you are looking for illegal activity ▪ The police *staked out* the building until they caught the vandals. — see also STAKEOUT **3** : to state (your opinion) in a very clear and definite way ▪ He *staked out* his position on this issue in a speech he gave last month.

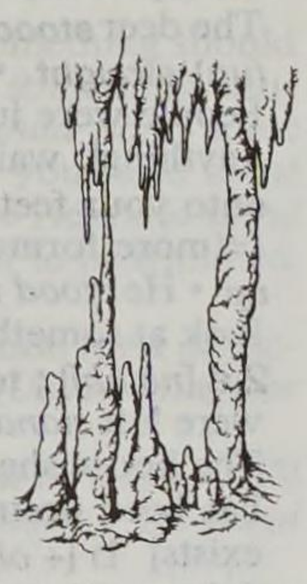
stake (out) a/your claim : to say or show that you believe you should have something or that you deserve something ▪ They *staked their claim* to the land. ▪ With her strong showing in the early rounds of the tournament, she has *staked her claim* to be considered one of the favorites.

stake•hold•er /ˈsteɪkˌhoʊldɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a person or business that has invested money in something (such as a company) ▪ corporate *stakeholders*
2 : a person who holds the money that people have bet on something and then gives it to the winner

stake•out /ˈsteɪkˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] : a situation in which the police secretly watch a place in order to look for illegal activity ▪ The drug deal was witnessed during a *stakeout* of the building. ▪ The police were ***on a stakeout***. — see also *stake out* at ²STAKE

sta•lac•tite /stəˈlækˌtaɪt, *Brit* ˈstæləkˌtaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-tites** [*count*] : a pointed piece of rock that hangs down from the roof of a cave and that is formed by dripping water which contains minerals

sta•lag•mite /stəˈlægˌmaɪt, *Brit* ˈstæləgˌmaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-mites** [*count*] : a pointed piece of rock that sticks up from the floor of a cave and that is formed by dripping water which contains minerals



stalactite and stalagmite

stale /ˈsteɪl/ *adj* **stal•er**; **-est** [*more ~; most ~*]
1 a *of food* : no longer good or appealing : no longer fresh ▪ *stale* food ▪ *stale* bread **b** : not clean, clear, or pure : having an unpleasant taste or smell ▪ *stale* air/water ▪ a room filled with *stale* smoke
2 : not interesting or new : boring or unoriginal ▪ *stale* news/jokes ▪ Their relationship ***went stale***. [=became dull or predictable]
3 : not as strong, effective, or energetic as before ▪ She felt *stale* [=*bored*] in her job.

stale•mate /ˈsteɪlˌmeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-mates**
1 : a contest, dispute, competition, etc., in which neither side can gain an advantage or win [*count*] The budget debate ended in a *stalemate*. ▪ The new agreement could break the *stalemate*. [*noncount*] The budget debate ended in *stalemate*.
2 [*count, noncount*] : a situation in chess in which a player cannot successfully move any of the pieces and neither player can win ▪ The game ended in (a) *stalemate*. — compare CHECKMATE
– **stalemate** *verb* **-mates**; **-mat•ed**; **-mat•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ He was *stalemated* by the opposition.

¹stalk /ˈstɑːk/ *noun, pl* **stalks** [*count*]
1 : a thick or tall stem of a plant ▪ a flower *stalk* ▪ celery *stalks* — see color pictures on pages C4 and C6; see also CORNSTALK
2 : a thin, upright object or part that supports or connects something ▪ the *stalk* of a goblet

²stalk *verb* **stalks**; **stalked**; **stalk•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to follow (an animal or person that you are hunting or trying to capture) by moving slowly and quietly ▪ Lions *stalked* the herd. ▪ a movie about a detective being *stalked* by a killer **b** : to go through (a place or area) while hunting ▪ This is the time of year when hunters are *stalking* the woods for deer. — often used figuratively ▪ A killer *stalks* the streets of the city. [=there is a killer somewhere in the city] ▪ a city that is *stalked* by fear [=a city where people are in a constant state of fear]
2 [+ *obj*] : to follow, watch, and bother (someone) constantly in a way that is frightening, dangerous, etc. ▪ She called the police because her ex-boyfriend was *stalking* her.
3 *always followed by an adverb or a preposition* [*no obj*] : to walk in a stiff or proud manner ▪ She angrily *stalked* out of the room.
– **stalk•ing** /ˈstɑːkɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He was arrested and charged with *stalking*.

stalk•er /ˈstɑːkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a person who closely follows and watches another person for a long period of time in a way that is threatening, dangerous, etc. ▪ a famous actress who is being threatened by a *stalker* ▪ She has a *stalker*. [=someone is stalking her]
2 : a person who slowly and quietly hunts an animal ▪ a deer *stalker*

stalking horse *noun, pl* **~ horses** [*count*] : someone or something that is used to hide a true purpose; *especially* : a candidate for a political office or position who has no real chance of winning but is being used by a political party to weaken the support for an opposing party, to find out if another candidate might be successful, etc.

¹stall /ˈstɑːl/ *noun, pl* **stalls**
1 [*count*] : a small open counter or partially enclosed structure where things are displayed for sale ▪ food *stalls* ▪ a souvenir *stall* ▪ a market *stall* ▪ She set up a *stall* selling jewelry in the marketplace.
2 [*count*] : an enclosed area in a building where a farm animal (such as a horse or cow) is kept ▪ She cleaned the horses' *stalls*.
3 [*count*] : a seat in a church that is wholly or partly enclosed ▪ choir *stalls*
4 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a small, enclosed area with room for one person in a bathroom ▪ shower *stalls*; *especially* : a small, enclosed area with a toilet ▪ All the (bathroom) *stalls* were occupied.
5 ***the stalls*** *Brit* : the seats on the main level of a theater in front of the stage ▪ Our tickets are for seats in *the stalls*. [=(*US*) *the orchestra*]
– compare ³STALL

²stall *verb* **stalls**; **stalled**; **stall•ing**
1 *of an engine* : to stop suddenly because of a problem [*no obj*] The engine suddenly *stalled*. [+ *obj*] Stopping too quickly can *stall* the engine.
2 *of an airplane* : to stop flying suddenly and begin to fall because the wings cannot produce enough lift [*no obj*] The airspeed got very low and the plane nearly *stalled*. [+ *obj*] The pilot almost *stalled* the airplane.
3 [+ *obj*] : to put or keep (an animal) in a stall ▪ They *stalled* the horses for the night.
– compare ⁴STALL

³stall *noun* [*singular*] : a situation in which an engine suddenly stops or an airplane suddenly stops flying ▪ an engine *stall* ▪ The airplane went into a *stall*. — compare ¹STALL

⁴stall *verb* **stalls**; **stalled**; **stalling**
1 : to avoid doing something or to delay someone in a deliberate way because you need more time, do not want to do something, etc. [*no obj*] Please stop *stalling* and answer the question. [+ *obj*] Try to *stall* them until I get the place cleaned up.
2 : to stop progressing or developing [*no obj*] The economic recovery has *stalled*. ▪ His career has *stalled* in recent years. [+ *obj*] Budget problems have *stalled* the project.
– compare ²STALL

stall•hold•er /ˈstɑːlˌhoʊldɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : someone who manages a stall at which goods are sold

stal•lion /ˈstæljən/ *noun, pl* **-lions** [*count*] : an adult male horse and especially one that is used for breeding — compare GELDING

¹stal•wart /ˈstɑːlwɚt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal*
1 : very loyal and dedicated ▪ *stalwart* fans/supporters
2 : physically strong ▪ their strong and *stalwart* son ▪ *stalwart* fortifications
– **stal•wart•ly** *adv*

²stalwart *noun, pl* **-warts** [*count*] *formal* : a loyal supporter ▪ party *stalwarts* [=people who support a political party very loyally]

sta•men /ˈsteɪmən/ *noun, pl* **-mens** [*count*] *botany* : the part of a flower that produces pollen — see picture at FLOWER; compare PISTIL

stam•i•na /ˈstæmənə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : great physical or mental strength that allows you to continue doing something for a long time ▪ Do you have the/enough *stamina* to finish the job?

stam•mer /ˈstæmɚ/ *verb* **-mers**; **-mered**; **-mer•ing** : to speak with many pauses and repetitions because you have a

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speech problem or because you are very nervous, frightened, etc. [*no obj*] He *stammers* [=*stutters*] when he's nervous. [+ *obj*] "I d-don't know what you're talking about!" she *stammered*. • He *stammered* an excuse and fled.

– **stammer** *noun* [*singular*] • He develops a *stammer* [=*stutter*] when he's nervous. – **stam•mer•er** /'stæmərə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[1]stamp /'stæmp/ *noun, pl* **stamps**

1 [*count*] **a** : a small piece of paper that you buy and then stick to an envelope or package to pay the cost of mailing it • a 39-cent *stamp* — called also *postage stamp*; see picture at MAIL **b** : a small piece of paper that is attached to something and that shows that a tax or fee has been paid — see also FOOD STAMP

2 [*count*] **a** : a device or tool that is used to mark something (such as a piece of paper) with a design, pattern, word, etc., by being pushed against a surface : a device or tool used for stamping something — see also RUBBER STAMP **b** : the mark made by a stamp • There was a *stamp* on the letter showing the date when it was received.

3 a [*singular*] : a sign of a special or specific quality — usually + *of* • Her poetry bears the *stamp of* genius. • His quiet manner gives/lends his words the *stamp of* authority. [=makes his words seem authoritative] **b** [*count*] : an indication of something — usually singular • She gave the plan her ***stamp of approval***. [=she approved the plan] **c** [*singular*] : an important or lasting effect • He ***put/left his stamp*** on the process. [=he affected/changed the process in some important way]

4 [*singular*] *literary* : a particular kind or type • He was a man of a different *stamp*. [=he was a different sort of man]

5 [*count*] : the act of bringing your foot down heavily and noisily • an angry *stamp* of his foot

[2]stamp *verb* **stamps; stamped; stamp•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to bring (your foot) down heavily and noisily • He *stamped* his foot in anger. • The fans cheered and *stamped* [=*stomped*] their feet as the team took the lead.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to walk heavily and noisily • She *stamped* [=*stomped*] off in a huff. • He *stamped* out of the room.

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to use a special device (called a stamp) to put a design, word, etc., on something : to create a mark by pressing a special tool against a surface • She *stamped* the bill "paid." • He *stamped* the date on the letter. = He *stamped* the letter with the date. **b** [+ *obj*] : to form (something) with a device that presses down on a material and cuts out shapes • newly *stamped* coins

4 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to stay in your mind or memory • The event is *stamped* [=*imprinted*] in her mind.

5 [+ *obj*] : to attach a postage stamp to (something) • *stamp* a letter • a *stamped* envelope

stamp as [*phrasal verb*] ***stamp (someone) as (something)*** : to show that (someone) is (a particular type of person) • The decision *stamped* him *as* a man of honor.

stamp on [*phrasal verb*] ***stamp on (something)*** **1** : to step heavily on (something) with your foot • She accidentally *stamped on* my toe. **2** : to end (something) in a forceful way • The city council *stamped on* any efforts to build a liquor store.

stamp out [*phrasal verb*] ***stamp (something) out*** *or* ***stamp out (something)*** **1** : to stop or destroy (something bad) • *stamp out* smallpox/corruption **2** : to stop (something) from burning by stepping on it forcefully with your feet • *stamp out* a fire • She *stamped* the cigarette *out*. [=she put out the cigarette by stepping on it]

– **stamp•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

stamp collecting *noun* [*noncount*] : the hobby of collecting postage stamps

– **stamp collector** *noun, pl* ~ **-tors** [*count*]

[1]stam•pede /stæm'pi:d/ *noun, pl* **-pedes** [*count*]

1 : an occurrence in which a large group of frightened or excited animals or people run together in a wild and uncontrolled way to escape from something, get out of a place, etc. • a buffalo *stampede* • a *stampede* to the exits

2 : a situation in which a lot of people try to do the same thing at the same time • a *stampede* to buy the stock • a *stampede* of new applicants

[2]stampede *verb* **-pedes; -ped•ed; -ped•ing**

1 a [*no obj*] : to run away in a large group from something especially because of fear • The cattle *stampeded*. • People *stampeded* to the exits. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (animals) to run away in a large group • The gunshot *stampeded* the cattle.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (a person or a group of people) to do something suddenly and without proper thought — often used as *(be) stampeded into* • Don't let yourself *be stampeded into* doing something you don't really agree with.

stamping ground *noun, pl* ~ **grounds** [*count*] *Brit* : STOMPING GROUND

stance /'stæns, *Brit* 'stɑ:ns/ *noun, pl* **stanc•es** [*count*]

1 : a publicly stated opinion — usually singular • He changed his *stance* after new evidence was discovered. • She has maintained a neutral *stance* [=*position*] during the negotiations. • She was criticized for her antiwar *stance*.

2 : a way of standing — usually singular • She adopted a casual/relaxed *stance*. • a batting *stance* [=the way someone stands to bat in baseball]

stanch (*chiefly US*) *or* **staunch** /'stɑ:nʧ/ *verb* **stanch•es** *or* **staunch•es**; **stanched** *or* **staunched**; **stanch•ing** *or* **staunch•ing** [+ *obj*] : to stop something (especially blood) from flowing • He used a towel to try to *stanch* the (flow of) blood. • I applied pressure to *stanch* the wound. [=to stop the flow of blood from the wound]

stan•chion /'stænʧən/ *noun, pl* **-chions** [*count*] : a strong, upright pole that is used to support something

[1]stand /'stænd/ *verb* **stands**; **stood** /'stʊd/; **stand•ing**

1 [*no obj*] **a** : to be in an upright position with all of your weight on your feet • She was *standing* near the window. • He was *standing* next to me. • All of the seats on the bus were taken so we had to *stand*. • Don't just *stand* there (doing nothing)—do something! • He can *stand* using a cane. • You're *standing* on my foot. [=you're standing with your foot on top of my foot] • He was *standing* in a puddle of water. • The deer ***stood still***, listening for danger. • The soldiers ***stood (up) straight***. • We had to ***stand in line*** for over an hour. • People were just ***standing around*** [=standing without doing anything], waiting to get inside the theater. **b** : to move onto your feet from a sitting or low position • Please *stand* [=(more formally) *rise*] for the national anthem. — often + *up* • He *stood up* to greet her. • She was crouching down to look at something, but she *stood up* when she saw me.

2 a [*no obj*] : to be in an upright position • Two bowling pins were left *standing*. • A shovel and rake *stood* in the corner. • The house she grew up in is no longer *standing*. [=the house has been destroyed or knocked down; the house no longer exists] **b** [+ *obj*] : to put (something or someone) in an upright position • She *stood* the ladder against the house. — often + *up* • He *stood* the boy *up* on a chair. • Could you *stand* the picture frame back *up*?

3 [*no obj*] **a** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to be in a particular place or position • A clock *stood* on the mantelpiece. • The mansion *stands* on a hill. • A row of trees *stands* between the two houses. — often used figuratively • A single putt ***stands between*** her and the title. [=if she makes the putt, she will win the title] • Go ahead and leave. I won't ***stand in your way***. [=I won't try to stop you] • We won't let anyone or anything ***stand in the way*** of our happiness. [=prevent us from being happy] **b** : to remain in a place or position without moving or being moved • The plane *stood* on the runway ready for takeoff. • The machine *stood* idle. • rainwater *standing* in stagnant pools • Add the water and let the mixture *stand* for three minutes.

4 *not used in progressive tenses* [*no obj*] : to be a specified height • He *stands* six feet two (inches tall). • The tower *stands* over 1,000 feet high.

5 [*no obj*] : to be in a particular state or situation • Where do we *stand* financially? [=what is our financial condition?] • She ***stands accused of*** murder. [=she has been accused of murder]

6 [*no obj*] : to have a particular belief or opinion about something • Where do you *stand* on the death penalty? Do you think it should be used or not? • We still don't know where he *stands* on this issue. • They *stand* divided [=they disagree] on this issue. • She *stands* for/against the new regulations. [=she supports/opposes the new regulations] • We ask you to *stand* (with us) in support of this proposal. [=we ask you to support this proposal] • ***From where I stand***, I think we have to do it.

7 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to have a particular rank or position within a group • The team still *stands* [=*ranks*] first in the division. • She is currently *standing* in second place. • (*chiefly Brit*) He ***stands high/low*** with the voters. [=the voters have a good/bad opinion of him]

8 [*no obj*] : to continue to be at a specified number or

amount — often + *at* ▪ Interest rates *stand at* 13 percent. ▪ The home run record *stands at* 73.

9 [*no obj*] : to not be changed : to remain valid or effective ▪ The decision still *stands*. ▪ The record she set seems likely to *stand* for many years.

10 [*no obj*] : to exist at the present time ▪ You must take or leave our offer as it *stands*. ▪ That is how the situation *stands* at present. ▪ ***As things stand***, we will not be able to meet your deadline.

11 [*no obj*] : to be in a position in which you are likely to gain or lose something — followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ We *stand to make* a sizable profit from the sale. ▪ They *stand to lose* their home if they can't find a way to pay their bills.

12 [+ *obj*] **a** : to be willing or able to accept (something or someone unpleasant) without complaint — usually used with *can, can't, cannot, could*, and *couldn't* ▪ *Can* you *stand* [=*tolerate, put up with*] waiting a few more minutes? = *Can* you *stand* to wait a few more minutes? ▪ How *can* you *stand* her friends? ▪ He *couldn't stand* [=*bear, endure*] the pain. ▪ I *can* only *stand* so much of your nonsense. ▪ His behavior was ***more than I could stand***. ▪ I ***couldn't stand the thought/idea*** of having to move again. **b** — used to say that someone strongly dislikes a person or thing ▪ I ***can't stand*** him. [=I hate him] ▪ She *can't stand* cooking. = She *can't stand* to cook. ▪ They *can't stand* being apart. ▪ I *can't stand* it when people behave like that!

13 [+ *obj*] : to not be harmed by (something) : WITHSTAND ▪ I need a frying pan that can *stand* being placed in the oven. ▪ These plants can *stand* [=*endure*] very cold temperatures. ▪ His plays have ***stood the test of time***. [=his plays are still read by many people today]

14 [+ *obj*] — used to say that someone or something should have or do something or would be helped by something; usually used after *could* ▪ You look like you *could stand* some sleep. [=you look very tired; you look like you need some sleep] ▪ He *could stand* losing a few pounds. = He *could stand* to lose a few pounds. ▪ That bush *could stand* to be trimmed. [=that bush needs to be trimmed]

15 [*no obj*] *Brit* : to be a candidate in an election for a particular office — often + *for* ▪ He is *standing* [=(*US*) *running*] *for* a seat in Parliament.

16 [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : to pay for (a meal or drink) ▪ I'll *stand* a meal for you. = I'll *stand* you a meal. ▪ He *stood* drinks for the table.

(as) sure as I'm standing here *US, informal* — used to say that you believe that something is certainly true, will happen, etc. ▪ They may claim that this was a surprise to them, but *as sure as I'm standing here*, they planned it all along.

I stand corrected see ²CORRECT

make your hair stand on end see HAIR

not have a leg to stand on see ¹LEG

stand a chance see ¹CHANCE

stand alone **1** : to be in a position or situation in which you are not helped or supported by others ▪ She *stood alone* in her opposition to the proposal. **2** — used to say that someone or something is better than all others ▪ For great sound quality, this system *stands alone*.

stand aside [*phrasal verb*] **1** : move to the left or right with one or a few small steps ▪ Please *stand aside* and let me pass. **2** : to allow something to happen : to not try to stop someone from doing something ▪ I'm not going to *stand aside* [=*stand by*] and watch you ruin your life.

stand back [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to take a few steps backwards ▪ The paramedics told the crowd to *stand back*. **2** : to stop doing something or being actively involved in something for a time so that you can think about it and make decisions in a calm and reasonable way ▪ It's time to *stand back* [=*step back*] and take a long hard look at your problems.

stand behind [*phrasal verb*] ***stand behind (someone or something)*** : to support (someone or something) ▪ I'll *stand behind* you no matter what you decide to do. ▪ I'll *stand behind* your decision 100 percent.

stand by [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to stand or be present without taking any action while something is happening ▪ A group of students *stood by* and watched the boys fight. ▪ How can you *stand by* and do nothing? **2** : to be ready or available for use ▪ An ambulance was *standing by* in case anyone got seriously injured. ▪ Operators are *standing by* (to take your calls). — see also STANDBY **3** ***stand by (something)*** **a** : to support or defend (something) ▪ He said that he was *standing by* what he said earlier. ▪ I *stand by* my actions and have no regrets. **b** : to act in the way that is required by (something, such as belief or promise) ▪ She *stood by* her promise. **4** ***stand by (someone)*** : to remain loyal to (someone) : to continue to support (someone) ▪ They promised to *stand by* each other until the end. ▪ She *stood by* her husband throughout the trial.

stand down [*phrasal verb*] *Brit* **1** : to leave the witness stand in a court of law ▪ The judge thanked the witness and allowed her to *stand down*. **2** : to leave a job or official position ▪ He *stood down* [=*stepped down*] (from his office) as Lord Mayor. ▪ She *stood down* in favour of a more popular candidate.

stand firm : to refuse to change your decision, position, etc. ▪ The judge *stood firm* in her ruling.

stand for [*phrasal verb*] ***stand for (something)*** **1** : to have (a specified meaning) ▪ "FYI" *stands for* "for your information." ▪ The sign @ *stands for* "at." ▪ The color white often *stands for* [=*represents*] innocence and purity. **2** : to support (something) ▪ The political party has always *stood for* reform. **3** : to allow (something) to continue to happen — usually used in negative statements ▪ I will not *stand for* [=*put up with*] any more of this nonsense. — see also ¹STAND 15 (above)

stand guard/watch : to stand in a position and guard or watch someone or something in order to look for possible danger, threats, etc. ▪ A soldier *stood guard* by the door.

stand in [*phrasal verb*] : to take the place of (someone who is away for a time) ▪ He can't be here today, so he asked me to *stand in*. [=*fill in*] — often + *for* ▪ He asked me to *stand in for* him while he was away. — see also STAND-IN

stand on ceremony see CEREMONY

stand on your head/hands : to be in a position in which your legs and feet are straight up in the air and your weight is supported by your head or hands ▪ She can *stand on her head/hands*. [=she can do a headstand/handstand]

stand on your own two feet see ¹FOOT

stand or fall — used to say that the future or success of someone or something depends on another person or thing ▪ We (will) *stand or fall* by their decision. [=their decision will control what happens to us] ▪ Our company will *stand or fall* on our ability to make better products than our competitors. [=our success or failure depends on our ability to make better products than our competitors]

stand out [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to be easily seen or noticed ▪ His bright tie made him *stand out* (in the crowd). ▪ The trees' red leaves *stood out* against the gray sky. **2** : to be better or more important than the other people or things in a group in a way that is easily seen or noticed ▪ As a student, she *stood out* above/from the rest. ▪ Only one contestant really *stands out* [=*sticks out*] in my mind. ▪ Two facts *stand out* from her testimony. ▪ His performance really *stood out*. **3** : to stick out from a surface ▪ The hat made her ears *stand out*. — see also STANDOUT

stand out like a sore thumb see ¹SORE

stand pat see ³PAT

stand someone/something in good stead see STEAD

stand tall : to stand with your body very straight — often used figuratively in U.S. English ▪ We can *stand tall* and take pride in what we've accomplished. ▪ Despite the criticism, he has continued to *stand tall*.

stand to reason see ¹REASON

stand trial : to be on trial in a court of law ▪ He is *standing trial* for the murder of his wife.

stand up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to remain valid or acceptable when tested or examined ▪ We need evidence that will *stand up* in court. **2** ***stand (someone) up*** *informal* : to fail to meet or keep an appointment with (someone) ▪ You *stood* me *up* yesterday. ▪ I got *stood up* by my date. **3** ***stand up for (someone or something)*** : to defend (someone or something) against attack or criticism ▪ He *stood up for* his friend. ▪ You have to *stand up for* yourself. ▪ They were *standing up for* their rights. **4** ***stand up to (someone)*** : to refuse to accept bad treatment from (someone) ▪ She finally *stood up to* the girl who had been teasing her at school. **5** ***stand up to (something)*** : to remain in good condition despite (something) ▪ These boots have *stood up to* [=*withstood*] a lot of abuse. **6** ***stand up and be counted*** : to make your opinions or beliefs publicly known especially when such action may cause trouble ▪ It's time for everyone who cares about this issue to *stand up and be counted*. — see also ¹STAND 1b, 2b (above), STAND-UP

stand your ground see ¹GROUND

²stand *noun, pl* stands

1 [*count*] : a strongly held opinion about something — usually singular ▪ The senator ***took a firm/strong stand*** against

S

higher taxes. — often + *on* ▪ What is your *stand on* this issue?
2 [*count*] : a strong effort to defend yourself or oppose something ▪ The team insured their victory with an impressive goal-line *stand*. ▪ The army is preparing to ***make a stand against*** the enemy. ▪ students *making a stand against* the war
3 [*count*] : a partially enclosed structure where things are sold or displayed ▪ a hot-dog/ice-cream/vegetable *stand* ▪ He set up a *stand* [=*booth*] at the fair. ▪ We have display *stands* in many bookstores. ▪ concession *stands* ▪ a roadside *stand* — see also NEWSSTAND
4 [*count*] : a device or piece of furniture that holds an object in an upright position ▪ an umbrella *stand* ▪ a bicycle/microphone *stand* — see also NIGHTSTAND, WASHSTAND
5 [*count*] : a raised platform for people (such as performers or hunters) to stand on
6 *the stands* : the rows of seats in a stadium that people sit in when they are watching a sports event, concert, etc. ▪ The ball was hit into *the stands*. — see also GRANDSTAND
7 *the stand* : the place where a witness testifies in court : WITNESS STAND ▪ She lied while ***on the stand***. ▪ The witness was asked to ***take the stand***.
8 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a series of performances, games, etc., that are at a particular place for a period of time ▪ The magician was booked for a three-night *stand*. ▪ (*baseball*) The team has a six-game *stand* at home. = The team has a 6-game ***home stand***. — see also ONE-NIGHT STAND
9 [*count*] : a group of plants growing close together ▪ a *stand* of pines
– see also HANDSTAND, HEADSTAND, TAXI STAND

stand–alone /ˈstændəˈloʊn/ *adj* : able to operate without control from another system, company, etc. ▪ *stand-alone* computers ▪ *stand-alone* businesses

[1]stan•dard /ˈstændɚd/ *noun, pl* **-dards**
1 a : a level of quality, achievement, etc., that is considered acceptable or desirable [*count*] high/low *standards* of quality ▪ His work is not up to our *standards*. [=is not as good as we require it to be] ▪ By modern/today's *standards*, the house is just too small. ▪ industry *standards* ▪ Their *standards* are slipping. [*noncount*] His work is not ***up to standard***. = His work is ***below standard***. [=his work is not good enough] — see also DOUBLE STANDARD, STANDARD OF LIVING **b** ***standards*** [*plural*] : ideas about morally correct and acceptable behavior ▪ She has high moral *standards*. [=*principles*]
2 [*count*] : something that is very good and that is used to make judgments about the quality of other things ▪ This book is the *standard* by which all others must be judged.
3 [*count*] : a fixed official unit of measurement ▪ a *standard* of weight — see also GOLD STANDARD
4 [*count*] : a flag that is used in official ceremonies
5 [*count*] : a song that has been sung by many different artists ▪ an old *standard*

[2]standard *adj*
1 : regularly and widely used, seen, or accepted : not unusual or special ▪ a *standard* approach/treatment ▪ the *standard* features/colors ▪ a *standard* medical procedure ▪ *standard* weight ▪ a window of *standard* width ▪ The movie was a pretty *standard* romantic comedy.
2 : generally accepted and used because of high quality or excellence ▪ *standard* reference works
3 : accepted and used by most of the educated speakers and writers of a language ▪ *standard* spelling/English ▪ The word is considered *standard*. — opposite NONSTANDARD; compare SUBSTANDARD

stan•dard–bear•er /ˈstændɚdˌberɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *formal*
1 : the leader of an organization, movement, or political party
2 : someone who carries a flag or banner

stan•dard–is•sue /ˈstændɚdˌɪˌʃu:/ *adj* : of the common or usual type ▪ a *standard-issue* [=*typical*] action movie ▪ a *standard-issue* blue suit

stan•dard•ize *also Brit* **stan•dard•ise** /ˈstændɚˌdaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to change (things) so that they are similar and consistent and agree with rules about what is proper and acceptable ▪ He *standardized* procedures for the industry. ▪ *standardized* tests
– **stan•dard•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **stan•dard•i•sa•tion** /ˌstændɚdəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌstændəˌdaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

standard lamp *noun, pl* ~ **lamps** [*count*] *Brit* : FLOOR LAMP

standard of living *noun* [*singular*] : the amount of wealth, comfort, and possessions that a person or group has ▪ People in that area enjoy a high *standard of living*. [=they have a lot of money and are able to live very comfortably] ▪ raising/lowering/improving our *standard of living*

standard time *noun* [*noncount*] : the official time of a particular region or country

[1]stand•by /ˈstændˌbaɪ/ *noun, pl* **stand•bys** /ˈstændˌbaɪz/ [*count*] : a person or thing that is available especially in emergencies ▪ More police officers were sent as *standbys*. ▪ We bought an electric generator as a *standby*. — see also *stand by* at [1]STAND
on standby **1** : ready or available for immediate action or use ▪ The police officers were ***put on standby***. **2** : ready to travel if a ticket becomes available ▪ We're ***on standby*** for the next flight to Washington, D.C.

[2]standby *adj, always used before a noun* : relating to or traveling by an airline service in which the passenger must wait for an available seat ▪ *standby* tickets/passengers — see also *stand by* at [1]STAND

stand•ee /stænˈdi:/ *noun, pl* **-ees** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a person who is standing when other people are sitting ▪ The audience of 3,000 included several hundred *standees*.

stand–in /ˈstændˌɪn/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*] : a person or thing that takes the place of someone or something else for a period of time ▪ He was the boss's *stand-in* during her illness. — see also *stand in* at [1]STAND

[1]stand•ing /ˈstændɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 a : used in or for standing ▪ Start the exercise in a *standing* position. **b** : done while in a standing position ▪ a *standing* jump
2 : not flowing : STAGNANT ▪ *standing* water
3 : remaining at the same level or amount until canceled ▪ The *standing* offer for the computer system is $1,499.
4 : continuing to exist or be used for an unlimited period of time : PERMANENT ▪ *standing* armies/committees ▪ She has a *standing* invitation to use the university's research laboratory. ▪ a *standing* tradition ▪ It's a ***standing joke*** at the office. [=it's something that often happens or is said or done and that the people in the office think is funny] — see also FREE-STANDING, LONG-STANDING

[2]standing *noun, pl* **-ings**
1 [*count*] : the position or rank of someone in a group ▪ He's trying to improve his *standing* with the voters. [=trying to get the voters to rank him more highly] ▪ a lawyer of high *standing* ▪ (*chiefly US*) a member in/of good *standing* [=*status*]
2 *standings* [*plural*] *US, sports* : a list that shows the positions of the players or teams that are competing against each other ▪ They've won five games in a row and are starting to move up in the *standings*. ▪ They're in first place in the current *standings*.
3 [*noncount*] : length of existence : DURATION ▪ a marriage of many years' *standing*

standing order *noun, pl* ~ **-ders** [*count, noncount*] : an order or procedure that continues to be followed until it is changed or canceled ▪ She placed a *standing order* for fresh flowers every week. ▪ They were ***on standing orders*** never to leave the prisoner unattended.

standing ovation *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] : an occurrence in which the people at a play, speech, sporting event, etc., stand up and applaud to show enthusiastic approval or appreciation ▪ The crowd gave her a *standing ovation*. — called also (*US, informal*) *standing O*

standing room *noun* [*noncount*] : space available for people to stand after all seats are filled ▪ There was ***standing room only*** at the concert. [=all the seats for the concert had been sold]

stand•off /ˈstændˌɑ:f/ *noun, pl* **-offs** [*count*] : an argument, contest, etc., in which there is no winner ▪ The two governments are currently in a *standoff* over who has rights to the land. ▪ They played to a 3–3 *standoff*. [=*tie*]

stand•off•ish /ˌstændˈɑ:fɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not friendly toward other people ▪ She tends to be a bit *standoffish* with strangers.

stand•out /ˈstændˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] *US* : a person or thing that is better or more important than the others in a group ▪ She is a *standout* among the available candidates. ▪ All the cameras we tested were good, but there was no real *standout*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *standout* candidate/performance — see also *stand out* at [1]STAND

stand•point /ˈstændˌpoɪnt/ *noun, pl* **-points** [*count*] : a way in which something is thought about or considered

: POINT OF VIEW • From an economic *standpoint*, the policy is sound.

stand·still /'stænd,stɪl/ *noun* [*singular*] : a state in which all activity or motion is stopped • Production is at a *standstill*. [=production has stopped completely] • The accident brought traffic to a *standstill*.

[1]stand–up /'stænd,ʌp/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 a : done by a performer who is standing alone on a stage • *stand-up* comedy • a *stand-up* act/routine **b** : performing stand-up comedy • a *stand-up* comedian/comic

2 : done in or requiring a standing position • a *stand-up* lunch/bar

3 : designed to stand upright • a *stand-up* collar

4 *US, informal* : able to be trusted and respected : very good, loyal, etc. • His friends say he's a real *stand-up* (kind of) guy.

5 *Brit* : involving very angry or violent behavior • a *stand-up* fight/argument — see also *stand up* at [1]STAND

[2]stand–up *noun, pl* **-ups**

1 [*noncount*] : stand-up comedy • I've always wanted to try *stand-up*.

2 [*count*] : a performer who does stand-up comedy : a stand-up comedian • a talented *stand-up*

stank *past tense of* [1]STINK

stan·za /'stænzə/ *noun, pl* **-zas** [*count*] : a group of lines in a poem : VERSE

staph /'stæf/ *noun* [*nouncount*] *medical* : a group of bacteria that cause many common illnesses (such as skin infections and food poisoning) • a resistant strain of *staph* • a *staph* infection

[1]sta·ple /'steɪpəl/ *noun, pl* **sta·ples** [*count*] : a piece of metal or wire in the shape of a U that is used for attaching things: such as **a** : a short, thin wire that goes through papers and is bent over at the ends to hold the papers together or that goes through a piece of paper, a photograph, etc., to attach it to a surface • Please fasten the pages (together) with paper clips rather than *staples*. • The notice was attached to the wall with *staples*. — see also STAPLER **b** : a piece of metal or thick wire that is pushed into a surface to hold or attach something (such as rope or wire) — see also STAPLE GUN – compare [3]STAPLE

[2]staple *verb* **staples**; **sta·pled**; **sta·pling** [+ *obj*] : to attach (something) with staples • I *stapled* the pages in the upper left corner. — often + *to* or *together* • I *stapled* the check *to* the form. • The notice had been *stapled to* the wall. • I *stapled* the pages *together*.

[3]staple *noun, pl* **staples** [*count*]

1 : an important food that is eaten very often • I need to buy some *staples*, like bread and milk. • Rice is the *staple* of their diet.

2 : the main product of a country, area, company, etc. • Technology has replaced steel as the region's *staple*.

3 : something that is used widely and often • Rock music was a *staple* when I was growing up. — often + *of* • His writings are a *staple of* [=a basic part of] economic theory. – compare [1]STAPLE

[4]staple *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : used, needed, or enjoyed constantly by many people • such *staple* items as flour and sugar • That's a *staple* plot in mystery novels. — see also STAPLE DIET

2 : produced regularly or in large quantities • *staple* crops like wheat, rice, or sugarcane

staple diet *noun* [*singular*] : the food or foods that a person or animal eats most often • Environmental changes are depriving the birds of the insects that form their *staple diet*. — often used figuratively • I grew up on a *staple diet* of cartoons and comic books.

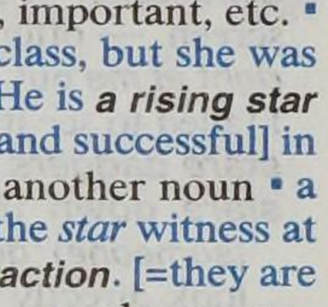
staple gun *noun, pl* ~ **guns** [*count*] : a tool used for putting large staples into walls, wood, etc.

sta·pler /'steɪplɚ/ *noun, pl* **-plers** [*count*] : a device that you use to put staples into something (such as paper) — see picture at OFFICE

[1]star /'stɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **stars** [*count*]

1 : any one of the objects in space that are made of burning gas and that look like points of light in the night sky • They gazed up at the *stars*. • There are billions of *stars* in the universe. • bright *star* clusters • a distant *star* system • The ***stars are out*** [=are not hidden by clouds] tonight. • I'm glad we didn't use the tent. It's so much nicer to sleep outside ***under the stars***. — see also EVENING STAR, MORNING STAR, NORTH STAR, POLE STAR, SHOOTING STAR

2 : a star or planet especially in a certain position that is believed in astrology to influence people's lives • I was born under a lucky *star*. [=I was born lucky] — usually plural • (*Brit*) Did you read your *stars* [=*horoscope*] today? • I guess romance just isn't ***in the stars*** for me right now. [=romance isn't going to happen for me right now] • You can ***thank your lucky stars*** [=you are lucky] that no one was hurt. — see also STAR-CROSSED



star

3 a : something (such as a symbol or medal) with five or more points that represents or suggests a star • The teacher gives out gold *stars* [=gold stickers in the shape of stars] for good behavior. • I put *stars* [=*asterisks*] next to the most important items in the list. — see also BRONZE STAR, SILVER STAR, STARS AND STRIPES **b** : a symbol that is shaped like a star and that is used as part of a rating system to show how good something is • The restaurant was awarded four *stars* for excellence. • Critics give the movie three *stars*. — see also FIVE-STAR, FOUR-STAR

4 a : the most important and well-known performer in a movie, play, etc. • She's the ***star of the show***. **b** : an extremely famous and successful performer or athlete • His performance in that film made him a *star*. • She always dreamed of being a movie *star*. • baseball/football/track *stars* • a rock/pop *star* • He's made a name for himself as the hair stylist ***to the stars***. [=for famous people] — often used before another noun • *star* athletes • the ***star system*** [=the practice of using famous actors in movies, etc., in order to attract a bigger audience] • The producers are looking for someone with ***star quality***. [=the talent, looks, etc., needed to become a star] **c** : a person who is very successful, important, etc. • There were many talented students in the class, but she was clearly the *star*. [=the most talented one] • He is ***a rising star*** [=a person who is becoming more popular and successful] in the world of politics. — often used before another noun • a *star* student • our *star* trumpeter • She was the *star* witness at the trial. • The pandas are the zoo's ***star attraction***. [=they are the most popular attraction at the zoo] — see also MEGASTAR, SUPERSTAR

5 *Brit, informal* : someone who is good or helpful • "Thank you. You're a *star*!"

(have) stars in your eyes ✧ If you *have stars in your eyes* you are very hopeful and excited about something and think that it will be much better or more enjoyable than it actually is. • When she left home she *had stars in her eyes*.

promise (someone) the stars see [2]PROMISE

reach for the stars : to try to do something that is very difficult and impressive • She always encouraged her children to *reach for the stars*.

see stars : to see flashes of light usually because you have been hit on the head • I bumped into the wall so hard that I *saw stars*.

– **star·less** /'stɑɚləs/ *adj* • a cloudy, *starless* sky – **star·like** /'stɑɚ,laɪk/ *adj* • a *starlike* pattern • white *starlike* flowers

[2]star *verb* **stars**; **starred**; **star·ring**

1 a [*no obj*] : to play the most important role in a movie, play, etc. — usually + *in* • an actor who has *starred in* many films • The couple will *star* together *in* a new play. • She had the ***starring role*** [=she was the star] *in* her last three films. **b** [+ *obj*] : to have (someone) as the most important performer • The new television series *stars* a famous movie actress. • a concert *starring* some of the biggest names in the business

2 [*no obj*] : to perform extremely well • He *starred* in both baseball and football when he was in college. • She *starred* for/with the basketball team last year.

3 [+ *obj*] : to mark (something) with a star or other symbol • This restaurant is *starred* in the guidebook.

– see also ILL-STARRED

star anise *noun* [*noncount*] : a small brown star-shaped fruit that is dried and used as a spice especially in Chinese cooking

star·board /'stɑɚbɚd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the side of a ship or aircraft that is on the right when you are looking toward the front • The ship turned ***to starboard***. — compare PORT – **starboard** *adj* • the *starboard* side/engine

star·burst /'stɑɚ,bɚst/ *noun, pl* **-bursts** [*count*] : something (such as a pattern) that looks like rays of light spreading out from a center • a *starburst* of color • a *starburst* design

[1]starch /'stɑɚʧ/ *noun, pl* **starch·es**

1 : a substance that is found in certain foods (such as bread, rice, and potatoes) [*noncount*] the *starch* in pasta • They tried to limit *starch* [=starchy foods] in their diet. [*count*]

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The body breaks down *starches* [=*carbohydrates*] into sugars. — see also CORNSTARCH

2 [*noncount*] : a powder or liquid that contains starch and is used to make clothing stiff

take the starch out of *US, informal + old-fashioned* : to make (someone) weak or unsure : to cause (someone) to lose energy or confidence ▪ When he lost the second game, it seemed to *take the starch out of* him.

²starch *verb* **starches**; **starched**; **starch•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (clothing) stiff by using starch ▪ He *starches* the collars of his shirts. ▪ a *starched* collar ▪ a *starched* white uniform

starchy /'stɑɚʧi/ *adj* **starch•i•er**; **-est**

1 : containing, consisting of, or resembling starch ▪ a *starchy* diet ▪ *starchy* foods

2 : very formal and serious in behavior ▪ a *starchy* traditionalist

– starch•i•ness /'stɑɚʧinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

star–crossed /'stɑɚˌkrɑ:st/ *adj* : not lucky : having bad luck ▪ *star-crossed* lovers

star•dom /'stɑɚdəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of being a very famous performer ▪ an actress who has achieved movie *stardom* ▪ When he went to Hollywood he had dreams of *stardom*. [=dreams of becoming a star] ▪ the path to *stardom*

¹stare /'steɚ/ *verb* **stares**; **stared**; **star•ing** [*no obj*] : to look at someone or something for a long time often with your eyes wide open ▪ She was *staring* straight ahead. = Her eyes were *staring* straight ahead. ▪ She *stared* out the window. ▪ His mother told him not to *stare*. — often + *at* ▪ We just sat and *stared at* each other. ▪ They *stared* in disbelief *at* the accident scene. ▪ I spend a lot of my time *staring at* a computer screen. — often used figuratively ▪ The solution was ***staring right at me*** but I didn't see it. [=the solution was obvious but I failed to see it] ***synonyms*** see ¹GAZE

stare daggers (at someone) see DAGGER

stare down (*US*) *or Brit* ***stare out*** [*phrasal verb*] ***stare (someone) down/out*** *or* ***stare down/out (someone)*** : to look directly into someone's eyes without fear until he or she becomes uncomfortable and looks away ▪ The batter tried to *stare down* the pitcher. — often used figuratively ▪ They had *stared down* danger more than once.

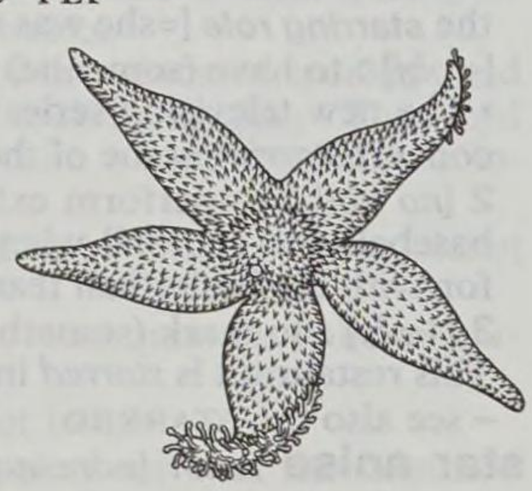
stare (off) into space see ¹SPACE

stare (someone) in the face *also chiefly US* ***stare (someone) in the eye(s)*** : to look directly into the eyes of (someone) ▪ She *stared me in the face* and told me to leave. — usually used figuratively ▪ The solution was *staring me in the face*. [=the solution was obvious but I failed to see it] ▪ Failure was *staring him in the face*. [=he was very close to failing; he was almost certain to fail] ▪ They *stared death in the face/eye* [=they came very close to death; they did something that was very dangerous and that could have caused their death] and didn't flinch.

²stare *noun, pl* **stares** [*count*] : the act of looking directly at someone or something for a long time : the act of staring ▪ They looked at me with accusing *stares*. ▪ I asked him about it, but my question only drew/got a ***blank stare***. [=he looked at me in a way that showed he did not understand or know the answer to my question]

fix (someone) with a stare see ¹FIX

star•fish /'stɑɚˌfɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **-fish** *also* **-fish•es** [*count*] : a sea animal that has five arms and that looks like a star



starfish

star•gaz•er /'stɑɚˌgeɪzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who looks at the stars : a person who studies astronomy or astrology

star•gaz•ing /'stɑɚˌgeɪzɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or practice of looking at or studying the stars ▪ We left the city after dark to do some *stargazing*.

¹stark /'stɑɚk/ *adj* **stark•er**; **-est**

1 : having a very plain and often cold or empty appearance ▪ a *stark* white room ▪ a *stark* landscape ▪ a *stark* winter day ▪ The room was decorated with *stark* simplicity.

2 : unpleasant and difficult to accept or experience ▪ the *stark* reality of death ▪ She gave the facts of the case in *stark* [=*harsh*] and sobering detail. ▪ This tragedy serves as a *stark* reminder of the dangers of drunk driving.

3 : very obvious : very plain and easily seen ▪ There is a *stark* difference between them. ▪ His criticism of the movie stands in *stark* contrast to the praise it has received from others.

– stark•ly *adv* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *starkly* modern building

– stark•ness *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *starkness* of black and white

²stark *adv* : completely or fully ▪ He was standing there ***stark naked***. [=he was wearing no clothes at all] ▪ That noise is going to drive me ***stark raving mad***. = (*Brit*) That noise is going to drive me ***stark staring mad***. [=completely insane]

stark•ers /'stɑɚkɚz/ *adj, chiefly Brit, informal* : completely naked ▪ He was standing there *starkers*.

star•let /'stɑɚlət/ *noun, pl* **-lets** [*count*] : a young movie actress ▪ She was a *starlet* in the 1940s.

star•light /'stɑɚˌlaɪt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the light produced by stars ▪ We had to find our way by *starlight*.

star•ling /'stɑɚlɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-lings** [*count*] : a dark brown or black bird that is common in Europe and the U.S. — see color picture on page C9

star•lit /'stɑɚˌlɪt/ *adj* : lighted by the stars ▪ We slept outdoors under a *starlit* sky.

Star of Da•vid /-'deɪvəd/ *noun, pl* **Stars of David** [*count*] : a six-pointed star that is used as a symbol of Judaism and of Israel — usually singular

star•ry /'stɑri/ *adj* **star•ri•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : full of stars ▪ the *starry* heavens ▪ a *starry* sky

2 : having a shape like a star ▪ *starry* flowers

3 : including many famous actors, athletes, etc. ▪ a *starry* [=*star-studded*] cast

4 : shining brightly ▪ She gazed at him with *starry* eyes.

star•ry–eyed /'stɑriˌaɪd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having hopes and desires that are not realistic or practical ▪ *starry-eyed* lovers ▪ She was too *starry-eyed* about her future.

Stars and Stripes *noun*

the Stars and Stripes : the flag of the United States

star sign *noun, pl* **~ signs** [*count*] : one of the 12 symbols of the zodiac ▪ What is your *star sign*? — called also *sign*

star•struck /'stɑɚˌstrʌk/ *adj* : feeling or showing great interest in and admiration for famous people ▪ *starstruck* fans ▪ She stared at him in *starstruck* awe. ▪ I know she's famous, but try not to act *starstruck* when you meet her.

star–stud•ded /'stɑɚˌstʌdəd/ *adj* : having many famous actors, athletes, etc. ▪ The play featured a *star-studded* cast.

¹start /'stɑɚt/ *verb* **starts**; **start•ed**; **start•ing**

1 a : to do the first part of something : to begin doing something [+ *obj*] They *started* clearing land for the new housing development. ▪ He *started* the speech (out) with a joke. ▪ He *started* studying music at the age of five. ▪ She saw her divorce as an opportunity to *start* a new life. = She saw her divorce as an opportunity to *start* life anew/afresh/over. [*no obj*] As soon as you're ready to play, we'll *start*. ▪ Let's *start* with some warm-up exercises. ▪ He deleted what he wrote and *started* fresh/again/over. ▪ Nothing like this had ever been done before, so we had to ***start from scratch***. [=we had to begin from a point at which nothing had been done yet] ▪ Olympic athletes ***start young*** and train hard. ▪ The tire tracks at the scene of the crime were a ***starting point*** for investigators. [=investigators used the tire tracks to start their investigation] **b** [+ *obj*] : to begin to work on, produce, or give attention to (something) ▪ I *started* the quilt last month. ▪ Have you *started* your book report? ▪ Did you *start* (reading) the book yet? **c** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to begin ▪ We *started* the meeting at 6:30. : to cause (something) to begin in a specified way ▪ She started the meeting with a brief review of the previous meeting. ▪ He *starts* every day with a cup of coffee. **d** [+ *obj*] : to begin to have a feeling, thought, etc. — usually followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ She *started to feel* dizzy soon after the accident. ▪ I'm *starting to think* the oversight was intentional. — sometimes + *-ing verb* ▪ She *started feeling* dizzy soon after the accident. ▪ He *started having* chest pains. **e** : to begin working at a new job or going to school [+ *obj*] I *start* my new job next Monday. ▪ When does she *start* school? [*no obj*] I just got a new job. I *start* next week.

2 a : to begin to happen, to exist, to be done, etc. [*no obj*] The fire *started* in the cellar. ▪ The rain will *start* soon and should end sometime this evening. ▪ The game *started* late. ▪ *Starting* next week, all employees will be required to wear ID tags. ▪ The movie just *started*. ▪ What is the movie's *starting* time? ▪ When does school *start*? ▪ The game was just *starting* when it began to rain. [+ *obj*] — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ It *started to rain*. ▪ The leaves are *starting to change* colors. — often + *-ing verb* ▪ It *started raining*. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to exist or happen ▪ He *started* a scholarship

fund. ▪ The tradition was *started* many years ago. ▪ "Stop fighting, you two!" "He *started* it." [=he did something to cause the fight] ▪ She's always *starting* arguments. ▪ They want to ***start a family*** [=begin to have children] soon.

3 a [*no obj*] : to begin to function or operate ▪ The car/engine won't *start*. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to begin to function or operate ▪ She *started* the car and drove away.

4 [+ *obj*] : to begin the use of (something) ▪ You'll have to *start* a new roll of tape. This one's empty.

5 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] **a** : to have a particular beginning : to begin at a specified place or in a specified way ▪ The English alphabet *starts* with A and ends with Z. ▪ The first word in a sentence should *start* with a capital letter. ▪ The parade *starts* at the intersection of First and Main. ▪ The path/trail *starts* here and ends at the lake. **b** : to have a specified quality, identity, job, etc., at the beginning — often + *as* ▪ What *started* (off) *as* a simple idea has become an expensive and complicated project. ▪ She *started* (out) *as* a sales assistant but is now the marketing director.

6 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to begin to move toward a particular place or in a particular direction ▪ We'll *start* for home soon. ▪ We should *start* back to the camp before it gets dark. ▪ He *started* toward the door. ▪ The dog *started* after the squirrel.

7 [*no obj*] — used to indicate the beginning of a range, series, etc.; often + *at* ▪ The rates *start at* $10 per hour. ▪ At his company, salaries *start at* around $30,000. [=$30,000 is the lowest salary] ▪ Interest rates for CDs were *starting at* 3.9 percent. ▪ What is the ***starting salary*** for the job? [=what is the salary people are paid when they start the job?] ▪ The ***starting price*** [=the basic price when nothing extra has been added] for the car is $18,000.

8 a : to participate in a game or contest at its beginning [*no obj*] Despite his injury, he'll *start* in center field today. ▪ The manager removed the ***starting pitcher*** [=the pitcher who was playing at the beginning of the game] in the third inning. ▪ He's in the ***starting lineup***. [=a list of the players who will be playing when the game begins] — often + *for* ▪ Who's *starting for* the home team? [+ *obj*] He'll *start* today's game in center field. ▪ a pitcher who has *started* five games so far this year ▪ She *started* the race but wasn't able to finish. **b** [+ *obj*] : to put (someone or something) into a game or contest at its beginning ▪ The coach is *starting* him at quarterback for the next game. ▪ He plans to *start* [=*enter*] the horse in only a few races this year.

9 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cause (someone) to begin doing something ▪ Her questions *started* me thinking. : to cause (someone) to begin a job or activity in a particular way, at a particular level, etc. ▪ The company *started* him at the same salary he had been getting at his previous job. **b** : to cause (someone) to begin talking about a particular subject ▪ "What do you think of the new boss?" "***Don't get me started***. I can't stand him." — often + *on* ▪ ***Don't get him started on*** the war: he'll never stop!

10 [*no obj*] : to move suddenly and quickly because you are surprised or frightened ▪ The loud noise made him *start*. [=*jump*] ▪ The horse *started* when the shot rang out.

11 [*no obj*] *informal* : to begin complaining, arguing, etc. ▪ He ***started with me***, so I hit him. ▪ ***Don't (you) start (with me)***. I made a mistake—that's the end of it.

get started : to begin doing or working on something ▪ You (had) better *get started* if you want to finish on time. ▪ newlyweds who are just *getting started* [=who are just starting their lives together]

start in [*phrasal verb*] *chiefly US, informal* **1** : to start doing a particular activity or action ▪ He took a break from painting to eat lunch, then *started in* again. — often + *on* ▪ She *started in on* another book. **2 *start in on (someone)*** : to criticize (someone) about something ▪ My dad *started in on* me about not having a job.

start off [*phrasal verb*] **1 *start off or start (something) off or start off (something)*** : to start or cause (something) to start in a specified way ▪ He *started off* by introducing himself. ▪ She *started off* (her run) at a slow jog. ▪ The performance *started off* badly. — often + *with* ▪ I *started off* my speech *with* a joke. ▪ We *started off* the meal *with* shrimp cocktails. ▪ The team *started* the season *off with* a 10-game winning streak. **2** : to have a specified quality, identity, job, etc., at the start ▪ She *started off* as a sales assistant but is now the marketing director. **3** : to begin an important period in your life or career ▪ The house is perfect for a couple just *starting off*. **4** : to begin to move toward a particular place or in a particular direction ▪ She ate breakfast before *starting off* for work. **5 *start (someone) off or start off (someone)*** : to cause (someone) to begin doing a particular activity or action ▪ He *started* his daughter *off* on the piano. ▪ The game-show host *started* her *off* with some easy questions.

start on [*phrasal verb*] **1 *start on (something)*** : to begin doing (something) ▪ Did you *start on* your homework yet? **2 *start (someone) on (something)*** : to cause (someone) to start doing or using (something) ▪ The doctor *started* him *on* [=made him start taking] antibiotics. ▪ When should we *start* the baby *on* solid food? [=start feeding the baby solid food] **3 *start on at (someone)*** *chiefly Brit, informal* : to criticize (someone) about something ▪ Don't *start on at* me again about spending money!

start out [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to begin in a specified way ▪ He *started out* by introducing himself. ▪ She *started out* at a slow jog. ▪ The day *started out* hot and humid. ▪ The story *started out* good, but I didn't like the ending. ▪ She *started out* wanting to be a doctor but became a midwife instead. — often + *with* ▪ I *started out with* $100 but I have only $10 left. ▪ Let's *start out with* some warm-up exercises. **2** : to have a specified quality, identity, job, etc., at the start ▪ What *started out* as a simple idea has become an expensive and complicated project. ▪ He *started out* in teaching before becoming a lawyer. **3** : to begin an important period in your life or career ▪ The couple is just *starting out*. ▪ She *started out* on a career in teaching. **4** : to begin to travel ▪ They *started out* in the early morning. **5** : to have a particular place as a beginning point ▪ The parade *starts out* at the intersection of First and Main.

start over [*phrasal verb*] *chiefly US* **1 *start over or start (something) over*** : to begin doing something again ▪ I'm sorry, but you'll have to *start over*. = I'm sorry, but you'll have to ***start (all) over again***. ▪ She saw her divorce as an opportunity to *start* (her life) *over*. **2** : to begin to happen again ▪ In the spring, the eggs hatch, and the cycle *starts over*. = The cycle ***starts (all) over again***.

start something *also* ***start anything*** *informal* : to do something that causes trouble ▪ She is always trying to *start something*. ▪ Don't *start anything*.

start the ball rolling see [1]BALL

start up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to begin to happen or exist ▪ New businesses are *starting up* all over the state. ▪ The rain *started up* again. **2 *start up or start (something) up or start up (something)*** : to begin to function or to make (something) begin to function ▪ The car/engine won't *start up*. ▪ He *started* the lawn mower *up*.

to start with **1** — used to introduce a statement that is the first in a series of statements ▪ "I don't think we should buy the car." "Why not?" "*To start with*, I'm not sure we can afford it." **2** : at the beginning : before the current time or situation ▪ She has lost a lot of weight, and she wasn't very heavy *to start with*. ▪ He didn't like his job *to start with* [=*at first, initially*], but he got used to it eventually.

[2]start *noun, pl* **starts**

1 [*count*] : the time at which something begins — usually singular ▪ At the season's *start*, the team didn't play well. ▪ It was clear ***from the (very) start*** that she would eventually succeed. ▪ The game was close ***from start to finish***. — often + *of* ▪ The *start of* the race was delayed.

2 [*count*] : the first part of an activity, development, event, etc. — usually singular ▪ The restaurant is off to a promising/shaky *start*. ▪ His parents gave him a good *start* in life. ▪ Their marriage ***got off to a good/bad start***. [=was good/bad at the beginning] — often + *of* ▪ We missed the *start of* the game. ▪ Their discovery could be the *start of* something big. — see also FLYING START, RUNNING START, *a slow start* at [1]SLOW

3 [*count*] : the first opportunity to begin a career — usually singular ▪ the company where he got his *start* [=where he started his career] — often + *in* ▪ She got her *start in* an off-Broadway play. ▪ She gave him his *start in* the business.

4 [*count*] : the act of starting something ▪ ***Housing starts*** [=the number of new houses that people started to build] declined in September. — usually singular ▪ Despite his late *start*, he managed to take the lead in the race. ▪ She got an early *start* working in the garden the next morning. ▪ We didn't get as much done as we'd hoped, but it's a *start*. ▪ Her divorce gave her an opportunity to ***make a fresh/new start***. [=to start a new life] ▪ He ***made a start on*** dinner. [=he started dinner] — see also FALSE START

5 [*singular*] : a brief, sudden action or movement ▪ She ***gave a start*** [=*started, jumped*] when he tapped her on the shoulder. ▪ He woke ***with a start***.

S

6 ***the start*** : the place where a race begins ▪ The runners lined up at *the start*.

7 [*count*] *sports* **a** : a game in which someone (such as a baseball pitcher) is playing at the beginning ▪ He's undefeated in six *starts* this year. [=he has started six games and has won them all] ▪ He pitched poorly in his last *start*. **b** : a race in which a person, horse, etc., participates as a competitor ▪ The horse has had 10 *starts* this season.

8 [*count*] : HEAD START

by/in fits and starts see [4]FIT

for a start — used to introduce a statement that is the first in a series of statements ▪ "What was the restaurant like?" "Well, *for a start* [=*for starters*], the food was fantastic."

[1]start•er /'stɑɚtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a player, horse, etc., that is in a game or race at its beginning ▪ The team is playing only five regular *starters*.

2 : someone who gives the signal for a race to start

3 : a device that is used for starting an engine ▪ The car's *starter* needs to be replaced.

4 : someone or something that starts an activity, process, etc. ▪ He was a late *starter* in school. [=he started school later than most children] ▪ The question was a good conversation *starter*. ▪ He bought a ***starter kit*** for building a model airplane. — see also SELF-STARTER

5 *chiefly Brit* : APPETIZER

for starters — used to introduce a statement that is the first in a series of statements ▪ "Why don't you like him?" "Well, *for starters* [=*first of all*], he was rude to my parents."

[2]starter *adj, always used before a noun* — used to describe something small or basic that you get when you are doing something for the first time ▪ She bought a *starter* piano for her daughter. ▪ This small house would make a great ***starter home/house*** [=a first home] for a young couple.

starting block *noun, pl* ~ **blocks** [*count*] : a device that has two blocks for runners to put their feet on and push against at the start of a race — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He came charging out of the *starting blocks* to take an early lead in the campaign.

starting gate *noun, pl* ~ **gates** [*count*] : a gate or set of gates that opens at the start of a horse or dog race to let the animals begin racing

starting gun *noun, pl* ~ **guns** [*count*] : a special gun used to signal the beginning of a race ▪ The official fired the *starting gun* and the runners were off.; *also* : the signal made by a starting gun ▪ As soon as she heard the *starting gun*, she took off running.

starting line *noun, pl* ~ **lines** [*count*] : a line that marks the beginning of a race

star•tle /'stɑɚtl̩/ *verb* **star•tles**; **star•tled**; **star•tling**

1 [+ *obj*] : to surprise or frighten (someone) suddenly and usually not seriously ▪ The noise *startled* me. ▪ I'm sorry that I *startled* you. — often used as *(be) startled* ▪ I *was startled* by the noise. ▪ He *was startled* to discover he knew the answer. ▪ She *was startled* into wakefulness by a loud noise.

2 [*no obj*] : to move or jump suddenly because something surprises you or frightens you ▪ The cat *startles* easily.

star•tling /'stɑɚtlɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very surprising, shocking, or frightening ▪ *Startling* new evidence/facts came to light during the trial. ▪ He made a *startling* discovery/revelation. ▪ It is a city of *startling* contrasts.

– **star•tling•ly** *adv* ▪ *startlingly* loud noises ▪ The prediction was *startlingly* accurate.

start–up /'stɑɚt,ʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] : a new business ▪ They were looking for money to fund/launch a *start-up*. — often used before another noun ▪ small *start-up* businesses/companies ▪ *start-up* funds/money

star turn *noun, pl* ~ **turns** [*count*]

1 : a performance or role in a movie, play, etc., that is done by a star or that makes someone become a star ▪ She was nominated for an Oscar for her *star turn* as a single mother raising three children alone. ▪ do a *star turn*

2 *Brit* : the most important or successful person or thing in a group (such a sports team) : STAR ▪ She was the *star turn* in yesterday's game.

star•va•tion /stɑɚ'veɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : suffering or death caused by having nothing to eat or not enough to eat : the condition of someone who is starving ▪ The famine brought mass *starvation*. ▪ Millions of people face *starvation* every day. ▪ They died from/of *starvation*.

starvation diet *noun, pl* ~ **diets** [*count*] : a diet that does not provide a person with enough food to be healthy

starvation wages *noun* [*plural*] : money paid to workers that is not enough to pay for the things (such as food and shelter) that are needed to live

starve /'stɑɚv/ *verb* **starves**; **starved**; **starv•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to suffer or die from lack of food : to suffer extreme hunger ▪ Without food they would *starve*. ▪ They left him to *starve* out in the desert. ▪ Those people are *starving*. ▪ providing food for *starving* children ▪ The famine caused many to ***starve to death***. [=to die from lack of food]

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (a person or animal) to suffer or die because of lack of food ▪ They tried to *starve* their enemies into submission. ▪ It was clear that the dog had been *starved*. ▪ You don't have to *starve* yourself to lose weight.

3 a [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to want or need something very much — usually used as *(be) starving for* ▪ Those children *are starving for* attention. [=they badly need to be given more attention] ▪ After being alone for so long, I *was starving for* conversation. ▪ a government program that *is starving for* funds **b** [+ *obj*] : to not give (someone or something) enough of something that is wanted or needed ▪ Those children have been ***starved of*** attention. [=they have not been given enough attention] ▪ (*chiefly US*) Those children are ***starved for*** attention. [=they badly need to be given more attention] — sometimes used in combination ▪ a cash-*starved* company

be starving *or* ***be starved*** *chiefly US, informal* : to be very hungry ▪ I skipped lunch, so by dinnertime I *was starving*. ▪ When are we eating? *I'm starved*!

[1]stash /'stæʃ/ *verb* **stash•es**; **stashed**; **stash•ing** [+ *obj*] *informal* : to put (something) in a secret or hidden place ▪ The police found where he had *stashed* the drugs. ▪ The gifts were *stashed* in the closet. ▪ He *stashed* the equipment under the bed. ▪ We wondered what they had *stashed* in their backpacks. — often + *away* ▪ She kept her money *stashed* safely *away*. ▪ The papers were *stashed away* in a box.

[2]stash *noun, pl* **stashes** [*count*] *informal* : an amount of something that is stored or hidden ▪ a drug *stash* — often + *of* ▪ a *stash of* guns ▪ She kept a *stash of* money for emergencies. ▪ We found her *stash of* candy.

sta•sis /'steɪsəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : a state or condition in which things do not change, move, or progress ▪ The country is in economic *stasis*. ▪ His art was characterized by bursts of creativity followed by long periods of *stasis*.

[1]stat /'stæt/ *noun, pl* **stats** [*count*] *US, informal* : STATISTIC ▪ an interesting *stat* ▪ baseball *stats* ▪ a ***stat sheet*** [=a list of statistics]

[2]stat *adv* : without delay : IMMEDIATELY — used chiefly in medicine ▪ Get this patient to the operating room, *stat*! ✧ *Stat* comes from the Latin word *statim*, which means "immediately."

[1]state /'steɪt/ *noun, pl* **states**

1 [*count*] **a** : a way of living or existing ▪ Happiness is the *state* or condition of being happy. ▪ We must keep our armed forces in a constant *state* of readiness. ▪ She meditates to achieve a higher ***state of being***. **b** : the overall physical condition of something : the ability of something to be used, enjoyed, etc. ▪ The museum restored the painting to its original *state*. [=*condition*] ▪ The building is in such a sorry *state* that it's hardly worth fixing. ▪ The car is in a ***good/bad state of repair***. [=the car is in good/bad condition] **c** : the things that affect the way you think or feel : your physical or mental condition ▪ her mental/emotional *state* ▪ By the time I arrived, he was in quite a *state*. [=he was very upset, worried, angry, etc.] — often + *of* ▪ They were in a *state of* shock/confusion. [=they were shocked/confused] ▪ I'm worried about the *state of* her health. ▪ The drug creates an altered *state of* consciousness. ▪ an unhappy ***state of mind*** ▪ She was ***in no (fit) state*** [=*in no condition*] to drive. [=she was too sick, drunk, etc., to drive] **d** : the things that affect the way something is or happens : the characteristics of a situation ▪ What is the company's financial *state*? [=*condition*] — often + *of* ▪ the current/present *state of* the economy ▪ Her life is in a *state of* complete chaos. ▪ The empire fell into a ***state of decline***. ▪ The country is in a ***state of war***. [=the country is at war] ▪ Tonight the President will give the ***State of the Union address***. [=an annual speech given to the U.S. Congress by the President to report on the state of the country] — see also STATE-OF-THE-ART, *state of emergency* at EMERGENCY

2 [*count*] : the fact of being a liquid, solid, or gas ▪ water in a gaseous *state* ▪ the solid and liquid *states*

3 [*count*] **a** : a politically organized group of people usually occupying a definite territory : NATION ▪ African/Arabic *states* ▪ the member *states* of the United Nations Security Council — see also CITY-STATE, NATION-STATE **b** : a par-

ticular kind of government or politically organized society — see also POLICE STATE, SLAVE STATE, WELFARE STATE
4 a [*count*] : a region of a country that is controlled by the country's central government but that has the authority to make its own laws about certain things ▪ the 50 *states* of the U.S. ▪ Chihuahua is a *state* in northern Mexico. ▪ Vermont was the only New England *state* to pass the law. ▪ the *state* legislature ▪ *state* and federal laws ▪ *state* lines/borders ▪ This matter falls under *state* jurisdiction. ▪ Today is a ***state holiday*** here. [=it is an official holiday in this state but not nationally] — often used in combination ▪ a *state*-run program ▪ *state*-funded scholarships ▪ This land is *state*-owned. — see also DOWNSTATE, UPSTATE **b *the States*** *informal* : the United States of America ▪ My cousin from England is coming to visit me in *the States*. ▪ The band plans to tour *the States*.
5 [*noncount*] : the government of a country ▪ matters of *state* [=government business] ▪ the separation of church and *state* ▪ a crown worn only on *state* occasions ▪ The President will make a *state* visit to China. ▪ the (U.S.) ***Department of State*** = the ***State Department*** [=the part of the U.S. government that is responsible for how the U.S. deals with other countries] — see also STATE'S EVIDENCE
lie in state ✧ When the body of a famous leader (such as a former U.S. president or the pope) *lies in state*, it is displayed in a coffin in a public place so that people can view it and show respect.

²state *verb* **states**; **stat•ed**; **stat•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to express (something) formally in speech or writing ▪ The lawyer will *state* the facts of the case. ▪ He *stated* his name in full. ▪ I was merely *stating* an opinion. ▪ "This is a difficult situation," he *stated* simply. ▪ Please *state* the purpose of your visit. ▪ I'd like to *state* for the record that I disagree with the board's decision. ▪ For the reasons *stated* above, I hereby withdraw from the competition. ▪ She accused me of ***stating the obvious***. [=telling people things they already know]
2 : to give (specific information, instructions, rules, etc.) in writing ▪ The rules clearly *state* that you can only draw one card. — often used as *(be) stated* ▪ The rules of the contest *are stated* at the bottom of the page. ▪ You must comply with the terms as *stated* [=*written, specified*] in the contract.

state attorney *noun, pl* ~ **-neys** [*count*] *US, law* : a government official (such as a district attorney) who represents a U.S. state in court cases within a district — called also *state's attorney*

state college *noun, pl* ~ **-leges** [*count*] : a college that is owned and run by one of the states of the U.S. as part of the state's public educational system

state•craft /ˈsteɪtˌkræft, *Brit* ˈsteɪtˌkrɑːft/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the art or skill of conducting government affairs ▪ The treaty was a triumph of *statecraft*. [=*statesmanship*]

stated *adj* : expressed formally or officially ▪ The board shall meet at the *stated* [=*indicated*] times. ▪ Their *stated* [=*declared*] intention/goal is to settle the dispute quickly.

state•hood /ˈsteɪtˌhʊd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the condition of being a state; *especially* : the condition or status of being one of the states of the U.S. ▪ Alaska and Hawaii achieved *statehood* in 1959. [=they officially became U.S. states in 1959]

state•house /ˈsteɪtˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous•es** [*count*] : the building in which the legislature of a U.S. state meets and works

state•less /ˈsteɪtləs/ *adj* : not belonging to a nation : not a citizen of any country ▪ a *stateless* refugee

state•ly /ˈsteɪtli/ *adj* **state•li•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~] : very impressive in appearance, manner, or size ▪ *stately* pine trees ▪ a *stately* building ▪ a slow *stately* rhythm
– **state•li•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *stateliness* of the building

stately home *noun, pl* ~ **homes** [*count*] *Brit* : a large and impressive old home that has an interesting history and that can usually be visited by the public

state•ment /ˈsteɪtmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**
1 [*count*] : something that you say or write in a formal or official way : something that is stated ▪ His office issued/released an official *statement* concerning his departure. ▪ This is his first public *statement* about the investigation. ▪ I disagree with your earlier *statement* about my record on this issue. ▪ The advertisement included misleading/false *statements* about the product. ▪ The police took the witness's *statement*. ▪ We have a signed *statement* from a witness. ▪ a ***sworn statement*** [=a statement that someone makes under oath and swears to be true] — often used in the phrase ***make a statement*** ▪ He *made a statement* to the police. ▪ We can't *make a* definitive *statement* on the matter until all the facts are in. — see also MISSION STATEMENT
2 [*count*] : an opinion, attitude, etc., that you express through the things you do, the way you dress, etc. ▪ The boycott was intended as a political *statement*. — often used in the phrase ***make a statement*** ▪ The government *made a statement* [=sent a message] by setting stiff punishments for repeat offenders. ▪ The painting *makes a* strong/clear *statement*. ▪ The way you dress can *make a statement* about you. ▪ She thinks she's ***making a fashion statement*** [=being fashionable in a bold way], but I think she looks ridiculous.
3 [*count*] : a document which shows amounts of money that you have received, spent, etc. : a brief record of a financial account ▪ a *statement* of expenses ▪ a monthly ***bank statement*** ▪ We'll need to review your recent ***financial statements***.
4 [*count*] : a line of information in a computer program
5 : the act or process of stating something in speech or writing [*noncount*] His writing shows great eloquence and precision of *statement*. [*singular*] She began her speech with a *statement* of her beliefs.

state–of–the–art *adj* : using or having the most modern methods, knowledge, or technology ▪ *state-of-the-art* surgical procedures ▪ His stereo system is *state-of-the-art*.

state park *noun, pl* ~ **parks** [*count*] : an area of land that is owned and protected by a U.S. state because of its natural beauty or its importance in history

state•room /ˈsteɪtˌruːm/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*]
1 : a private room on a ship or on a railroad car
2 *Brit* : a large room in a palace or home that is used for special occasions

state's attorney *noun, pl* ~ **-neys** [*count*] *US* : STATE ATTORNEY

state's evidence *noun*
turn state's evidence *US, law* ✧ If you are charged with a crime and you *turn state's evidence*, you agree to give information (such as the names of other criminals) to the court in order to reduce your own punishment. ▪ One of the gang members *turned state's evidence* [=(*Brit*) *turned King's/Queen's evidence*] and testified against the other members.

state•side *or* **State•side** /ˈsteɪtˌsaɪd/ *adv* : in or to the U.S. ▪ It's a car model that will be sold *stateside* for the first time next year. ▪ He's been living in England for several years but he's returning *stateside* next month.
– **stateside** *or* **Stateside** *adj* ▪ It was the band's first *stateside* tour.

states•man /ˈsteɪtsmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a usually wise, skilled, and respected government leader ▪ He was a soldier and *statesman*. ▪ a great/eminent *statesman* — see also ELDER STATESMAN
– **states•man•like** /ˈsteɪtsmənˌlaɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a politician with a gift for sounding *statesmanlike*
– **states•man•ship** /ˈsteɪtsmənˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*]

states•wo•man /ˈsteɪtsˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wo•men** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who is a wise, skilled, and respected government leader ▪ a great *stateswoman*

state university *noun, pl* ~ **-ties** [*count*] : a university that is owned and run by one of the states of the U.S. as part of the state's public educational system

state•wide /ˈsteɪtˈwaɪd/ *adj* : including all parts of a U.S. state ▪ a *statewide* survey of voters ▪ a *statewide* election ▪ She is running for *statewide* [=*state*] office. [=she is trying to get elected as an official in the state government]
– **statewide** *adv* ▪ The big game will be televised *statewide*.

¹stat•ic /ˈstætɪk/ *adj*
1 : showing little or no change, action, or progress ▪ a *static* population ▪ Culture is not *static*. ▪ The computer program can turn *static* [=*still*] images into movies.
2 : of, relating to, or producing static electricity ▪ a *static* charge ▪ Use a fabric softener to prevent ***static cling***. [=a condition in which clothes stick to one another because of static electricity]

²static *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : unwanted noise caused in a radio or television receiver by electricity or by conditions in the atmosphere ▪ There was so much *static* on the radio we couldn't hear the broadcast.
2 : STATIC ELECTRICITY
3 *US, informal* : criticism or complaints ▪ He was getting a lot of *static* about his decision.

static electricity *noun* [*noncount*] : electricity that collects on the surface of something and does not flow as a current and can cause a mild shock if you touch it ▪ In dry

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weather, *static electricity* can cause clothes to cling.

stat•ics /ˈstætɪks/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : the science that studies the relationship between forces that keep objects in balance

[1]sta•tion /ˈsteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]

1 : a place where buses, trains, etc., regularly stop so that passengers can get on and off ▪ They drove him to the bus/train *station*. ▪ a subway *station* — see also WAY STATION

2 : a place where someone does a job or waits for a task ▪ The waiters were at their *stations* in the dining room. ▪ a nurse's/nursing *station* [=an office area for the nurses working in a hospital] ▪ The sailors were ordered to man their battle *stations*. ▪ After joining the army, he spent five years at his first *station*. [=*post*]

3 *old-fashioned* : a person's social or official position in relation to others : RANK ▪ He had married above his *station*. ▪ They were aware of her *station* in life.

4 : a building, area, etc., where a certain kind of work or activity is done ▪ a research/space/weather *station* ▪ a computer *station* ▪ a feeding *station* for livestock

5 : a place that provides a certain kind of service to the public ▪ A firefighter led the children on a tour of the *station*. [=*fire station*] ▪ She stopped for gas at the first *station* [=(*US*) *gas station*, (*Brit*) *petrol station*] she saw. ▪ Officers brought him to the *station* [=*police station*] for questioning.

6 : a company that makes radio or television broadcasts ▪ He turned to his favorite sports *station*. ▪ What *station* is the game on? *also* : the building from which radio or television broadcasts are made ▪ Our offices are located next door to a TV *station*.

7 : a farm or ranch in Australia or New Zealand ▪ a sheep *station*

[2]station *verb* **-tions; -tioned; -tion•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to assign (someone) to a station or position : POST ▪ He *stationed* the guards around the camp. ▪ They *stationed* troops at the border. — often used as *(be) stationed* ▪ She has *been stationed* at the base for a few years. ▪ They *were stationed* in the region of the fighting.

2 : to put (yourself) in a place and stay there for a period of time ▪ He *stationed* himself by the door to greet the guests.

sta•tion•ary /ˈsteɪʃəˌneri, *Brit* ˈsteɪʃənri/ *adj*

1 : not moving : staying in one place or position ▪ *stationary* machinery ▪ shooting at *stationary* objects/targets ▪ The weather front has remained *stationary* over the Southeast.

2 : not changing ▪ a *stationary* [=*stable*] population

Do not confuse *stationary* with *stationery*.

stationary bike *noun, pl* **~ bikes** [*count*] *US* : an exercise machine that you pedal like a bicycle but that stays in one place — called also *exercise bike, stationary bicycle*; see picture at GYM

station break *noun, pl* **~ breaks** [*count*] *US* : a pause in a broadcast during which a radio or TV station announces its name or runs an advertisement

sta•tio•ner /ˈsteɪʃənɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*] : a business or person that sells stationery

sta•tio•nery /ˈsteɪʃəˌneri, *Brit* ˈsteɪʃənri/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : materials (such as paper, pens, and ink) that are used for writing or typing ▪ a store that sells *stationery* = a *stationery* store ▪ *stationery* items/supplies

2 : paper that is used for writing letters and that usually has matching envelopes ▪ business *stationery*

Do not confuse *stationery* with *stationary*.

station house *noun, pl* **~ houses** [*count*] : a house or building that is part of a station; *especially, US* : POLICE STATION

sta•tion•mas•ter /ˈsteɪʃənˌmæstɚ, *Brit* ˈsteɪʃənˌmɑːstə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : an official who is in charge of the operation of a railroad station

Stations of the Cross *noun* [*plural*] : a series of usually 14 pictures in some Christian churches that show the sufferings and death of Jesus Christ

station wagon *noun, pl* **~ -ons** [*count*] *US* : a car that has a large open area behind the back seat instead of a trunk and that has a door at the back for loading and unloading things — called also (*US*) *wagon*, (*Brit*) *estate car*; see picture at CAR

sta•tis•tic /stəˈtɪstɪk/ *noun, pl* **-tics**

1 [*count*] : a number that represents a piece of information (such as information about how often something is done, how common something is, etc.) ▪ One *statistic* that stuck out is that 40 percent of those surveyed did not have college degrees. — often plural ▪ The *statistics* show that teenagers are involved in a high percentage of traffic accidents. ▪ Her speech included some revealing *statistics* about unemployment rates in rural areas. ▪ basketball *statistics* — sometimes used figuratively ▪ I may be just another *statistic* to my employer, but I am a human being and have feelings. — called also (*US, informal*) *stat*

2 *statistics* [*noncount*] : a type of mathematics that deals with the study of statistics

– **sta•tis•ti•cal** /stəˈtɪstɪkəl/ *adj* ▪ *Statistical* evidence indicates smokers are more likely to get lung cancer than nonsmokers. – **sta•tis•ti•cal•ly** /stəˈtɪstɪkli/ *adv*

stat•is•ti•cian /ˌstætəˈstɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-cians** [*count*] : a person who collects and studies statistics

stat•u•ary /ˈstætʃəˌweri/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : a collection of statues ▪ a fine example of late Renaissance *statuary*

stat•ue /ˈstæˌtʃuː/ *noun, pl* **stat•ues** [*count*] : a figure usually of a person or animal that is made from stone, metal, etc. ▪ bronze *statues* — compare SCULPTURE

stat•u•esque /ˌstætʃəˈwɛsk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : tall and beautiful ▪ a *statuesque* young woman

stat•u•ette /ˌstætʃəˈwɛt/ *noun, pl* **-ettes** [*count*] : a small statue

stat•ure /ˈstætʃɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the level of respect that people have for a successful person, organization, etc. ▪ We are honored to be working with a writer of his *stature*. [=a writer who is so highly respected] ▪ The university has grown/gained in *stature* during her time as president.

2 *somewhat formal* : a person's height ▪ a woman of rather short *stature* [=a rather short woman]

sta•tus /ˈsteɪtəs, ˈstætəs/ *noun, pl* **-tus•es**

1 a : the position or rank of someone or something when compared to others in a society, organization, group, etc. [*noncount*] He likes his job and the high (social) *status* that comes with it. ▪ She has achieved celebrity *status*. [=she has become a celebrity] ▪ They want to maintain the city's *status* as a major tourist attraction. ▪ The book quickly achieved best-seller *status*. [=became a best seller] [*count*] He wants to improve his *status* in the community. ▪ people of different social and economic *statuses* **b** [*noncount*] : high position or rank in society ▪ She married a man of *status* and wealth. ▪ This job brings with it a measure of *status*.

2 : the official position of a person or thing according to the law [*noncount*] They sought asylum and were given refugee *status* by the government. [*count*] They are still considered refugees. Their *statuses* have not changed. — see also MARITAL STATUS

3 [*count*] : the current state of someone or something — usually singular ▪ What is the *status* of the project? ▪ What is their financial *status*? ▪ The boss asked for a *status* report.

status quo /-ˈkwoʊ/ *noun* [*singular*] : the current situation : the way things are now ▪ He is content with the *status quo* and does not like change. ▪ She wants to maintain the *status quo*. [=to keep the situation as it is now]

status symbol *noun, pl* **~ -bols** [*count*] : something (such as an expensive car) that you own and that shows that you are wealthy or have a high social status

stat•ute /ˈstæˌtʃuːt/ *noun, pl* **-utes**

1 : a written law that is formally created by a government [*count*] The state legislature passed the *statute* by an overwhelming margin. [*noncount*] business practices that are prohibited/protected by *statute* ***synonyms*** see LAW

2 [*count*] : a written rule or regulation ▪ college/university *statutes*

statute book *noun*

the statute book — used to refer to the written laws that have been formally and officially approved by a government ▪ a law that is now on the *statute book(s)* [=a law that has now been officially approved]

statute of limitations *noun, pl* **statutes of limitations** [*count*] *law* : a law that states the amount of time that must pass before a crime can no longer be punished or a right can no longer be given

stat•u•to•ry /ˈstætʃəˌtori, *Brit* ˈstætʃətri/ *adj, law*

1 : of or relating to formal laws or statutes ▪ *statutory* acts

2 : controlled or determined by a law or rule ▪ He had reached the *statutory* age of retirement. [=the age at which retirement was required by law]

statutory rape *noun, pl* **~ rapes** [*count, noncount*] *law* : the crime of having sex with someone who is younger than an age that is specified by law

[1]staunch *variant spelling of* STANCH

[2]staunch /ˈstɑːnʧ/ *adj, always used before a noun* **staunch·er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] : very devoted or loyal to a person, belief, or cause ▪ She is a *staunch* advocate of women's rights. ▪ He's a *staunch* believer in the value of regular exercise. ▪ I'm one of his *staunchest* supporters.
– **staunch·ly** *adv* ▪ She is *staunchly* opposed to the death penalty.

[1]stave /ˈsteɪv/ *noun, pl* **staves** [*count*]
1 : one of the narrow strips of wood that form the sides of a barrel
2 : a long wooden stick : STAFF
3 *chiefly Brit* : [1]STAFF 3

[2]stave *verb* **staves; staved** *also* **stove** /ˈstoʊv/; **stav·ing**
stave in [*phrasal verb*] ***stave in or stave (something) in or stave in (something)*** : to be broken or crushed inward or to break or crush (something) inward ▪ The hull of the boat *stove in* when it hit the rocks. ▪ The rocks *stove in* the hull of the boat.
stave off [*phrasal verb*] ***stave (someone or something) off or stave off (someone or something)*** : to keep (someone or something) away usually for a short time ▪ He's trying to *stave off* his creditors. ▪ Our company cannot *stave* bankruptcy *off* any longer. ▪ She ate a few crackers to *stave off* hunger. [=to prevent herself from getting too hungry]

staves *plural of* [1]STAFF

[1]stay /ˈsteɪ/ *verb* **stays; stayed; stay·ing**
1 a [*no obj*] : to continue to be in the same place or with the same person or group for a period of time : REMAIN ▪ Please *stay* in the auditorium. ▪ I *stayed* in my seat until I was dismissed. ▪ He decided to *stay* with the team. ▪ I decided to *stay* in Montreal for a couple more days. ▪ We *stayed* home last night and watched TV. ▪ Go to your room and *stay* there. ▪ I'll ***stay around*** for a few more minutes. ▪ I need a man who will *stay around*. [=remain in the relationship and not leave suddenly] ▪ You can go on ahead. I'll ***stay behind*** [=not leave yet] to help clean up. **b** : to continue to be in a specified state, condition, or position : REMAIN [*no obj*] Please *stay* seated through the entire show. ▪ She *stayed* angry all night. ▪ Can you *stay* awake through the whole show? ▪ The guard urged everyone to *stay* calm. ▪ The store will *stay* open until midnight tonight. ▪ We have *stayed* in touch/contact over the years. ▪ He *stayed* in the game although he was injured. [*linking verb*] They ***stayed friends*** [=continued to be friends] throughout their lives.
2 [*no obj*] : to live in a place as a guest for a short period of time ▪ I will be *staying* in a hotel this weekend. ▪ Do you want to *stay* [=*sleep*] at my place tonight? ▪ I *stayed* overnight at his house. ▪ Is he *staying* (with us) all week?
3 [+ *obj*] : to give a legal order that stops or delays (something) ▪ The judge agreed to *stay* [=*halt*] the execution.
here to stay see [1]HERE
stay away [*phrasal verb*] : to not go near someone or something ▪ I know I shouldn't go there, but it's hard to *stay away*. — usually + *from* ▪ *Stay away from* my girlfriend! ▪ He usually *stays away from* [=*avoids*] large crowds. ▪ I try to *stay away from* [=*avoid*] caffeine.
stay in [*phrasal verb*] : to stay inside or at home instead of going out ▪ We went to a movie last night, but tonight we're *staying in*.
stay off [*phrasal verb*] ***stay off (something)*** **1** : to avoid (something) ▪ She's doing a good job of *staying off* drugs. [=of not taking drugs] ▪ Let's *stay off* the subject of politics. **2** : to not go on (something) ▪ Please *stay off* [=*keep off*] the grass.
stay on [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to continue to work at a job ▪ She thought about retiring, but she finally decided to *stay on* for a few more years. ▪ After she graduated, she *stayed on* at the college, working in the alumnae office. **2 *stay on (something)*** : to continue taking (a medication, drug, etc.) ▪ I have to *stay on* the antibiotics for a full two weeks.
stay out [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to avoid going into (a place) ▪ They kicked us out of the bar and told us to *stay out*. — often + *of* ▪ I told her to *stay out of* my room. **b *stay out of (something)*** : to avoid becoming involved in (something) ▪ Please try to *stay out of* trouble. ▪ This is not your business, so *stay out of* it. **2** : to spend time away from home ▪ She *stayed out* dancing all night.
stay over [*phrasal verb*] : to sleep at another person's house for the night ▪ Can she *stay over* tonight?
stay put see [3]PUT
stay the course : to continue with a process, effort, etc., even though it is difficult ▪ We'll succeed in the end if we just *stay the course*.
stay the night : to sleep at another person's house for the night ▪ After the party she was too drunk to drive so she *stayed the night*. [=*stayed over, spent the night*] ▪ They *stayed the night* at her brother's.
stay tuned see [2]TUNE
stay up [*phrasal verb*] : to continue to be awake past the time when you usually go to bed ▪ Don't *stay up* past your bedtime. ▪ She *stayed up* to watch the late movie. ▪ I can't *stay up* that late.
stay with [*phrasal verb*] **1 *stay with (someone)*** ✧ If something from the past *stays with* you, you remember it and it continues to influence or affect you in some way. ▪ The memory of that tragic day has *stayed with* her ever since. ▪ That is an image that has *stayed with* me. **2 *stay with (something)*** : to continue using or doing (something) ▪ *Stay with* the medication for a couple more days and see if the rash clears up. ▪ I know the work is hard, but if you just *stay with* it for a while longer, it'll be done. **3 *stay with (someone)*** : to go or make progress at the same rate as (someone) : to keep even with (someone) in a race, competition, etc. ▪ The other runners struggled to *stay with* the leader.

[2]stay *noun, pl* **stays** [*count*]
1 : an occasion in which you spend time at a place as a guest or visitor ▪ I hope you have a pleasant *stay*. [=*visit*] ▪ Our *stay* in the country was a short one. — see also SHORT-STAY
2 : a legal order that stops or delays something ▪ The court issued a ***stay of execution***. [=an order that temporarily stops an execution]
– compare [3]STAY

[3]stay *noun, pl* **stays** [*count*]
1 : a rope or wire that supports a pole, a ship's mast, etc. ▪ The men tightened the *stays* on the circus tent.
2 : a piece of stiff plastic, bone, etc., that provides shape to a piece of clothing ▪ a corset *stay* ▪ a collar *stay*
– compare [2]STAY

stay–at–home /ˈsteɪətˈhoʊm/ *adj, always used before a noun* : staying at home to take care of a child instead of working somewhere else ▪ a *stay-at-home* mom/dad

staying power *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality or ability that allows someone or something to continue to be effective, successful, popular, etc., for a long period of time ▪ a long-distance runner with a lot of *staying power* ▪ a song with *staying power* ▪ Her *staying power* as a pop icon is remarkable.

std. *abbr* standard

STD /ˌɛsˌtiːˈdiː/ *noun, pl* **STDs** [*count*] : any one of various diseases that you can get by having sex with a person who has the disease ▪ a discussion of AIDS and other *STDs* ✧ *STD* is an abbreviation for "sexually transmitted disease."

stead /ˈstɛd/ *noun*
in someone's/something's stead *formal* : in the place of someone or something ▪ She conducted the meeting *in his stead*. ▪ One empire died, and another arose *in its stead*.
stand someone/something in good stead *formal* : to be useful or helpful to someone or something ▪ His language skills will *stand him in good stead* when he is traveling.

stead·fast /ˈstɛdˌfæst, *Brit* ˈstɛdˌfɑːst/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : very devoted or loyal to a person, belief, or cause : not changing ▪ They were *steadfast* friends. ▪ He was *steadfast* in his support of the governor's policies. ▪ a *steadfast* refusal
– **stead·fast·ly** *adv* ▪ She *steadfastly* held to her views.
– **stead·fast·ness** /ˈstɛdˌfæstnəs, *Brit* ˈstɛdˌfɑːstnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]steady /ˈstɛdi/ *adj* **stead·i·er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 : not shaking or moving : held firmly in one place or position ▪ She used a tripod to keep the camera *steady*. ▪ Painting takes a *steady* hand and a good eye. ▪ a *steady* gaze ▪ He was drunk and wasn't very *steady* on his feet. [=his balance was not good; he looked like he might fall]
2 : not changing as time passes: such as **a** : not increasing or decreasing ▪ Prices have remained *steady* over the last month. ▪ a *steady* heart rate **b** : lasting or continuing for a long period of time in a dependable way ▪ He finally has a *steady* job. ▪ They do a *steady* business at the restaurant. **c** — used to describe a romantic relationship with one person that lasts for a long time ▪ He's never really had a *steady* relationship with one woman. ▪ a ***steady boyfriend/girlfriend***
3 : happening or developing in a continuous and usually gradual way ▪ There has been a *steady* increase in prices. ▪ I am making *steady* progress on refinishing the basement. ▪

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There was a *steady* rain all day. ▪ We've received a ***steady stream*** of donations.

4 : not nervous or excited ▪ *steady* nerves ▪ Her voice was calm and *steady*.

5 : dependable or reliable ▪ She has been a *steady* friend to me. ▪ He's a very *steady* worker.

at a steady clip see ³CLIP

ready, steady, go see ¹READY

steady on *Brit, informal* — used to tell someone to be calmer, to stop thinking or saying foolish or unreasonable things, etc. ▪ "Everything's going wrong!" "*Steady on*, now. It's not as bad as that."

– **steadi·ly** /ˈstɛdəli/ *adv* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ He held the camera *steadily*. ▪ Wages have *steadily* increased. – **steadi·ness** /ˈstɛdinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

²steady *verb* **stead·ies**; **stead·ied**; **steady·ing** : to make (something or someone) steady or to become steady: such as **a** [+ *obj*] : to keep (something or someone) from moving, shaking, falling, etc. ▪ He *steadied* the gun and fired. ▪ She used a tripod to *steady* the camera. ▪ He held the rail to ***steady himself***. [=to keep himself balanced] **b** : to cause (something) to stop changing, increasing, decreasing, etc. [+ *obj*] The doctor gave her medication to help *steady* her heart rate. [*no obj*] Her heart rate had been erratic but eventually *steadied*. ▪ Prices have *steadied* in recent months.

steady your nerves : to make yourself calm or calmer ▪ She took a drink to try to *steady her nerves*.

³steady *adv* : in a steady way ▪ Hold the camera *steady*.

go steady *informal + old-fashioned* : to have a lasting romantic relationship with one person and no one else ▪ He asked me after the dance if I wanted to *go steady*. ▪ We *went steady* for over a year before we got engaged.

⁴steady *noun, pl* **stead·ies** [*count*] *US, informal + old-fashioned* : the only person you are having a romantic relationship with : the person you are going steady with ▪ He's my *steady*. [=my steady boyfriend]

steak /steɪk/ *noun, pl* **steaks**

1 : a thick, flat piece of meat and especially beef [*count*] I grilled a *steak* for dinner. ▪ ham *steaks* [*noncount*] We had *steak* and potatoes for dinner. ▪ a slice of *steak*

2 [*count*] : a thick, flat piece of fish ▪ a tuna/swordfish *steak*

3 [*noncount*] *Brit* : beef that is cut into small pieces and used for stews, casseroles, etc. ▪ *steak* and kidney pie

steak house *noun, pl* ~ **houses** [*count*] : a restaurant that serves mostly steaks — compare CHOP HOUSE

steak knife *noun, pl* ~ **knives** [*count*] : a very sharp knife that is used for cutting meat

¹steal /sti:l/ *verb* **steals**; **stole** /stoʊl/; **sto·len** /ˈstoʊlən/; **steal·ing**

1 a : to take (something that does not belong to you) in a way that is wrong or illegal [+ *obj*] They *stole* thousands of dollars' worth of jewelry from the store. ▪ Someone *stole* my bicycle. ▪ He discovered that his car had been *stolen*. ▪ a *stolen* watch [*no obj*] The store manager accused the boy of *stealing*. **b** [+ *obj*] : to take (something that you are not supposed to have) without asking for permission ▪ I *stole* a cookie from the cookie jar. **c** [+ *obj*] : to wrongly take and use (another person's idea, words, etc.) ▪ He *stole* my idea. **d** [+ *obj*] : to persuade (someone who has been with someone else) to be with you especially by doing things that are unfair or dishonest ▪ He *stole* my girlfriend. ▪ They *stole* our best pitcher away from our team.

2 [+ *obj*] : to get (something that is difficult to get) in usually a quick and often secret way ▪ I *stole* a nap this afternoon. [=I managed to take a brief nap this afternoon] ▪ He ***stole a peek/look*** [=took a quick peek/look] at the birthday cake. ▪ He ***stole a glance*** at her [=glanced at her quickly] before riding away. ▪ She ***stole a kiss*** from him [=kissed him in a quick and sudden way] and ran away.

3 [+ *obj*] : to get more attention than others during (a performance, scene, etc.) ▪ Her impassioned acting *stole* the scene. [=everyone in the audience watched her during the scene because of her impassioned acting] ▪ His outstanding performance ***stole the show***.

4 a *baseball* : to reach (a base) safely by running to it from the previous base when the ball has not been hit by a batter [+ *obj*] He reached first base on a single and then *stole* second (base). [*no obj*] She tried to *steal* but got thrown out. ▪ He leads the league in *stealing*. **b** [+ *obj*] *sports* : to take (the ball, puck, etc.) from another player ▪ (*basketball*) He *stole* the ball and took it down the court for two points. ▪ He *stole* the pass.

5 [*no obj*] : to come or go quietly or secretly ▪ They *stole* out of the room. ▪ She *stole* away silently.

beg, borrow, or/and steal see BEG

steal a march on see ²MARCH

steal someone's thunder see ¹THUNDER

²steal *noun, pl* **steals** [*count*]

1 *informal* : something that is being sold at a low price ▪ This car is a *steal* at only $5,000.

2 a *baseball* : the act of stealing a base ▪ He has 40 *steals* this season. **b** *sports* : the act of taking the ball, puck, etc., from another player ▪ a nifty *steal* by the defender

¹stealth /stɛlθ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a secret, quiet, and clever way of moving or behaving ▪ The fox uses *stealth* and cunning to hunt its prey.

²stealth *adj, always used before a noun*

1 *technical* — used to describe military aircraft that are designed so that they cannot be easily seen by radar ▪ a *stealth* bomber/fighter

2 *chiefly US* : done or happening in a secret or quiet way that does not attract attention ▪ He says his political enemies have been conducting a *stealth* [=*secret*] campaign to block his nomination.

stealthy /ˈstɛlθi/ *adj* **stealth·i·er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] : quiet and secret in order to avoid being noticed ▪ the *stealthy* movements of the crocodile ▪ a *stealthy* burglar

– **stealth·i·ly** /ˈstɛlθəli/ *adv* ▪ She moved *stealthily* from room to room.

¹steam /sti:m/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 a : the hot gas that is created when water is boiled ▪ Careful, the *steam* from the pot is hot. **b** : steam that is created by a machine and kept under pressure to provide power ▪ *Steam* drives the turbines. ▪ a *steam*-powered engine ▪ The boat runs on *steam*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *steam* engine/train

2 : very small drops of water that form on a surface when warm air that contains a lot of water is cooled down ▪ He wiped the *steam* from the mirrors.

3 *informal* : the strength, force, or energy that allows something or someone to continue, to go faster, etc. ▪ Sales have ***lost steam*** [=have slowed down] in recent weeks. ▪ The campaign quickly ***gained/gathered steam***. [=became more popular and successful] ▪ He was afraid he would ***run out of steam*** before the end of the race. ▪ I was making good progress this morning, but now I'm starting to *run out of steam*. ▪ The project is slowly ***picking up steam***. [=slowly beginning to move ahead in a faster and more effective way]

full head of steam see ¹HEAD

full steam ahead see ¹FULL

let/blow off (some) steam *informal* : to calm down and get rid of energy or anger by doing something active ▪ I play racquetball every evening just to *let off some steam*. ▪ Tell him to go *blow off some steam* and then we can talk.

under its own steam *of a ship, boat, etc.* : by using its own power ▪ The ship was damaged but was able to return to port *under its own steam*. — often used figuratively ▪ He got there *under his own steam*. [=by himself; by his own efforts]

²steam *verb* **steams**; **steamed**; **steam·ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to produce steam ▪ a *steaming* bowl of soup

2 [+ *obj*] : to cook, heat, or treat (something) with steam ▪ She prefers to *steam* carrots rather than boil them. ▪ *steamed* vegetables

3 : to cause (something, such as a piece of glass) to become covered with small drops of water [+ *obj*] Their breath *steamed* the windows. — usually + *up* ▪ Try not to *steam up* your glasses. ▪ The windows *were* all *steamed up*. [*no obj*] My glasses *steamed up* [=*fogged up*] when I came indoors from the cold.

4 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] **a** : to move by using power produced by steam ▪ The ship *steamed* into port. ▪ We *steamed* up the river. [=we went up the river on a ship powered by steam] **b** : to move forward in a quick and forceful way ▪ He *steamed* into the room and began shouting orders. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Our plans are *steaming* ahead. — see also STEAMED, STEAMING

steam·boat /ˈsti:mˌboʊt/ *noun, pl* **-boats** [*count*] : a boat that is powered by steam

steam clean *verb* ~ **cleans**; ~ **cleaned**; ~ **cleaning** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to clean (something) with a machine that produces hot steam ▪ I *steam cleaned* the carpets.

steamed /ˈsti:md/ *adj, not used before a noun* [*more ~; most ~*] *chiefly US, informal* : angry or irritated ▪ I am

so *steamed*! — often + *up* ▪ What are you getting *steamed up* about?

steam•er /'sti:mɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a container in which food is cooked with steam
2 : a boat or ship that is powered by steam ▪ We rode a *steamer* down the Mississippi.
3 *US* : a type of clam that has a thin shell and that is often cooked by being steamed

steaming *adj, informal*
1 : very hot ▪ *steaming* weather ▪ The weather has been ***steaming hot***.
2 : very angry ▪ *steaming* drivers stuck in traffic ▪ His wife was *steaming* when he finally got home. ▪ She was ***steaming mad***.

steam•roll /'sti:m,roʊl/ *verb* **-rolls**; **-rolled**; **-roll•ing** *US, informal*
1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to go forward or make progress in a forceful and steady way [*no obj*] The project *steamrolled* on. ▪ The bill *steamrolled* through Congress. [+ *obj*] The bill *steamrolled* its way through Congress.
2 [+ *obj*] : to defeat (someone or something) in a very forceful and complete way ▪ Our team got *steamrolled* in last year's game. The final score was something like 54–7.

[1]steam•roll•er /'sti:m,roʊlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a large, heavy machine that is used for making a road or other surface flat

[2]steamroller *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [+ *obj*] *informal* : STEAMROLL 2

steam•ship /'sti:m,ʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships** [*count*] : a ship that is powered by steam

steam shovel *noun, pl* ~ **-els** [*count*] *US* : a large machine that is powered by steam and that is used for digging large holes — called also *excavator*

steamy /'sti:mi/ *adj* **steam•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : full of steam or warm, moist air ▪ a *steamy* bathroom ▪ It is 92 degrees in *steamy* Miami this afternoon. ▪ *steamy* [=hot and humid] weather
2 : showing or relating to sex : sexually exciting ▪ a *steamy* love scene

steed /'sti:d/ *noun, pl* **steeds** [*count*] *literary* : a horse that a person rides ▪ a brave knight and his noble *steed*

[1]steel /'sti:l/ *noun, pl* **steels**
1 [*noncount*] **a** : a strong, hard metal made of iron and carbon ▪ The beams are made of *steel*. — often used before another noun ▪ *steel* bars ▪ a *steel* mill [=a mill/factory where steel is made] — see also STAINLESS STEEL **b** : the industry that makes steel ▪ *Steel* is an important industry in this area. ▪ She came from a ***steel town*** [=a town where steel is made] in Pennsylvania. ▪ ***Big Steel*** [=the steel industry] is lobbying Congress for new legislation.
2 a [*noncount*] *literary* : things (such as weapons) that are made of steel ▪ The invaders were driven back by *steel*. ▪ the clash of *steel* **b** [*singular*] : the part of something that is made of steel ▪ the *steel* of a knife **c** [*count*] : a device or tool that is made of steel ▪ a sharpening *steel* [=a steel rod that has a rough surface and is used for sharpening knives] — see also PEDAL STEEL
3 — used to describe something or someone that is very strong ▪ He had a grip ***of steel***. = He had a grip ***like steel***. [=he had a very powerful grip] ▪ a ***man of steel*** [=a very strong man] — see also *nerves of steel* at NERVE

[2]steel *verb* **steels**; **steeled**; **steel•ing**
steel yourself : to make (yourself) ready for something difficult or unpleasant : to fill (yourself) with determination and courage ▪ *Steel yourself* [=*brace yourself*]—I have bad news. ▪ He *steeled himself* for the interview.

steel band *noun, pl* ~ **bands** [*count*] : a group of musicians who play steel drums

steel drum *noun, pl* ~ **drums** [*count*] : a metal drum shaped like a bowl or barrel that makes different sounds when it is hit at different places

steel guitar *noun, pl* ~ **-tars** [*count*] : PEDAL STEEL

steel wool *noun* [*noncount*] : long threads of metal that are wound together to form a rough pad which is used for cleaning and polishing things

steel•work•er /'sti:l,wɚkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a person who works at a place where steel is made

steely /'sti:li/ *adj* **steel•i•er**; **-est**
1 : very strong and determined often in a cold or unfriendly way ▪ a thief with *steely* nerves ▪ He had a *steely* determination to succeed. ▪ She gave him a *steely* gaze.
2 : resembling steel especially in color ▪ a sky filled with *steely* gray clouds ▪ the judge's *steely* blue eyes

[1]steep /'sti:p/ *adj* **steep•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : almost straight up and down : rising or falling very sharply ▪ a *steep* slope/hillside ▪ The stairs are very *steep*.
2 : going up or down very quickly ▪ a *steep* drop/increase in prices
3 : very high ▪ The store's prices are too *steep* for me. ▪ Their rates are pretty *steep*.
pay a steep price see [1]PAY
– **steep•ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The hill rose *steeply*. ▪ Stock prices rose/fell *steeply* today. – **steep•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]steep *verb* **steeps**; **steeped**; **steep•ing** : to put (something) in a liquid for a period of time [+ *obj*] *Steep* the tea for three minutes. [*no obj*] The tea *steeped* for five minutes.
steep in [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***steep (someone) in (something)*** : to make (someone) know and understand a lot about (something) ▪ Prior to his trip, he spent a few weeks ***steeping himself in*** the language. [=learning a lot about the language] — often used as *(be) steeped in* ▪ She *was steeped in* the classics. [=she had learned a lot about the classics] **2** — used as *(be) steeped in* to say that there is a lot of something in a place, time, etc. ▪ an area *steeped in* history [=an area where many important historical events occurred] ▪ It was a time in the nation's history that *was steeped in* bloodshed. [=a time when there was a lot of bloodshed]

steep•en /'sti:pən/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing** : to become steep or steeper or to make (something) steep or steeper [*no obj*] The path *steepened* as we approached the summit. [+ *obj*] A large glacier *steepened* the side of the mountain.

stee•ple /'sti:pəl/ *noun, pl* **stee•ples** [*count*] : a tall, pointed tower on a church
– **stee•pled** /'sti:pəld/ *adj* ▪ a *steepled* church

stee•ple•chase /'sti:pəl,ʧeɪs/ *noun, pl* **-chas•es** [*count*]
1 : a race in which people riding horses jump over fences, water, etc.
2 : a race in which runners jump over fences and water

stee•ple•chas•er /'sti:pəl,ʧeɪsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or horse that takes part in a steeplechase

stee•ple•jack /'sti:pəl,ʤæk/ *noun, pl* **-jacks** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a person who repairs chimneys, towers, etc.

[1]steer /'stiɚ/ *verb* **steers**; **steered**; **steer•ing**
1 a : to control the direction in which something (such as a ship, car, or airplane) moves [+ *obj*] She *steered* the ship through the strait. ▪ He *steered* his car carefully into the parking space. ▪ He *steered* the wheelchair through the aisles. [*no obj*] Skillful navigators can *steer* by the positions of the stars. **b** [*no obj*] — used to describe how easy or difficult it is to steer a vehicle ▪ The car *steers* well.
2 [*no obj*] : to be moved or guided in a particular direction or along a particular course ▪ The car was *steering* right at us. ▪ The boat *steered* out to sea.
3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to direct or guide the movement or progress of (something) ▪ He tried to *steer* the conversation away from his recent problems. ▪ She skillfully *steered* the bill through the legislature. ▪ He *steered* the team to another championship last year. **b** : to cause (someone) to act in a particular way ▪ The high recent returns on stocks have *steered* many investors away from bonds. ▪ You should listen to me. I won't ***steer you wrong***. [=I won't give you bad advice]
steer clear *US* : to keep away from someone or something completely ▪ He's in a bad mood. You'd better *steer clear* [=avoid him] if you don't want trouble. — usually + *of* ▪ You'd better *steer clear of* him. ▪ I try to *steer clear of* the subject of politics when I talk to him.

[2]steer *noun, pl* **steers** [*count*] : a male cow that has had its sex organs removed and is raised for meat

steer•age /'stirɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the section on a passenger ship in the past where passengers who had the cheapest tickets would stay

steering *noun* [*noncount*] : the mechanical parts of a car, boat, etc., that are used to control its direction ▪ The *steering* on this car is a little stiff. ▪ There's a problem with the boat's *steering*.

steering column *noun, pl* ~ **-umns** [*count*] : the thick post in a car that holds the steering wheel

steering committee *noun, pl* ~ **-tees** [*count*] : a group of people who are in charge of managing or directing something ▪ The CEO consulted with the project's *steering committee* and asked for a status report. — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *steering group*

S

steering wheel *noun, pl* ~ **wheels** [*count*] : a wheel in a vehicle that the driver turns to steer the vehicle — see picture at CAR

stein /ˈstaɪn/ *noun, pl* **steins** [*count*] : a large mug for beer

stel•lar /ˈstɛlɚ/ *adj*

1 *technical* : of or relating to the stars ▪ *stellar* light ▪ the rate of *stellar* expansion

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very good : EXCELLENT ▪ The movie has a *stellar* cast. ▪ a *stellar* performance

[1]stem /ˈstɛm/ *noun, pl* **stems** [*count*]

1 a : the main long and thin part of a plant that rises above the soil and supports the leaves and flowers ▪ He cut the plant off at the base of the *stem*. — see color picture on page C6 **b** : the long, thin part of a fruit, leaf, flower, etc., that connects it to its plant ▪ Hold the cherry by the *stem*.

2 : a long and thin part: such as **a** : the long, thin piece that supports the bowl of a wine glass **b** : the long, thin part of a tobacco pipe

3 *grammar* : the main part of a word that does not change when endings are added to it ▪ The *stem* of "winded" is "wind."

from stem to stern : from one end of a ship or boat to the other ▪ We scrubbed her down *from stem to stern*. [=we cleaned the entire ship/boat] — often used figuratively ▪ We cleaned the house *from stem to stern*.

– **stem•less** /ˈstɛmləs/ *adj* ▪ *stemless* cherries

[2]stem *verb* **stems**; **stemmed**; **stem•ming** [+ *obj*] : to remove the stem from (a fruit, leaf, flower, etc.) ▪ She *stemmed* and quartered the figs. ▪ The strawberries need to be *stemmed*.

stem from [*phrasal verb*] ***stem from (something or someone)*** : to be caused by (something or someone) : to come from (something or someone) ▪ Most of her health problems *stem from* an accident she had when she was younger. ▪ His love of the outdoors *stems from* his father.

– compare [3]STEM

[3]stem *verb* **stems**; **stemmed**; **stem•ming** [+ *obj*] : to stop the progress or spread of (something) ▪ efforts to *stem* the dramatic decline of an endangered species ▪ The doctor ***stemmed the flow*** of blood by applying pressure to the wound. ▪ Voters hope that the proposition will ***stem the tide*** of illegal immigration. — compare [2]STEM

stem cell *noun, pl* ~ **cells** [*count*] *technical* : a simple cell in the body that is able to develop into any one of various kinds of cells (such as blood cells, skin cells, etc.)

stemmed *adj* : having a stem — usually used in combination ▪ long-*stemmed* roses

stem•ware /ˈstɛmˌweɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : drinking glasses that have a long stem between the bowl and the base ▪ crystal *stemware*

stench /ˈstɛnʧ/ *noun* [*singular*] : a very bad smell : STINK ▪ the *stench* of rotting meat — sometimes used figuratively ▪ the *stench* of corruption/fear

[1]sten•cil /ˈstɛnsəl/ *noun, pl* **-cils** [*count*]

1 : a piece of paper, metal, etc., that has a design, letter, etc., cut out of it ✧ You use a stencil by putting it on a flat surface and painting over it so that the design appears on the surface ▪ letter/number/floral *stencils*

2 : a design or a print that is made with a stencil ▪ The walls of the living room had a delicate vine *stencil* drawn on them.

[2]stencil *verb* **-cils**; *US* **-ciled** *or Brit* **-cilled**; *US* **-cil•ing** *or Brit* **-cil•ling** [+ *obj*] : to make a design on something with a stencil : to use a stencil on (something) ▪ We *stenciled* our mailbox with our house number. = We *stenciled* our house number on the mailbox. ▪ We *stenciled* the room's walls.

steno /ˈstɛnoʊ/ *noun, pl* **sten•os** *US, informal*

1 [*count*] : STENOGRAPHER

2 [*noncount*] : STENOGRAPHY — often used before another noun ▪ a ***steno pad*** [=a pad of paper used for stenography]

ste•nog•ra•pher /stəˈnɑːgrəfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-phers** [*count*] : a person whose job is to write down the words that someone says by using a special type of writing (called shorthand) ▪ a courtroom *stenographer*

ste•nog•ra•phy /stəˈnɑːgrəfi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a method used for writing down the words that someone says very quickly by using a special type of writing (called shorthand) ▪ Secretaries must be able to do *stenography*.

– **steno•graph•ic** /ˌstɛnəˈgræfɪk/ *adj* ▪ *stenographic* notes

stent /ˈstɛnt/ *noun, pl* **stents** [*count*] *medical* : a metal or plastic tube that is put in a blood vessel to keep it open

sten•to•ri•an /stɛnˈtorijən/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *literary* : very loud ▪ a *stentorian* voice

[1]step /ˈstɛp/ *noun, pl* **steps**

1 [*count*] **a** : a movement made by lifting your foot and putting it down in a different place ▪ counting our *steps* ▪ She ***took*** one ***step*** forward/backward. ▪ The baby *took* her first *steps* today. ▪ He had to ***retrace his steps*** [=go back along the way he had come] to find his keys. **b** : the sound of a foot making a step : FOOTSTEP ▪ I heard *steps* on the stairs. **c** : the distance covered in one step ▪ The edge of the cliff was only about three *steps* to my left.; *also* : a short distance ▪ The cottage is just *steps* from the beach. **d** : a mark left by a foot or shoe : FOOTPRINT ▪ *steps* in the sand

2 [*singular*] : the way that someone walks ▪ He walks with a spring in his *step*. ▪ She walked down the hall with a quick/light *step*. — see also GOOSE STEP, LOCKSTEP

3 [*count*] : one of a series of actions that are done to achieve something ▪ a major/important *step* towards independence ▪ We are ***taking steps*** to correct the situation. ▪ The court's decision is a ***step backward/forward*** for the reform movement. [=it is something that will hurt/help the reform movement] ▪ Exercise won't solve all your health problems, but it's ***a step in the right direction***. [=it will improve your health] ▪ They're taking ***baby steps***. [=they're doing minor things that produce only a small amount of progress toward achieving something]

4 [*count*] : a stage in a process ▪ We're in the first/intermediate/last *steps* of the negotations. ▪ She's one *step* nearer/closer to graduation. ▪ I want to take it a *step* further. [=I want to move to the next stage in the process] ▪ He was criticized at every *step*. = He was criticized ***every step of the way***. ▪ We'll guide you through the process ***step by step***. ▪ Let's take this ***one step at a time***.

5 [*count*] : a level or rank in a scale ▪ a *step* above/below average ▪ a *step* beyond what was expected ▪ The new job is ***a step up/down*** for her. [=the new job is more/less important, challenging, etc., than the job she had before]

6 [*count*] : the flat piece of wood, stone, etc., that forms one of the levels of a staircase ▪ They sat on the *steps* in front of the house. ▪ The top *step* [=*stair*] squeaks when you step on it. — see picture at HOUSE; see also DOORSTEP

7 [*count*] : a movement or pattern of movements made by someone who is dancing ▪ a ballet *step* ▪ dance *steps*

8 *US, music* : the distance from one tone of a musical scale to the next [*count*] The melody moves up/down a *step*. [*noncount*] The melody moves upward ***by step*** [=in a series of steps] from D to C. — see also HALF STEP, WHOLE STEP

9 [*count*] : a piece of exercise equipment consisting of a small platform that you use by stepping on and off it ▪ Working out with a *step* can be very rigorous. — see also STEP AEROBICS

10 *steps* [*plural*] *Brit* : STEPLADDER

a/one step ahead of **1** : better prepared than (someone or something) ▪ The teacher really has to work to keep *one step ahead of* the class. ▪ She always seems to be *one step ahead of* me. **2** : able to avoid being caught or found by (someone or something) ▪ So far the killer has managed to stay *one step ahead of* the police/law. [=managed to avoid being caught by the police]

break step : to stop walking or marching with the same rhythm as another person or group of people ▪ The soldier was startled and *broke step*.

fall into step : to begin walking or marching with the same rhythm as another person or group of people ▪ He *fell into step beside* her and struck up a conversation.

in step **1** : with the same rhythm as someone or something ▪ They walked *in step* down the avenue. — usually + *with* ▪ We danced *in step with* the music. **2** : matching or agreeing *with* someone or something ▪ She's *in step with* people her age. [=she has the same ideas, problems, etc., as other people her age] ▪ The practice is not *in step with* modern morality.

mind/watch your step **1** : to walk carefully ▪ It's slippery, so *watch your step*. **2** : to speak or behave carefully ▪ You'd better *watch your step* with me, young lady.

out of step **1** : not moving with the same rhythm as someone or something ▪ One of the dancers was *out of step*. **2** : not matching or agreeing with someone or something ▪ Her fashion sense is completely *out of step*. — often + *with* ▪ She's *out of step with* current fashion. ▪ Critics say the rule is ***out of step with the times***. [=the rule does not agree with the ideas that are popular or important now]

– **step•like** /ˈstɛpˌlaɪk/ *adj* – **stepped** /ˈstɛpt/ *adj* ▪ a *stepped* pyramid [=a pyramid with sides made of steps]

[2]step *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **steps; stepped; step•ping** [*no obj*]
1 : to move in a specified direction by lifting your foot and putting it down in a different place ▪ The sailor *stepped* ashore. ▪ She *stepped* onto/off the bus. ▪ They *stepped* aside/forward/backward to let her pass. ▪ Please *step* away from the door. : to move somewhere by walking ▪ He *stepped* outside for a moment. ▪ *Step* in/into my office for a minute.
2 : to put your foot down — usually + *in* or *on* ▪ He accidentally *stepped on* a nail. ▪ She *stepped in* a puddle.
step aside/down [*phrasal verb*] : to leave a job or official position ▪ He *stepped down* [=*resigned*] as president. ▪ She'll *step aside* after her replacement is appointed.
step back [*phrasal verb*] : to stop doing something or being actively involved in something for a time so that you can think about it and make decisions in a calm and reasonable way ▪ You need to *step back* and give yourself some time to work through this.
step forward [*phrasal verb*] : to give or offer help, information, etc. ▪ A witness *stepped forward* to identify the robber.
step in [*phrasal verb*] : to become involved in an activity, discussion, etc., in order to prevent trouble or provide help ▪ He *stepped in* and took charge. ▪ She *stepped in* before a fight could start.
step into [*phrasal verb*] ***step into (something)*** : to take a particular role or do a particular task ▪ She *stepped into* the role/position of director. ▪ She's retiring, and it won't be easy to find someone who can ***step into her shoes***. [=*fill her shoes*; who can do her job]
step lively see LIVELY
step on it *or US* ***step on the gas*** *informal* : to drive faster ▪ *Step on it*, they're getting away!
step on someone's toes see [1]TOE
step out [*phrasal verb*] *US* : to briefly leave a place ▪ I need to *step out* [=*pop out*] for a moment. ▪ She just *stepped out* to get some milk.
step out of line *informal* : to disobey rules or behave badly ▪ If you *step out of line*, you'll get kicked off the bus.
step right up *chiefly US* — used to invite people to gather around to see a show or to buy things ▪ *Step right up* [=(*Brit*) *roll up, roll up*] and see the world's greatest magic show!
step up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to increase in amount or speed ▪ Production has *stepped up* in recent months. **2 a** : to say openly or publicly that you are the person who should get something or who can do something : to come forward ▪ No one yet has *stepped up* to claim responsibility. **b** : to do better : to succeed in providing what is needed by making a greater effort, improving your performance, etc. ▪ The team's best player is injured, so someone else needs to *step up*. **3** ***step (something) up*** *or* ***step up (something)*** **a** : to increase the amount or speed of (something) ▪ The company has *stepped up* production. **b** : to improve (something) ▪ The other players need to *step up* their performance. — see also STEP-UP
step up to the plate see [1]PLATE
– step•per /'stɛpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

step- *combining form* — used to describe family relationships that are created when a person who already has a child marries someone who is not the child's parent ▪ *step*sister ▪ *step*son ▪ *step*mother ▪ *step*father

step aerobics *noun* [*noncount*] : a system of exercise that involves repeatedly stepping on and off a raised platform often while music is playing ▪ a class in *step aerobics* = a *step aerobics* class; *also* [*plural*] : exercises in this system ▪ I do *step aerobics* twice a week.

step•broth•er /'stɛp,brʌðɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : the son of your stepmother or stepfather

step–by–step /,stɛp,baɪ'stɛp/ *adj*
1 : showing or explaining each stage in a process ▪ *step-by-step* directions/procedures
2 : happening or done in a series of steps or stages : GRADUAL ▪ the *step-by-step* approach to the problem
– step by step *adv* ▪ We're moving ahead with the project slowly, taking it *step by step*. [=*one step at a time*]

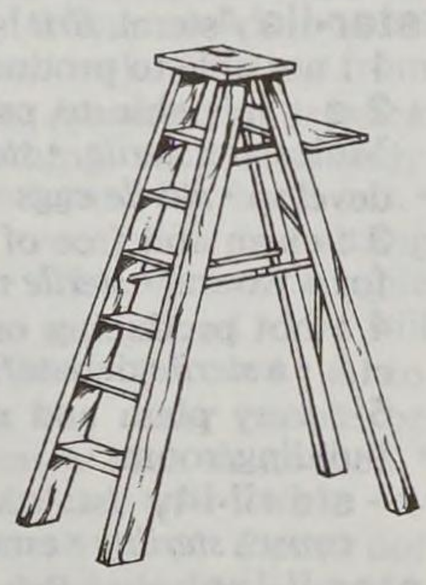
step change *noun* [*singular*] *chiefly Brit* : an important change in something ▪ There has been a *step change* [=*sea change*] in our understanding of the problem.

step•child /'stɛp,ʧajəld/ *noun, pl* **-chil•dren** [*count*]
1 : your wife's or husband's child by a past marriage or relationship : a stepson or stepdaughter
2 : someone or something that does not receive enough care or attention ▪ The school has long been the forgotten *stepchild* of the state university system.

step•daugh•ter /'stɛp,dɑ:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : your wife's or husband's daughter by a past marriage or relationship

step•fa•ther /'stɛp,fɑ:ðɚ/ *noun, pl* **-thers** [*count*] : a man that your mother marries after her marriage to or relationship with your father has ended

step•lad•der /'stɛp,lædɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count*] : a ladder that has wide, flat steps and two pairs of legs which are connected at the top and that opens at the bottom so that it can stand without being attached to or supported by something else


stepladder

step•moth•er /'stɛp,mʌðɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a woman that your father marries after his marriage to or relationship with your mother has ended

step•par•ent /'stɛp,perənt/ *noun, pl* **-ents** [*count*] : someone that your mother or father marries after the marriage to or relationship with your other parent has ended

steppe /'stɛp/ *noun, pl* **steppes** [*count*] : a large, flat area of land with grass and very few trees especially in eastern Europe and Asia

step•ping–stone /'stɛpɪŋ,stoʊn/ *noun, pl* **-stones** [*count*]
1 : a large, flat stone that you step on to cross a stream
2 : something that helps you get or achieve something ▪ He regarded his first job as a *stepping-stone* to a better career.

step•sis•ter /'stɛp,sɪstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : the daughter of your stepmother or stepfather

step•son /'stɛp,sʌn/ *noun, pl* **-sons** [*count*] : your wife's or husband's son by a past marriage or relationship

step stool *noun, pl* ~ **stools** [*count*] : a usually short stool with one or two steps

step–up /'stɛp,ʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] : an increase in size or amount ▪ a *step-up* in production — see also *step up* at [2]STEP

-ster /stɚ/ *noun combining form*
1 : someone who does or handles or operates something ▪ team*ster*
2 : someone who makes or uses something ▪ song*ster* ▪ prank*ster*
3 : someone who is associated with or participates in something ▪ gang*ster*
4 : someone who has a specified quality ▪ young*ster*

[1]ste•reo /'sterijoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-reos**
1 [*count*] : a piece of electronic equipment that plays the radio, CDs, etc., and that uses two speakers for the sound — see picture at LIVING ROOM
2 [*noncount*] : a way of recording and playing back sound so that the sound comes from two directions ▪ broadcasting *in stereo* — compare MONO

[2]stereo *adj* : of or relating to a system that directs sound through two speakers ▪ *stereo* headphones/equipment

ste•reo•phon•ic /,sterijə'fɑ:nɪk/ *adj* : [2]STEREO ▪ *stereophonic* sound

ste•reo•scope /'sterijə,skoʊp/ *noun, pl* **-scopes** [*count*] : a device that is used for viewing stereoscopic images

ster•eo•scop•ic /,sterijə'skɑ:pɪk/ *adj*
1 — used to describe an image that appears to have depth and solidness and that is created by using a special device (called a stereoscope) to look at two slightly different photographs of something at the same time ▪ *stereoscopic* images/photographs
2 *technical* : able to see depth and solidness ▪ normal *stereoscopic* vision

[1]ste•reo•type /'sterijə,taɪp/ *noun, pl* **-types** [*count*] : an often unfair and untrue belief that many people have about all people or things with a particular characteristic ▪ racial/cultural *stereotypes* ▪ the *stereotype* of the absentminded professor
– ste•reo•typ•i•cal /,sterijə'tɪpɪkəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *stereotypical* representation/idea/approach ▪ He's the *stereotypical* absentminded professor. [=he's a professor who is absentminded in the way that people often think of professors as being] **– ste•reo•typ•i•cal•ly** /,sterijə'tɪpɪkli/ *adv*

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[2]stereotype *verb* **-types; -typed; -typ·ing** [+ *obj*] : to believe unfairly that all people or things with a particular characteristic are the same ▪ It's not fair to *stereotype* a whole group of people based on one person you don't like.
– **stereotyped** /'sterijə,taɪpt/ *adj* ▪ a *stereotyped* representation/approach/character ▪ *stereotyped* roles
– **stereotyping** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ ethnic/gender *stereotyping*

ster·ile /'sterəl, *Brit* 'stɛ,rajəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : not able to produce crops or plants ▪ *sterile* soil/fields
2 a : not able to produce children, young animals, etc. ▪ Mules are *sterile*. ▪ *sterile* offspring **b** : not able to grow or develop ▪ *sterile* eggs
3 : clean and free of bacteria and germs ▪ a *sterile* dressing for a wound ▪ *sterile* needles
4 : not producing or containing new ideas, useful results, etc. ▪ a *sterile* debate/subject
5 : very plain and not interesting or attractive ▪ a *sterile* building/room
– **ste·ril·i·ty** /stə'rɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a disease that causes *sterility* ▪ emotional/creative *sterility*

ster·il·ize *also Brit* **ster·il·ise** /'sterə,laɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es; -ized; -iz·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to clean (something) by destroying germs or bacteria ▪ *sterilize* the dental instruments
2 : to make (someone or something) unable to produce children, young animals, etc. ▪ The organization encourages people to *sterilize* their cats and dogs.
– **ster·il·i·za·tion** *also Brit* **ster·il·i·sa·tion** /,sterələ'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ,stɛrə,laɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]
– **ster·il·iz·er** *also Brit* **ster·il·is·er** /'sterə,laɪzə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[1]ster·ling /'stəlɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : silver that is 92 percent pure — called also *sterling silver*
2 : British money ▪ a drop in the value of *sterling* — see also POUND STERLING

[2]sterling *adj*
1 : made of silver that is 92 percent pure ▪ a *sterling* bracelet
2 *always used before a noun* : very good : EXCELLENT ▪ *sterling* ideas/work ▪ a *sterling* example of democracy at work

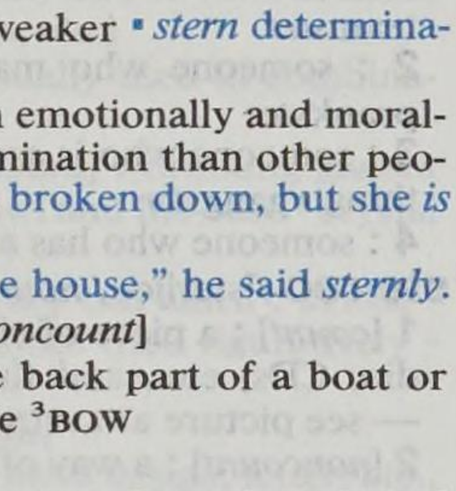
[1]stern /'stən/ *adj* **stern·er; -est**
1 a : very serious especially in an unfriendly way ▪ a *stern* judge ▪ a *stern* warning **b** : expressing strong disapproval or criticism ▪ He gave me a *stern* look.
2 : not likely to change or become weaker ▪ *stern* determination/resolve
be made of sterner stuff : to be an emotionally and morally strong person with more determination than other people ▪ Another woman would have broken down, but she *is made of sterner stuff*.
– **stern·ly** *adv* ▪ "No running in the house," he said *sternly*.
– **stern·ness** /'stənnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]stern *noun, pl* **sterns** [*count*] : the back part of a boat or ship — see picture at BOAT; opposite [3]BOW
from stem to stern see [1]STEM

ster·num /'stənəm/ *noun, pl* **-nums** [*count*] *technical* : BREASTBONE

ste·roid /'stɛ,rɔɪd/ *noun, pl* **-roids** [*count*]
1 : a natural substance that is produced in the body
2 : ANABOLIC STEROID ▪ a *steroid* user/abuser ▪ He was accused of taking/using *steroids*.
on steroids **1** : using anabolic steroids ▪ There were many rumors that she was *on steroids*. **2** *US, informal + humorous* : very large or impressive ▪ a cookie *on steroids* [=a very large cookie]

stetho·scope /'stɛθə,skoʊp/ *noun, pl* **-scopes** [*count*] *medical* : an instrument that is used for listening to someone's heart or lungs


stethoscope

Stet·son /'stɛtsən/ *trademark* — used for a somewhat tall hat with a wide brim

ste·ve·dore /'sti:və,doə/ *noun, pl* **-dores** [*count*] : a person whose job is to load and unload ships at a port : LONGSHOREMAN

[1]stew /'stu:, *Brit* 'stju:/ *noun, pl* **stews** : a dish of vegetables and usually meat cooked in hot liquid for a long time [*count*] I cooked/made a *stew* for dinner. [*noncount*] Would you like some *stew*?
in a stew *informal* : excited, worried, or confused ▪ He got himself *in a stew* over nothing. ▪ She's been *in a stew* for days.

[2]stew *verb* **stews; stewed; stew·ing**
1 : to cook (something) slowly in hot liquid [+ *obj*] *stewing* the meat [*no obj*] The meat still needs to *stew*. ▪ a can of *stewed* tomatoes
2 [*no obj*] : to be upset or worried ▪ She's been *stewing* over/about what he said for days.
stew in your own juice/juices *informal* : to worry and suffer because of something that you did ▪ Let him *stew in his own juices* for a while.

stew·ard /'stu:wəd, *Brit* 'stju:wəd/ *noun, pl* **-ards** [*count*]
1 : a person and especially a man whose job is to serve meals and take care of passengers on a train, airplane, or ship — compare FLIGHT ATTENDANT
2 a : someone who protects or is responsible for money, property, etc. ▪ the *steward* of their investments ▪ teaching our children to be good *stewards* of the land **b** : a person whose job is to manage the land and property of another person ▪ the *steward* of the estate — called also (*Brit*) *bailiff*
3 *chiefly Brit* : someone who is in charge of a race, contest, or other public event ▪ The race *stewards* are reviewing the results.
– see also SHOP STEWARD, WINE STEWARD

stew·ard·ess /'stu:wədəs, *Brit* 'stju:wədəs/ *noun, pl* **-ess·es** [*count*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : a woman whose job is to serve meals and take care of passengers on a train, airplane, or ship — compare FLIGHT ATTENDANT

stew·ard·ship /'stu:wəd,ʃɪp, *Brit* 'stju:wəd,ʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity or job of protecting and being responsible for something — usually + *of* ▪ the *stewardship of* their investments/estate ▪ the *stewardship of* our natural resources

[1]stick /'stɪk/ *noun, pl* **sticks**
1 [*count*] : a cut or broken branch or twig ▪ They collected dry *sticks* for the campfire. ▪ a pile of *sticks*
2 [*count*] **a** : a long, thin piece of wood, metal, plastic, etc., that is used for a particular purpose ▪ He served pieces of fruit on *sticks*. ▪ a candied apple on a *stick* ▪ a measuring/hiking *stick* — see also BROOMSTICK, CHOPSTICK, DIPSTICK, DRUMSTICK, WALKING STICK, YARDSTICK **b** : a long, thin object that is used for hitting or moving a ball or puck in a game ▪ a hockey/lacrosse *stick* **c** : a stick that is used as a weapon ▪ You know the old saying: "*Sticks* and stones may break my bones, but words/names can/will never hurt me." — often used figuratively in British English ▪ The minister's inappropriate comments gave his opponents a new *stick* with which to beat him. — see also NIGHTSTICK
3 [*count*] **a** : something that is long and thin like a stick ▪ He has *sticks* for legs. ▪ cinnamon/carrot/celery *sticks* — often + *of* ▪ a *stick of* dynamite — see also FISH STICK, MATCHSTICK, POGO STICK **b** : a long piece *of* something that is usually wrapped in paper, plastic, etc. ▪ a *stick of* gum/butter **c** : a solid substance that is sold in a tall container which is open at the top ▪ a glue *stick* ▪ a *stick* of deodorant — see also LIPSTICK
4 [*count*] **a** : JOYSTICK ▪ The pilot pulled back on the *stick*. **b** : STICK SHIFT ▪ Does your car have a *stick*?
5 ***the sticks*** *informal* : an area in the country that is far away from towns and cities ▪ We live way out in *the sticks*. [=*the boonies, the boondocks*]
6 [*count*] *informal* : punishment or the threat of punishment that is used to try to persuade someone to do something ✧ This sense of *stick* is often contrasted with *carrot*, which refers to the reward or advantage someone will get if they do something. ▪ She'll have to choose between the *carrot* and the *stick*. ▪ They say that a *carrot* works better than a *stick*. ▪ The administration was criticized for its ***carrot-and-stick*** approach to foreign policy.
7 [*noncount*] *Brit, informal* : CRITICISM ▪ I gave him a lot of *stick* [=*flak*] for his mistake.
get on the stick *US, informal* : to start working hard at something that you have been avoiding doing ▪ You'd better *get on the stick* with those college applications!
more than you can shake a stick at see [1]SHAKE
stick to beat someone with *or* ***stick with which to beat someone*** *Brit, informal* : something that is used to attack or punish someone or to make an attack or punishment seem reasonable or right ▪ The fee is just another *stick with which to beat the unions*. ▪ These charges have given her opponents a new *stick to beat her with*.
the short end of the stick *chiefly US, informal* : unfair or

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unfavorable treatment ▪ She got *the short end of the stick* in the deal.

the wrong end of the stick *chiefly Brit, informal* : an incorrect understanding of something ▪ You've got (hold of) *the wrong end of the stick*. He didn't push me; I fell.

up sticks *Brit, informal* : to pack up your belongings and move to a different place ▪ They *upped sticks* and left for London.

– see also BIG STICK, CANDLESTICK, SLAPSTICK

[2]stick *verb* **sticks; stuck** /ˈstʌk/; **stick•ing**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** [+ *obj*] : to push (something usually sharp or pointed) into something ▪ He *stuck* a toothpick in/into the sandwich. ▪ The jacket was too thick to *stick* a pin through. ▪ The nurse *stuck* the needle into the patient's leg. ▪ *Stick* these candles in the birthday cake. **b** [*no obj*] *of something usually sharp or pointed* : to go partly into something ▪ The thorn *stuck* in the dog's paw. ▪ The spears *stuck* into the ground. : to have a part that has been pushed into something : to be partly inside something ▪ The victim was found with a knife *sticking* out of her back. ▪ darts *sticking* out of the wall ▪ I saw a letter *sticking* (out) from his pocket. = I saw a letter *sticking* out of his pocket.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] *informal* : to put (something or someone) in a specified place ▪ He *stuck* [=*tucked*] the pencil behind his ear. ▪ The dog *stuck* its head out the window. ▪ She *stuck* [=*pushed*] the letter under the door. ▪ She *stuck* [=*reached*] her hand into the box and pulled out a piece of paper. ▪ The librarian *stuck* [=*put*] the book back on its shelf. ▪ The little girl *stuck* her fingers in the batter. ▪ The photographer *stuck* the shorter people in the front row. ▪ The deer *stuck* its nose up in the air. ▪ He pointed the gun at me and said "***stick 'em up***." [=put your hands up in the air]

3 a *always used before an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] *informal* : to attach (something) to a surface with glue, tape, pins, etc. ▪ She *stuck* two stamps on the letter. ▪ He *stuck* a note (up) on the door. ▪ She *stuck* the pieces of wood together with glue. **b** [*no obj*] : to become attached to the surface of something ▪ The suction cup wouldn't *stick*. ▪ Several pages had *stuck* together. ▪ Spray the pan with oil to keep the biscuits from *sticking*. — often + *to* ▪ The peanut butter *stuck to* the knife. ▪ Magnets *stick to* steel. ▪ The glue had *stuck to* her fingers.

4 [*no obj*] : to become difficult or impossible to move from a place or position ▪ The door's handle has a tendency to *stick*. ▪ That door always *sticks*. ▪ Her foot *stuck* in the mud. ▪ A piece of food *stuck* [=*lodged*] in her throat. — often used figuratively ▪ His words ***stuck in my mind***. [=I remembered his words] ▪ One of the kids called him "Stretch," and ***the name stuck***. [=everyone started calling him "Stretch"] ▪ You can charge them with fraud, but you'll need more evidence if you want to ***make it stick***. [=if you want them to be legally punished for fraud]

5 [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : to deal with or accept (an unpleasant situation, experience, person, etc.) : STAND — usually used in questions and negative statements with *can, can't, cannot, could*, and *couldn't* ▪ He *couldn't stick* the new job. ▪ How *can* you *stick* being there all the time? ▪ She *can't stick* his friends. [=she strongly dislikes his friends]

stick around [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to stay somewhere especially in order to wait for something or someone ▪ *Stick around*. The band should start playing soon. ▪ If you *stick around*, you can meet my girlfriend.

stick at it *Brit, informal* : to continue doing or trying to do something ▪ If you *stick at it* [=*keep at it*] long enough, you'll succeed.

stick at nothing *Brit, informal* : to be willing to do anything in order to get or achieve something ▪ She'll *stick at nothing* [=*stop at nothing*] to get what she wants.

stick a toe in the water see [1]TOE

stick by [*phrasal verb*] ***stick by (someone or something)*** : to continue to support or be loyal to (someone or something) ▪ The troops *stuck by* [=*stood by*] their general to the end. ▪ She *stuck by* [=*stood by*] her husband throughout the trial. ▪ I *stick by* my promise. [=I still will do what I promised] ▪ He *stuck by* what he said earlier.

stick in your craw see CRAW

stick it to (someone) *US, informal* : to treat (someone) harshly or unfairly especially in order to get something for yourself (such as revenge or money) ▪ Her political rivals used the scandal as an opportunity to *stick it to* her. ▪ businesses that *stick it to* consumers by charging high fees ▪ The government is really *sticking it to* the taxpayers.

stick like glue *informal* **1** : to stay very firmly attached to something ▪ Wash the egg off before it dries, or it will *stick like glue*. — often used figuratively ▪ One of the kids called him "Stretch," and the nickname *stuck* (to him) *like glue*. [=everyone started calling him by that nickname] **2** : to stay very close to someone ▪ Her dog always *stuck* to her *like glue*. ▪ The two friends *stick* (together) *like glue*.

stick out [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to extend outward beyond an edge or surface ▪ His ears *stick out*. [=they extend outward more than most people's ears] ▪ A peninsula *sticks out* from the shore into the bay. **2 *stick out (something) or stick (something) out*** : to extend (something, such as a body part) outward ▪ She said "hello," and *stuck* her hand *out*. ▪ He *stuck out* his chest and walked away. ▪ She was sitting with her feet *stuck out* in the aisle. ▪ *Stick out* your tongue and say "ah." **3** : to be easily seen or recognized ▪ You will certainly *stick out* [=*stand out*] with that orange hat. **4** : to be better or more important than the other people or things in a group in a way that is easily seen or noticed ▪ Only one contestant really *sticks out* [=*stands out*] in my mind. ▪ Two facts *stick out* from her testimony. **5 *stick out (something) or stick (something) out*** *informal* : to continue doing (something unpleasant or difficult) ▪ She *stuck* the job *out* for the remainder of the summer. ▪ Though the home team was down by 20 points, a few fans ***stuck it out*** [=stayed and watched the game] until the very end. **6 *stick out for (something)*** *Brit, informal* : to refuse to accept or agree to something in order to get (something) ▪ The strikers are *sticking out for* [=*holding out for*] higher pay.

stick out like a sore thumb see [1]SORE

stick to [*phrasal verb*] ***stick to (something)*** : to continue doing or using (something) especially when it is difficult to do so ▪ She *stuck to* her story about the money already being missing when she got there. ▪ Please *stick to* the script/subject/rules. ▪ *Stick to* the marked trails. ▪ If you want to succeed, you've got to ***stick to it***! [=keep trying, working, etc.] : to not change (a decision, belief, etc.) ▪ I intend to *stick to* my promise/word. ▪ She's *sticking to* her decision to retire.

stick together *informal* : to continue to support each other ▪ Families need to *stick together*.

stick to your guns see [1]GUN

stick two fingers up at see [1]FINGER

stick up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to extend upward above a surface ▪ The baby's hair *sticks* (straight) *up*. ▪ A large rock was *sticking up* in the middle of the river. **2 *stick up for (someone)*** *informal* : to defend (someone) against attack or criticism ▪ He *stuck up for* his friend. ▪ She *stuck up for* herself. — see also STICKUP

stick with [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1 *stick with (something)*** : to continue using or doing (something) ▪ You need to find a job and *stick with* it. ▪ I'll *stick with* my usual brand. : to not change (a decision, belief, etc.) ▪ The company is *sticking with* its decision to close the store. **2 *stick (someone) with (something or someone)*** : to force (someone) to deal with (something or someone unpleasant) ▪ They always *stick* me *with* the bill. [=make me pay the bill] ▪ The teacher always *sticks* me *with* Tom. — often used as *(be/get) stuck with* ▪ I *was stuck with* washing dishes. ▪ I *got stuck with* Tom again. **3 *stick with (someone)*** **a** : to stay close to (someone) in a race or competition ▪ The challenger *stuck with* the champion until the very last round. **b** : to stay near (someone) in order to gain knowledge, protection, etc. ▪ *Stick with* me, kid, and you'll learn something! **c** : to be remembered by someone for a very long time ▪ The lessons she learned from that experience *stuck with* her.

stick your head above the parapet see PARAPET

stick your neck out see [1]NECK

stick your nose in/into see [1]NOSE

stick your oar in see OAR

– see also STUCK

stick•ball /ˈstɪkˌbɑːl/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a game like baseball that is played on the street or in a small area with a stick (such as a broomstick) and ball

stick•er /ˈstɪkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a piece of paper with a picture or writing on it and a sticky substance on its back that is used to attach it to a surface — see also BUMPER STICKER

sticker price *noun, pl* **~ prices** [*count*] *US* : the price of a vehicle that is suggested by the manufacturer and that is shown on a sticker which is attached to the vehicle ▪ We managed to negotiate 15 percent off the *sticker price*; *also* : the stated price of something ▪ The speakers are excellent and well worth the *sticker price*.

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sticker shock *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a feeling of surprise and disappointment caused by learning that something you want to buy is very expensive ▪ We left the store suffering severe *sticker shock*.

stick figure *noun, pl* ~ **-ures** [*count*] : a drawing that shows the head of a person or animal as a circle and all other parts as usually straight lines

stick•han•dling /'stɪkˌhændlɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *sports* : the use of a stick to control a puck or ball ▪ a hockey player who is skilled at *stickhandling*

sticking plaster *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count*] *Brit* : a piece of material that is put on your skin over a small cut or wound : PLASTER

sticking point *noun, pl* ~ **points** [*count*] : something that people disagree about and that prevents progress from being made in discussions ▪ The length of the contract has become a *sticking point* in the negotiations.

stick insect *noun, pl* ~ **-sects** [*count*] : an insect with a long, thin body that looks like a stick — called also (*US*) *walking stick*

stick–in–the–mud /'stɪkənðəˌmʌd/ *noun, pl* **stick–in–the–muds** [*count*] *informal* + *disapproving* : someone who has old-fashioned ideas or who does not like trying new or exciting things ▪ He's just an old *stick-in-the-mud*.

stick•ler /'stɪkləɚ/ *noun, pl* **-lers** [*count*] : a person who believes that something is very important and should be done or followed all the time ▪ an etiquette *stickler* — usually + *for* ▪ a *stickler for* proper etiquette ▪ He's a *stickler for* the rules.

stick–on *adj, always used before a noun* : having a sticky substance on one side for attaching to something ▪ *stick-on* labels

stick•pin /'stɪkˌpɪn/ *noun, pl* **-pins** [*count*] *US* : a decorative pin that is worn on a jacket or used to hold the ends of a necktie in place

stick shift *noun, pl* ~ **shifts** [*count*] *US*
1 : a device in a car that you move into different positions in order to change the car's gears — called also *stick*; compare GEARSHIFT
2 : a car that has a stick shift : MANUAL ▪ Do you know how to drive a *stick shift*? — called also *stick*

stick–to–it•ive•ness /stɪk'tu:wətɪvnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal* : the quality that allows someone to continue trying to do something even though it is difficult or unpleasant ▪ I admire her *stick-to-itiveness*. [=*perseverance, tenacity*]

stick•up /'stɪkˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *US, informal* : a robbery that is done using a gun : HOLDUP ▪ He pulled out a gun and shouted, "This is a *stickup*!" — see also *stick up* at ²STICK

stick•work /'stɪkˌwɚk/ *noun* [*noncount*] *sports* : the use of a stick to control a puck or ball ▪ a hockey player who's known for his skillful/fancy *stickwork*

sticky /'stɪki/ *adj* **stick•i•er; -est**
1 : having a substance (such as glue or honey) on it that things easily attach to : covered in a substance that things stick to ▪ My fingers are *sticky*. ▪ *sticky* hands ▪ The floor is *sticky*.
2 *of a substance* : tending to have things attach to it : tending to have things stick to it ▪ The sap is very *sticky*. ▪ There is a *sticky* substance on the table. ▪ The paint was still *sticky*.
3 *informal* : unpleasantly warm and humid ▪ It's *sticky* outside. ▪ a *sticky* summer afternoon ▪ The weather was ***hot and sticky***.
4 *informal* : difficult or unpleasant ▪ It's a *sticky* [=*tricky*] situation.
– **stick•i•ness** /'stɪkinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The tape has lost its *stickiness*.

sticky bun *noun, pl* ~ **buns** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a usually round sweet cake made with cinnamon and topped with melted brown sugar and butter

sticky fingers *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : a tendency to steal things ▪ people with *sticky fingers* ▪ She's known for having *sticky fingers*.

sticky note *noun, pl* ~ **notes** [*count*] : a small piece of paper that has a strip of a sticky substance on the back so that it can be attached to a surface — see picture at OFFICE

sticky–sweet *adj, chiefly US, informal* : extremely sweet : too sweet ▪ *sticky-sweet* caramel ▪ a *sticky-sweet* smell ▪ a love song full of *sticky-sweet* sentiment

sticky tape *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : a type of clear tape that is used for sticking things (such as pieces of paper) together : clear adhesive tape ▪ a roll of *sticky tape*

sticky wicket *noun* [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : a difficult situation ▪ It's a bit of a *sticky wicket*. ▪ She was ***on a sticky wicket*** when she saw her friend steal the fund-raiser money.

¹stiff /stɪf/ *adj* **stiff•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : difficult to bend or move ▪ *stiff* valves/cardboard/fabric ▪ *stiff* hairs/bristles ▪ The brush was ***as stiff as a board***. [=very stiff] **b** : painful to move or use ▪ *stiff* muscles ▪ a *stiff* back/neck ▪ When I got out of bed this morning my back was *stiff as a board*.; *also* : showing pain in movement or use ▪ a *stiff* walk
2 : thick and difficult to stir or pour ▪ Beat the egg whites until they are *stiff*. ▪ *stiff* batter
3 : difficult, strict, or severe ▪ a *stiff* [=*heavy*] penalty/fine ▪ a *stiff* task/challenge ▪ *stiff* competition
4 : not graceful, relaxed, or friendly ▪ Our host seemed somewhat *stiff*. ▪ a *stiff* manner : too formal ▪ *stiff* writing/dialogue
5 : very expensive ▪ a *stiff* price
6 : strong and forceful ▪ a *stiff* wind/breeze ▪ The troops encountered *stiff* resistance.
7 : containing a lot of alcohol ▪ a *stiff* drink/cocktail
stiff upper lip : a calm and determined attitude in a difficult situation ▪ She managed to ***keep a stiff upper lip*** even as everything fell apart.
– **stiff•ly** *adv* ▪ "Excuse me," he said *stiffly*. – **stiff•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

²stiff *adv, informal* : very much : to an extreme degree ▪ She was ***scared/bored stiff***.
frozen stiff **1** : completely stiff because of being wet and frozen ▪ The shirt was *frozen stiff*. **2** *informal* : extremely cold ▪ We were *frozen stiff* by the time we got indoors.

³stiff *noun, pl* **stiffs** [*count*] *informal*
1 : the body of a dead person
2 *US* **a** : a person who you think is lucky, unlucky, etc. ▪ You lucky *stiff*! ▪ That poor *stiff* never gets a break. **b** : an ordinary or dull person ▪ (*disapproving*) He's OK but his friends are a bunch of *stiffs*. ▪ They have the kind of luxuries the average ***working stiff*** can't afford.

⁴stiff *verb* **stiffs; stiffed; stiff•ing** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to not give as much money as you should give to (someone) ▪ He *stiffed* the waiter on the tip. [=he didn't give the waiter a tip or he gave a tip that was too small]

stiff–arm /'stɪfˌɑɚm/ *noun, pl* **-arms** [*count*] *American football* : STRAIGHT-ARM
– **stiff–arm** *verb* **-arms; -armed; -arm•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ The ball-carrier *stiff-armed* the tackler.

stiff•en /'stɪfən/ *verb* **-ens; -ened; -en•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to stop moving and become completely still especially because of fear, anger, etc. ▪ She *stiffened* when he grabbed her shoulder. ▪ The dogs *stiffened* in alarm.
2 [*no obj*] : to become painful to move or use — often + *up* ▪ My muscles *stiffened up* the next day.
3 : to become more severe or strong or to make (something) more severe or strong [*no obj*] The wind *stiffened*. ▪ His resolve has *stiffened*. [+ *obj*] He *stiffened* his resolve. ▪ The law would *stiffen* penalties for tax evasion.
4 [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as cloth) difficult to bend or move ▪ *stiffen* a shirt with starch
– **stiff•en•er** /'stɪfənɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

stiff–necked /'stɪf'nɛkt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : very proud and formal ▪ a *stiff-necked* military man ▪ *stiff-necked* arrogance ▪ She's too *stiff-necked* to ask for help.

sti•fle /'staɪfəl/ *verb* **sti•fles; stifled; sti•fling**
1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to not allow yourself to do or express (something) ▪ trying to *stifle* a cry/yawn ▪ I had to *stifle* the desire/urge to yell "Stop!" **b** : to stop (someone) from doing or expressing something ▪ Students at the school are *stifled* by the pressure to score high on tests.
2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) difficult or impossible ▪ Too many regulations *stifle* innovation. ▪ something that *stifles* the growth of the plant/economy
3 a [*no obj*] : to be unable to breathe easily ▪ I wish we could go outside instead of *stifling* in this tiny room. **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) unable to breathe or unable to breathe easily ▪ He was almost *stifled* by the smoke.

stifling *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : making it difficult to breathe ▪ The heat was *stifling*. : very hot and humid ▪ a *stifling* day
2 : not allowing something to be done or expressed ▪ *stifling* rules/regulations/requirements ▪ a *stifling* relationship [=a relationship that prevents someone from behaving freely, expressing emotion, etc.]

– **stifling** *adv* ▪ The weather was ***stifling hot***. [=very hot]
– **sti·fling·ly** *adv* ▪ *stiflingly* hot

stig·ma /ˈstɪgmə/ *noun, pl* **-mas**
1 [*singular*] : a set of negative and often unfair beliefs that a society or group of people have about something ▪ the *stigma* associated with mental illness = the *stigma* of mental illness ▪ the *stigma* of being poor = the *stigma* of poverty ▪ There's a ***social stigma*** attached to receiving welfare.
2 [*count*] *botany* : the top part in the center of a flower which receives the pollen

stig·ma·ta /stɪgˈmɑːtə/ *noun* [*plural*] : marks on someone's hands and feet which resemble Jesus Christ's wounds from being nailed on the cross

stig·ma·tize *also Brit* **stig·ma·tise** /ˈstɪgməˌtaɪz/ *verb* **-tiz·es**; **-tized**; **-tiz·ing** [+ *obj*] *usually disapproving* : to describe or regard (something, such as a characteristic or group of people) in a way that shows strong disapproval ▪ Society *stigmatizes* welfare recipients. ▪ a legal system that *stigmatizes* juveniles as criminals
– **stig·ma·ti·za·tion** *also Brit* **stig·ma·ti·sa·tion** /ˌstɪgməˌtəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌstɪgməˌtaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

stile /ˈstajəl/ *noun, pl* **stiles** [*count*] : a set of steps to help people climb over a fence or wall

sti·let·to /stəˈlɛtoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-tos** *or* **-toes** [*count*]
1 a : a woman's shoe with a very high, thin heel ▪ a pair of *stilettos* [=*spikes, spike heels*] **b** : the heel of a stiletto — called also *spike heel*
2 : a knife with a thin, pointed blade

[1]still /ˈstɪl/ *adv*
1 : happening or existing before now and continuing into the present — used to say that an action or condition continues ▪ He *still* lives there. [=he continues to live there] ▪ It's *still* early/cold/Tuesday. ▪ She's *still* mad about what happened yesterday. ▪ Eat your soup while it's *still* hot. [=while it continues to be hot; before it cools]
2 : in spite of that — used to say that something happens or is true even though there is something that might prevent it from happening or being true ▪ Careful people can *still* make mistakes. ▪ I tried again and *still* I failed.
3 : without moving : without motion ▪ Sit *still*. It'll just take a minute. ▪ She stood very *still*.
4 : to a greater extent or degree — used to add force to words like *more, better, bigger*, etc. ▪ a *still* more difficult problem = a problem that is more difficult *still* ▪ *still* bigger/better/longer
5 : in addition — used for emphasis ▪ He won *still* [=*yet*] another tournament. ▪ *still* more complications
jury is still out see JURY
still less see [2]LESS

[2]still *adj*
1 a : not moving ▪ *still* water ▪ The cat twitched slightly, and then was *still*. — see also STOCK-STILL **b** : lacking motion or activity ▪ Everyone had left, and the house was finally *still*. ▪ a hot, *still* day [=a day without wind]
2 *photography* **a** — used to describe an ordinary photograph that does not show movement as compared to a movie ▪ *still* photographs **b** : relating to or used for still photographs ▪ a class in *still* photography ▪ a *still* camera
3 *chiefly Brit, of a liquid* : not having bubbles ▪ They had *still* and fizzy drinks. ▪ *still* wine
still waters run deep — used to say that people who are quiet or shy are often very intelligent and interesting
– **still·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[3]still *verb* **stills**; **stilled**; **still·ing** *literary*
1 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) less severe or strong ▪ Her reassuring words *stilled* our fears/apprehensions.
2 : to become still or to make (something) still : to stop moving or to cause (something) to stop moving [*no obj*] The water *stilled* at last. [+ *obj*] river waters *stilled* by dams
3 [+ *obj*] : to stop (something) from continuing ▪ The report has not *stilled* debate about whether the procedure is safe.

[4]still *noun, pl* **stills**
1 [*noncount*] *literary* : quiet or silence ▪ the *still* of late evening ▪ the *still* of the deep woods
2 [*count*] : PHOTOGRAPH; *specifically* : a photograph of actors or scenes from a movie ▪ a series of *stills* from the movie
the still of the night *literary* : the time late at night when it is very quiet and dark
– compare [5]STILL

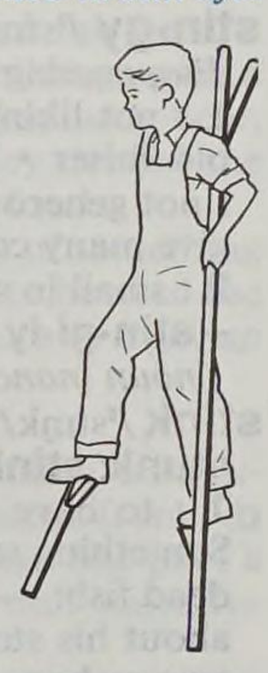
[5]still *noun, pl* **stills** [*count*] : a piece of equipment that is used for making strong alcoholic drinks ▪ a whisky *still*
— compare [4]STILL

still·birth /ˈstɪlˌbɚθ/ *noun, pl* **-births** [*count*] : the birth of a dead baby

still·born /ˈstɪlˈboɚn/ *adj*
1 *of a baby* : dead at birth
2 : never able to begin operating or proceeding ▪ The plan was *stillborn*. [=the plan had failed even before it had begun to be used]

still life *noun, pl* ~ **lifes** [*count*] : a painting, drawing, etc., of a carefully arranged group of objects (such as flowers and fruit) ▪ an exhibit of *still lifes*; *also* [*noncount*] : the art or activity of making still lifes ▪ She prefers portraiture to *still life*.

stilt /ˈstɪlt/ *noun, pl* **stilts** [*count*]
1 : one of a set of upright posts that are used to hold a building up above water or the ground
2 : one of a pair of long poles with platforms for your feet that you can stand on to walk high above the ground ▪ a circus performer walking on *stilts*


stilts

stilt·ed /ˈstɪltəd/ *adj* : awkward especially because of being too formal ▪ a *stilted* speech ▪ *stilted* dialogue/language

stim·u·lant /ˈstɪmjələnt/ *noun, pl* **-lants** [*count*]
1 : something (such as a drug) that makes you more active or gives you more energy ▪ Caffeine is a *stimulant*.
2 : something that causes more activity : STIMULUS ▪ The movie was a *stimulant* to discussion.

stim·u·late /ˈstɪmjəˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat·ed**; **-lat·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (something) more active ▪ Caffeine *stimulates* the heart. : to cause or encourage (something) to happen or develop ▪ A raise in employee wages might *stimulate* production. ▪ The economy was not *stimulated* by the tax cuts. ▪ a hormone that *stimulates* the growth of muscle tissue
2 : to make (a person) excited or interested in something ▪ Their discussion *stimulated* him to research the subject more. ▪ He was *stimulated* by their discussion.
– **stim·u·la·tion** /ˌstɪmjəˈleɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ physical/intellectual/sexual *stimulation*

stimulating *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : exciting or interesting ▪ a *stimulating* conversation ▪ a *stimulating* environment for studying
2 : causing someone to become more energetic or alert ▪ the *stimulating* effects of caffeine

stim·u·lus /ˈstɪmjələs/ *noun, pl* **stim·u·li** /ˈstɪmjəˌlaɪ/ [*count*]
1 : something that causes something else to happen, develop, or become more active ▪ The pay raise was a *stimulus* for production. ▪ an economic *stimulus* plan
2 : something that causes a change or a reaction ▪ Heat and light are physical *stimuli*. ▪ The dog responded to the *stimulus* of the ringing bell.

[1]sting /ˈstɪŋ/ *verb* **stings**; **stung** /ˈstʌŋ/; **sting·ing**
1 *of an insect, plant, or animal* : to hurt (someone) by piercing the skin with a sharp, pointed part that usually contains poison [+ *obj*] I got *stung* by a bee. ▪ The jellyfish *stung* the swimmer. [*no obj*] The bees will *sting* if you bother them.
2 : to cause a quick, sharp pain [*no obj*] The iodine will *sting* for a few minutes. [+ *obj*] The cold rain *stung* my eyes.
3 a [*no obj*] : to feel a quick sharp pain ▪ The smoke made our eyes *sting*. **b** *not used in progressive tenses* : to cause (someone) to feel emotional or mental pain [+ *obj*] She was *stung* by their harsh criticism. ▪ His words *stung* her. [*no obj*] Your comment *stung*.
4 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to treat (someone) unfairly in a business deal — usually used as *(be/get) stung* ▪ He *got stung* on that deal.
sting for [*phrasal verb*] ***sting (someone) for (something)*** *Brit, informal* : to ask (someone) to give or lend you (something) ▪ Can I *sting* you *for* some gum?
– **stinging** *adj* ▪ *stinging* tentacles ▪ a *stinging* feeling ▪ She gave him a *stinging* rebuke.

[2]sting *noun, pl* **stings**
1 [*singular*] : a quick, sharp pain ▪ When you get the shot, you'll feel a little *sting*. — often used figuratively ▪ He'll eventually overcome the *sting* of being rejected. ▪ His smile took the *sting* out of his words. [=his smile showed that his words were not meant to be hurtful]
2 [*count*] : an injury caused when an insect or animal stings

S

you ▪ His arm was covered with bee *stings*.

3 [*count*] : a complicated and clever plan that is meant to deceive someone especially in order to catch criminals ▪ They were caught in a drug *sting*. ▪ a *sting* operation by police

4 [*count*] *Brit* : STINGER

sting•er /ˈstɪŋɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a pointed part on an insect and animal that is used to sting someone ▪ the *stinger* of a bee — called also (*Brit*) *sting*

sting•ray /ˈstɪŋˌreɪ/ *noun, pl* **-rays** [*count*] : a type of fish that has a large, flat body and a long tail with spines on it that are used to sting other animals

stin•gy /ˈstɪnʤi/ *adj* **sting•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving*

1 : not liking or wanting to give or spend money ▪ a *stingy* old miser ▪ The company was too *stingy* to raise salaries. : not generous ▪ He is *stingy* with compliments. [=he doesn't give many compliments]

2 : small in size or amount ▪ *stingy* portions of food

– stin•gi•ly /ˈstɪnʤəli/ *adv* **– stin•gi•ness** /ˈstɪnʤinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He is known for his *stinginess*.

[1]stink /ˈstɪŋk/ *verb* **stinks**; **stank** /ˈstæŋk/ *or* **stunk** /ˈstʌŋk/; **stunk**; **stink•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to have a very bad smell ▪ These dirty clothes *stink*. ▪ Something *stinks* in here. — often + *of* ▪ His clothes *stank of* dead fish. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Something *stinks* about his story. [=something about his story does not seem true or honest] ▪ The whole project *stinks of* corruption.

2 *informal* **a** : to do something very poorly ▪ I *stink* at golf. [=I'm a very bad golfer] **b** : to be very low in quality ▪ The movie *stunk*. [=the movie was very bad] ▪ The food is good at that restaurant, but the service *stinks*. **c** : to be very unpleasant, unfair, etc. ▪ Having a root canal *stinks*. ▪ It *stinks* that you can't stay longer. [=I'm very sorry/disappointed that you can't stay longer]

stink up (*US*) *or Brit* ***stink out*** [*phrasal verb*] ***stink (something) up/out*** *or* ***stink up/out (something)*** : to give a very bad smell to (something) ▪ His cigars *stink up* the house.

stink up the joint see [1]JOINT

[2]stink *noun* [*singular*]

1 : a very bad smell ▪ the *stink* of garbage

2 *informal* : a situation in which someone complains in a very angry and often public way ▪ She ***caused (quite) a stink*** when her request was refused. ▪ People ***raised a stink*** about the new law. ▪ He ***kicked up a stink*** about the way he'd been treated.

stink bomb *noun, pl* ~ **bombs** [*count*] : a small device that produces a very bad smell when it is broken, burned, etc. ▪ Someone set off a *stink bomb* at the school.

stink•er /ˈstɪŋkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal*

1 *somewhat old-fashioned* : a person or thing that is disliked ▪ He is a dirty little *stinker*.

2 : something (such as a book or film) that is very bad ▪ Her last movie was pretty good, but this one's a *stinker*. [=this one stinks] ▪ a real *stinker* of a performance

[1]stink•ing /ˈstɪŋkɪŋ/ *adj*

1 : having a very bad smell ▪ Put out that *stinking* cigar.

2 *always used before a noun, informal* — used for emphasis when you are angry ▪ I hate this *stinking* job.

[2]stinking *adv, informal* : very or extremely ▪ They're ***stinking rich***. [=*filthy rich*] ▪ He was ***stinking drunk***.

stinky /ˈstɪŋki/ *adj* **stink•i•er**; **-est** *informal* : having a very bad smell ▪ Move your *stinky* feet!

[1]stint /ˈstɪnt/ *noun, pl* **stints** [*count*] : a period of time spent doing a certain job or activity ▪ He had a brief *stint* as a mail carrier. ▪ a four-year *stint* in the army

[2]stint *verb* **stints**; **stint•ed**; **stint•ing** [*no obj*] : to use or give something in limited amounts — usually + *on* or *with* ▪ She doesn't *stint on* spices in her cooking. [=she uses a lot of spices] ▪ He can be *stinting with* praise. [=he tends not to praise people very often]

sti•pend /ˈstaɪˌpɛnd/ *noun, pl* **-pends** [*count*] : a usually small amount of money that is paid regularly to someone ▪ He receives a small *stipend* for his work as a research fellow. ▪ a weekly *stipend*

stip•ple /ˈstɪpəl/ *verb* **stip•ples**; **stip•pled**; **stip•pling** [+ *obj*] : to draw or paint small dots on (something) — usually used as *(be) stippled* ▪ The paper was *stippled* with paint.

– stippled *adj* ▪ a *stippled* background **– stippling** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The pages were decorated with *stippling*.

stip•u•late /ˈstɪpjəˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to demand or require (something) as part of an agreement ▪ The cease-fire was *stipulated* by the treaty. ▪ The rules *stipulate* that players must wear uniforms.

stip•u•la•tion /ˌstɪpjəˈleɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : something that is required as part of an agreement [*count*] contract *stipulations* ▪ We agreed to the deal with the *stipulation* that she pay the expenses herself. [*noncount*] *stipulation* of requirements

[1]stir /ˈstɚ/ *verb* **stirs**; **stirred**; **stir•ring**

1 [+ *obj*] : to mix (something) by making circular movements in it with a spoon or similar object ▪ She *stirred* her coffee. ▪ The cake batter must be *stirred* for 10 minutes. ▪ *Stir* one cup of sugar into the batter.

2 : to move or cause (someone or something) to move after being still [*no obj*] She heard him *stir* (in bed). [=heard him begin to move in bed as he woke up] ▪ He never *stirred* from the couch [=he stayed on the couch] all afternoon. [+ *obj*] She was *stirred* from her sleep by the noise. ▪ The breeze *stirred* the leaves on the tree.

3 a [*no obj*] : to be active or busy ▪ We could see people *stirring* inside the shop. ▪ "Not a creature was *stirring*" —Clement Moore, "A Visit from Saint Nicholas" (1822) **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to be active ▪ A good book can *stir* the imagination. ▪ He ***stirred himself*** to action. [=he began to take action]

4 [+ *obj*] : to cause (an emotion or reaction) ▪ The bad economic news has *stirred* anxiety among investors. [=has caused investors to worry] — usually + *up* ▪ The bad news has *stirred up* a lot of anxiety. ▪ The story *stirred up* some deep emotions within him.

stir up [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***stir up (someone)*** *or* ***stir (someone) up*** : to cause (someone) to feel a strong emotion and a desire to do something ▪ The speech *stirred up* the crowd. **2** ***stir (something) up*** *or* ***stir up (something)*** **a** : to cause (something) to move up into and through the air or water ▪ The workers *stirred up* a lot of dust. **b** : to cause (something, usually something bad or unpleasant) to happen ▪ They're trying to *stir up* trouble. ▪ *stirring up* racial hatred ▪ His comments certainly ***stirred things up***. [=caused a lot of excitement, anger, etc.] — see also [1]STIR 4 (above)

[2]stir *noun* [*singular*]

1 : a state of excitement, anger, or surprise among a group of people ▪ His comments have caused quite a *stir*.

2 : a small movement ▪ the *stir* of the leaves in the breeze

3 : the act of stirring something with a spoon or similar object ▪ She gave the sauce a *stir*. [=she stirred the sauce]

4 *chiefly US slang, old-fashioned* : PRISON ▪ He spent five years in *stir*.

stir–cra•zy /ˈstɚˈkreɪzi/ *adj, not used before a noun* : unhappy and upset because you have been in a place for a long time and want to get out ▪ I was ***going stir-crazy*** after being stuck in the house all week.

[1]stir–fry /ˈstɚˌfraɪ/ *noun, pl* **-fries** [*count, noncount*] : a dish made of foods (such as meat or vegetables) that are fried quickly over high heat while being stirred constantly ▪ We had (a) chicken *stir-fry* for dinner last night.

[2]stir–fry /ˈstɚˈfraɪ/ *verb* **-fries**; **-fried**; **-fry•ing** [+ *obj*] : to fry (something) quickly over high heat while stirring it constantly ▪ *Stir-fry* the pork for four minutes. ▪ *stir-fried* chicken

stir•rer /ˈstɚɚ/ *noun, pl* **-rers** [*count*]

1 : something that is used to stir liquids ▪ a coffee/paint *stirrer*

2 *Brit, informal* : a person who causes trouble

[1]stir•ring /ˈstɚɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : causing strong feelings ▪ She gave a *stirring* [=*moving*] speech at the awards banquet. ▪ a *stirring* rendition of the national anthem

[2]stirring *noun, pl* **-rings** [*count*] : the beginning of a motion, activity, feeling, idea, etc. — + *of* ▪ We felt the first *stirrings of* hope when we heard the news.

stir•rup /ˈstɚɚp, *Brit* ˈstɪrəp/ *noun, pl* **-rups** [*count*] : one of two loops that are attached to a saddle for the rider's feet — see picture at HORSE

stirrup pants *noun* [*plural*] *US* : a pair of women's pants that have a strip of fabric on the bottom of each leg that goes underneath the foot

[1]stitch /ˈstɪʧ/ *noun, pl* **stitch•es**

1 [*count*] : a piece of thread that is passed through a piece of material with a needle ▪ the *stitches* on a baseball ▪ She pulled out the *stitches*. — see also CROSS-STITCH

2 [*count*] *medical* : a special piece of thread that is used to hold a large cut or wound closed ▪ His cut required six *stitches*. ▪ She gets her *stitches* removed tomorrow.

3 a [*count*] : a single loop of thread or yarn that is wrapped around a tool (such as a knitting needle) and is linked to oth-

er loops to make fabric ▪ After knitting another row she realized she had ***dropped a stitch***. [=let a loop fall off a knitting needle] **b** : a particular type or style of stitch used in sewing, knitting, crocheting, etc. [*count*] The book teaches a variety of *stitches*. [*noncount*] a scarf worked in knit/purl *stitch*

4 [*count*] : a sudden sharp pain in your side — usually singular ▪ I've got a *stitch* (in my side).

a stitch *informal* ✧ If you ***are not wearing a stitch***, ***do not have a stitch on***, etc., you are naked. ▪ She *wasn't wearing a stitch* (of clothes/clothing).

a stitch in time (saves nine) ✧ The phrase *a stitch in time (saves nine)* means that it is better to fix a problem when it is small than to wait and let it become a bigger problem.

in stitches *informal* : laughing very hard ▪ His jokes had us all *in stitches*.

²stitch *verb* **stitches**; **stitched**; **stitch·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to use a needle and thread to make or repair (something, such as a piece of clothing) : to join (something, such as a piece of fabric or a button) to something else with stitches : SEW ▪ He *stitched* a patch onto his coat.

2 : to make (something, such as a design) out of stitches ▪ Her initials were *stitched* on the pillowcase. ▪ He *stitched* a design along the border of the tablecloth.

stitch together [*phrasal verb*] ***stitch (something) together*** *or* ***stitch together (something)*** : to make (something) out of many different things ▪ I *stitched together* a novel from several stories I had written earlier.

stitch up [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***stitch (someone or something) up*** *or* ***stitch up (someone or something)*** : to use a needle and thread to close a large cut or wound on someone ▪ The doctor *stitched* him *up*. = The doctor *stitched up* his wound. **2** ***stitch (someone) up*** *or* ***stitch up (someone)*** *Brit, informal* : to make (an innocent person) appear to be guilty of a crime : FRAME ▪ They *stitched* him *up* for murder. **3** ***stitch (something) up*** *or* ***stitch up (something)*** *Brit, informal* : to do the final things that are needed to complete (something) in a successful way : to finish or do (something) successfully ▪ The mayor *stitched up* a deal with the union. ▪ We thought that we had the game *stitched up*. [=*sewn up*; we thought we were definitely going to win the game]

– **stitch·er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

stitching *noun* [*noncount*] : a series of stitches or the type of stitches that are used in something ▪ He admired the *stitching* on the quilt.

stoat /ˈstoʊt/ *noun, pl* **stoats** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a small animal that has a long body and brown fur that turns white in winter; *especially* : this animal when its fur is brown — compare ERMINE

¹stock /ˈstɑːk/ *noun, pl* **stocks**

1 : the supply of goods available for sale in a store [*noncount*] That camera is ***out of stock***. ▪ Do you have any more light bulbs ***in stock***? [*singular*] They carry ***a large/small stock*** of computer software.

2 : a supply of something that is available for use [*count*] We built up an ample *stock* of food before the storm. ▪ She always seems to have a fresh *stock* of funny jokes. [*noncount*] There was a decrease in available ***housing stock*** [=houses and apartment buildings] last year.

3 : a share of the value of a company which can be bought, sold, or traded as an investment [*count*] The value of his *stocks* has soared. ▪ Most of her money is invested in *stocks*. [*noncount*] Do you own any *stock*? — often used before another noun ▪ *stock* prices ▪ a *stock* certificate

4 [*count*] : the part of a gun that is held against your shoulder ▪ the *stock* of a rifle — see picture at GUN

5 [*noncount*] : the country or group of people that a person comes from ▪ He is of Irish *stock*. [=his family comes originally from Ireland]

6 [*noncount*] : farm animals (such as cattle) from which meat, wool and other products are obtained : LIVESTOCK

7 [*noncount*] : liquid in which meat, fish, or vegetables have been cooked and then removed and which is used to make soups, sauces, etc. ▪ The recipe calls for one cup of chicken/beef *stock*.

8 [*noncount*] *US* : confidence or faith in someone or something ▪ He ***placed/put a lot of stock*** in her ability to get the job done. [=he had a lot of trust in her ability to get the job done] ▪ I don't ***put much stock in*** the rumors. [=I don't think the rumors are believable; I doubt the rumors]

9 [*noncount*] — used to describe how popular or unpopular someone or something is at a particular time ▪ The mayor's *stock* with voters is high/low right now. [=the mayor is popular/unpopular with voters right now]

10 ***stocks*** [*plural*] : a wooden frame with holes in it for a person's feet, hands, or head that was used in the past as a form of punishment ▪ He was sent to the *stocks*.

lock, stock, and barrel see ¹LOCK

take stock : to carefully think about something in order to make a decision about what to do next ▪ We need to *take stock* and formulate a plan. — often + *of* ▪ We should *take stock of* our finances.

²stock *verb* **stocks**; **stocked**; **stock·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to have a supply of (something) in a store for sale ▪ Our store *stocks* only the finest goods. ▪ Do you *stock* this item?

2 : to fill (something, such as a room or a building) with a supply of food, drinks, etc. ▪ The bar is *stocked* with beer, wine and liquor. ▪ a well-*stocked* kitchen ▪ They *stocked* the shelves in the store with a variety of imported foods.

stock up [*phrasal verb*] : to get a large quantity of something so that you will have it for later use ▪ I need to head to the store to *stock up*. — often + *on* ▪ We made sure to *stock up on* food before the storm hit.

³stock *adj, always used before a noun*

1 a : regularly used or included with something : STANDARD ▪ Here are the *stock* patterns you can choose from. **b** : commonly used and not original or interesting ▪ She gave a *stock* answer to the reporter's question. ▪ a dull narrative with *stock* characters

2 : usually available for sale in a store ▪ That item is a *stock* model. ▪ *stock* sizes

stock·ade /stɑˈkeɪd/ *noun, pl* **-ades** [*count*] : a line of tall posts that are set in the ground and used as a barrier to protect or defend a place ▪ a fort *stockade*

stock·bro·ker /ˈstɑːkˌbroʊkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-kers** [*count*] : someone whose job is to buy and sell shares of stock for other people

stock car *noun, pl* ~ **cars** [*count*] : a car used for racing that has the same basic structure as a car normally sold to the public but has a more powerful engine, a stronger frame, etc. — often used before another noun ▪ *stock car* racing

stock company *noun, pl* ~ **-nies** [*count*] *US*

1 : a company whose ownership is divided into shares that can be bought and sold

2 : a theater group made up of actors who perform together

stock cube *noun, pl* ~ **cubes** [*count*] *Brit* : BOUILLON CUBE

stock·er /ˈstɑːkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a person whose job is to put products on a store's shelves, in a store's cases, etc. ▪ He works as a produce *stocker* at the grocery store.

stock exchange *noun, pl* ~ **-changes** [*count*] : a system or place where shares of various companies are bought and sold ▪ domestic and international *stock exchanges* ▪ Shares of the company were trading at $20 on the New York *Stock Exchange*. ▪ He works as a stockbroker on the floor of the New York *Stock Exchange*.

stock·hold·er /ˈstɑːkˌhoʊldɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : someone who owns stock in a company : SHAREHOLDER

stock·ing /ˈstɑːkɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*]

1 : a close-fitting usually long covering for the foot and leg ▪ a pair of wool *stockings*

2 : a covering for the foot and ankle : SOCK

3 : a decorative pouch shaped like a large sock that is used for holding gifts at Christmas ▪ The children hung their (Christmas) *stockings* on the mantel.

in your stockinged/stocking feet : wearing socks but not shoes ▪ Don't go outside ***in your stocking feet***!

stocking cap *noun, pl* ~ **caps** [*count*] *US* : a knitted close-fitting cap that sometimes has a decorative part (called a tassel or pom-pom) at the top

stocking stuffer *noun, pl* ~ **-fers** [*count*] *US* : a small gift that is usually placed in a Christmas stocking ▪ Small toys make great *stocking stuffers*. — called also (*Brit*) *stocking filler*

stock–in–trade /ˌstɑːkənˈtreɪd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : something that someone or something does or makes very well and often ▪ Ballads were her *stock-in-trade*. ▪ Sitcoms are the *stock-in-trade* of the major networks.

stock·ist /ˈstɑːkɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] *Brit* : a person or store that sells a particular kind of product ▪ a *stockist* of medical supplies

stockman /ˈstɑːkmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a person who raises cattle, sheep, etc.

stock market *noun, pl* ~ **-kets**

S

1 [*noncount*] : the business or activity of buying and selling stocks ▪ We lost money in the *stock market*. ▪ He made a lot of money ***playing the stock market***. [=buying and selling stocks] **2** [*count*] : a system for buying and selling stocks or a place where stocks are bought and sold ▪ International *stock markets* saw declines at the end of the trading day. ▪ The *stock market* [=the total value of stocks traded on the stock market] dropped 15 points today.

stock option *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] *US* : a right that is given by a company to an employee that lets the employee purchase stock in the company usually for a price that is lower than the normal price — usually plural ▪ He decided to ***exercise his stock options***. [=he decided to buy stock in the company that he works for] — called also (*Brit*) *share option*

[1]stock•pile /ˈstɑːkˌpajəl/ *noun, pl* **-piles** [*count*] : a large supply of something that is kept for future use ▪ a *stockpile* of ammunition/weapons ▪ a *stockpile* of medical supplies

[2]stockpile *verb* **-piles**; **-piled**; **-pil•ing** [+ *obj*] : to get and keep a large supply of (something) for future use ▪ The government *stockpiled* vaccines to prepare for a flu epidemic.

stock•pot /ˈstɑːkˌpɑːt/ *noun, pl* **-pots** [*count*] : a large pot for making stock, soups, stews, etc.

stock•room /ˈstɑːkˌruːm/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] : a storage area for the supplies and goods that are used or sold in a business

stock–still /ˈstɑːkˈstɪl/ *adj, not used before a noun* : very still : not moving at all ▪ He stood/stayed *stock-still*.

stock•tak•ing /ˈstɑːkˈteɪkɪŋ/ *noun*

1 *chiefly Brit* : the activity or process of thinking about a problem or situation in order to decide what to do [*noncount*] It is time for some *stocktaking*. [=it's time to take stock of the situation] [*singular*] It is time for a *stocktaking*.

2 [*noncount*] *Brit* : the act or process of making a complete list of the items or things that are in a place : INVENTORY

stocky /ˈstɑːki/ *adj* **stock•i•er**; **-est** : short and heavy or broad ▪ a short, *stocky* man ▪ That outfit makes you look *stocky*.

– **stock•i•ly** /ˈstɑːkəli/ *adv* ▪ He is *stockily* built.

stock•yard /ˈstɑːkˌjɑəd/ *noun, pl* **-yards** [*count*] *chiefly US* : an enclosed area where farms animals (such as cattle) are kept so they can be slaughtered, sold, or shipped

stodge /ˈstɑːʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : heavy food that makes you feel very full ▪ We filled up on *stodge* at the banquet.

stodgy /ˈstɑːʤi/ *adj* **stodg•i•er**; **-est** *disapproving*

1 a : having very old-fashioned opinions, attitudes, etc. ▪ a *stodgy* old man **b** : too plain or dull to be interesting ▪ *stodgy* clothes

2 *Brit, of food* : unpleasantly heavy and causing you to feel very full ▪ a *stodgy* meal

– **stodg•i•ness** /ˈstɑːʤinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sto•gie *or* **sto•gy** /ˈstoʊgi/ *noun, pl* **sto•gies** [*count*] *US, informal* : CIGAR ▪ He was smoking a *stogie*.

[1]sto•ic /ˈstowɪk/ *or* **sto•i•cal** /ˈstowɪkəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing no emotion especially when something bad is happening ▪ She remained *stoic* [=she did not complain or become upset] even as he continued to insult her. ▪ He had a *stoic* expression on his face.

– **sto•ical•ly** /ˈstowɪkli/ *adv* ▪ He accepted the punishment *stoically*.

[2]stoic *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] : a person who accepts what happens without complaining or showing emotion

sto•i•cism /ˈstowəˌsɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality or behavior of a person who accepts what happens without complaining or showing emotion ▪ She endured his criticism with her usual *stoicism*.

stoke /ˈstoʊk/ *verb* **stokes**; **stoked**; **stok•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to stir or add fuel to (something that is burning) ▪ *stoke* a fire ▪ The engineer *stoked* the coals. ▪ He *stoked* the furnace. [=he added more fuel to the furnace to make the fire hotter] ▪ *stoke* the flames

2 : to increase the amount or strength of (something) ▪ The new ad campaign has helped to *stoke* sales. ▪ Poor revenue figures have *stoked* concerns about possible layoffs.

– **stok•er** /ˈstoʊkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* ▪ He worked as a coal *stoker* for the railroad.

stoked *adj, not used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US slang* : very excited ▪ He was *stoked* to see her.

[1]stole *past tense of* [1]STEAL

[2]stole /ˈstoʊl/ *noun, pl* **stoles** [*count*] : a long, wide piece of clothing that is usually worn across the shoulders ▪ a mink *stole*

stolen *past participle of* [1]STEAL

stol•id /ˈstɑːləd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing little or no emotion : not easily excited or upset ▪ She remained *stolid* during the trial. ▪ a *stolid* face

– **stol•id•ly** *adv* ▪ The guard stood *stolidly* at his post.

[1]stom•ach /ˈstʌmək/ *noun, pl* **-achs**

1 [*count*] **a** : the organ in your body where food goes and begins to be digested after you swallow it ▪ She has problems with her *stomach*. ▪ I've had enough to eat. My *stomach* is full. ▪ His *stomach* was growling. — often used before another noun ▪ a *stomach* ulcer ▪ *stomach* gas — see picture at HUMAN **b** : the part of your body that contains the stomach ▪ She punched him in the *stomach*. [=*belly*] ▪ He was lying on his *stomach*.

2 [*noncount*] : the desire, courage, etc., that is needed to do or accept something difficult or unpleasant — usually used in negative statements ▪ She didn't have the *stomach* to confront him. ▪ He has no *stomach* for controversy.

a strong/weak stomach ✧ If you have *a strong stomach*, you are not bothered by things that many people find disgusting, shocking, or offensive. ▪ You need *a strong stomach* to watch that movie. If you have *a weak stomach*, you are easily bothered by disgusting, shocking, or offensive things. ▪ It's a very violent movie. Don't watch it if you have *a weak stomach*.

on a full stomach : after eating a lot of food ▪ Don't try to go swimming *on a full stomach*.

on an empty stomach : with nothing in your stomach ▪ Take this medication *on an empty stomach*. [=when your stomach is empty because you have not eaten for a time]

sick to your stomach see [1]SICK

turn your stomach ✧ Something that ***turns your stomach*** or ***makes your stomach turn*** makes you feel ill or uncomfortable usually because it is offensive or disgusting. ▪ The violence in his movies really *turns my stomach*.

your eyes are bigger than your stomach see [1]EYE

[2]stomach *verb* **stom•achs**; **stom•ached**; **stom•ach•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to accept or experience (something unpleasant) without becoming sick, upset, etc. ▪ I could barely *stomach* the smell. ▪ His behavior is very hard to *stomach* [=*tolerate*] sometimes.

2 : to eat (something) without getting a sick or unpleasant feeling in your stomach ▪ I can't *stomach* raw onions.

stom•ach•ache /ˈstʌməkˌeɪk/ *noun, pl* **-aches** : pain in or near your stomach [*count*] Eating too much food will give you a *stomachache*. [*noncount*] Side effects include gas, bloating, and *stomachache*.

stomp /ˈstɑːmp/ *verb* **stomps**; **stomped**; **stomp•ing**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to walk or move with very heavy or noisy steps ▪ He *stomped* angrily out of the room. ▪ She *stomped* [=*stamped*] around the yard in her muddy boots.

2 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to put (your foot) down forcefully and noisily ▪ He angrily *stomped* [=*stamped*] his foot. ▪ The fans were *stomping* their feet and shouting.

stomp on [*phrasal verb*] ***stomp on (someone or something)*** : to step on (something or someone) very forcefully ▪ He *stomped on* the bug. ▪ The elephant almost *stomped on* them. ▪ I *stomped on* the brakes.

stomp out [*phrasal verb*] ***stomp out (something)*** **1** : to stop or destroy (something bad) ▪ They are determined to *stomp out* [=*stamp out*] corruption. **2** : to stop (something) from burning by stepping on it forcefully with your feet ▪ She *stomped out* her cigarette.

stomp•er /ˈstɑːmpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal* : a piece of music that is very lively and makes you want to dance ▪ a jazzy *stomper*

stomping ground *noun, pl* ~ **grounds** [*count*] *US* : a place where someone likes to go or often goes ▪ The mall was their *stomping ground*. — usually plural ▪ We enjoyed going back home and visiting our old *stomping grounds*. — called also (*Brit*) *stamping ground*

[1]stone /ˈstoʊn/ *noun, pl* **stones**

1 [*noncount*] : a hard substance that comes from the ground and is used for building, carving, etc. ▪ The pedestal is made of *stone*. — often used before another noun ▪ *stone* buildings ▪ a *stone* wall

2 [*count*] **a** : a small piece of rock ▪ We threw *stones* [=(*US*) *rocks*] at the sign. **b** : a piece of rock used for a particular

purpose ▪ His birthdate and date of death were carved on the *stone*.— see also HEADSTONE
3 [*count*] : a jewel ▪ precious *stones* [=*gemstones*]
4 [*count*] : a small, hard object that sometimes forms in a part of the body (such as the kidney) ▪ She had *stones* in her bladder.— see also GALLSTONE, KIDNEY STONE
5 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a large, hard seed found in the center of some fruits (such as plums and peaches) : PIT
6 *pl* **stone** [*count*] *Brit* : a British unit of weight equal to 14 pounds (6.35 kilograms) ▪ He weighs 12 *stone*.— abbr. *st*
a stone's throw : a short distance ▪ The high school is just *a stone's throw* from his house. ▪ She lives just *a stone's throw* away from the beach.
carved/etched/set/written in stone : permanent or not able to be changed ▪ These new rules are not *carved in stone*; if they don't work, we'll change them.
kill two birds with one stone see [1]KILL
leave no stone unturned : to make every possible effort to find someone or something ▪ Their lawyer said that he would *leave no stone unturned* in trying to find more evidence. ▪ The researchers *left no stone unturned* in their search for the original documents.
sink like a stone see [1]SINK

[2]stone *verb* **stones; stoned; ston•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to throw stones at (someone or something) ▪ Rioters *stoned* the building.
2 : to kill (someone) by throwing stones ▪ He was *stoned* to death for his crimes.
3 *Brit* : to remove the hard, large seed of (a fruit) : PIT ▪ *Stone* the peaches before serving.
stone the crows *Brit, informal + somewhat old-fashioned* — used to express surprise ▪ "He's won the lottery!" "Well, *stone the crows*!"

[3]stone *adv* : totally or completely ▪ (*US*) They sat there, *stone* silent. ▪ The soup was ***stone cold***. ▪ He was ***stone broke***. [=he had no money at all] ▪ ***stone dead*** — sometimes used in combination ▪ I thought I had gone ***stone-deaf***. — see also STONE-COLD

Stone Age *noun*
the Stone Age : the oldest period in which human beings are known to have existed : the age during which humans made and used stone tools ▪ It was a skill developed during *the Stone Age*. ▪ *Stone Age* weapons — often used figuratively ▪ His political ideas are from *the Stone Age*. [=are from the distant past; are very out of date] ▪ I'm still using a *Stone Age* computer. [=an outdated/obsolete computer] — compare BRONZE AGE, IRON AGE

stone–cold /ˈstoʊnˈkoʊld/ *adv, chiefly US, informal* : completely or totally ▪ He's ***stone-cold sober***.

stone•cut•ter /ˈstoʊnˌkʌtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *US* : a person who cuts or carves stone

stoned /ˈstoʊnd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : intoxicated by a drug (such as marijuana) ▪ He was *stoned* on pot. ▪ They ***got stoned*** at the party.

stone–faced /ˈstoʊnˌfeɪst/ *also* **stony–faced** /ˈstoʊniˌfeɪst/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing no emotion ▪ He stood there *stone-faced* while the verdict was announced. ▪ a *stone-faced* judge

stone–ground /ˈstoʊnˈgraʊnd/ *adj* : ground by being crushed between two large stones (called millstones) ▪ *stone-ground* flour

stone•ma•son /ˈstoʊnˌmeɪsn̩/ *noun, pl* **-sons** [*count*] : a person who cuts, prepares, and builds with stone

ston•er /ˈstoʊnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US, informal* : a person who uses drugs frequently : a person who is often stoned on drugs (such as marijuana) ▪ The movie's a comedy about a couple of *stoners*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *stoner* comedy

stone•wall /ˈstoʊnˌwɑːl/ *verb* **-walls; -walled; -wall•ing** : to refuse or fail to answer questions, to do what has been requested, etc., especially in order to delay or prevent something [*no obj*] They *stonewalled* until they could come up with a response. ▪ They were just *stonewalling* for time. [+ *obj*] (*chiefly US*) ▪ They're trying to *stonewall* the media/investigation. ▪ We're trying to get the information, but we're being *stonewalled*.

stone•ware /ˈstoʊnˌweɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : objects made of a special baked clay — often used before another noun ▪ a set of *stoneware* dishes

stone•washed /ˈstoʊnˌwɑːʃt/ *adj* — used to describe clothes (such as jeans) that are made lighter in color and softer by being washed with small stones ▪ She was wearing *stonewashed* jeans, a sweater, and cowboy boots.

stone•work /ˈstoʊnˌwɚk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a structure or part of a structure that is built of stone ▪ The *stonework* on this house is over 100 years old.
– **stone•work•er** /ˈstoʊnˌwɚkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[1]stonk•ing /ˈstɑːŋkɪŋ/ *adj, Brit slang*
1 : very large ▪ We spent a *stonking* sum on the tickets. ▪ *stonking* amounts of money
2 : very good ▪ We had a *stonking* time.

[2]stonking *adv, Brit slang* : very or extremely ▪ a *stonking* good book ▪ a *stonking* great victory

stony /ˈstoʊni/ *adj* **ston•i•er; -est**
1 : full of stones ▪ *stony* [=*rocky*] soil ▪ a *stony* beach
2 : made of stone or hard like stone ▪ a smooth, *stony* surface ▪ a *stony* material
3 : showing no emotion or friendliness ▪ She gave him a *stony* stare. ▪ *stony* silence
– **ston•i•ly** /ˈstoʊnəli/ *adv* ▪ He remained *stonily* silent.

stood *past tense and past participle of* [1]STAND

stooge /ˈstuːʤ/ *noun, pl* **stoog•es** [*count*]
1 *disapproving* : a weak or unimportant person who is controlled by a powerful person, organization, etc. ▪ a gangster and his *stooges* ▪ He's just a *stooge* for the oil industry. ▪ a government *stooge*
2 : a performer in a show who says and does foolish things that other performers make jokes about

stool /ˈstuːl/ *noun, pl* **stools** [*count*]
1 a : a seat that fits one person and that has no back or arms ▪ She sat on a *stool*. ▪ a bar *stool* ▪ a piano *stool* **b** : a piece of furniture that supports the feet of a person who is sitting : FOOTSTOOL
2 *medical* : a piece of solid waste that is released from the body ▪ The patient had bloody/loose/hard *stools*. ▪ a *stool* sample ▪ *stool* softener [=a medicine that makes it easier to discharge bodily waste]


stool

stool•ie /ˈstuːli/ *noun, pl* **-ies** [*count*] *US, informal + old-fashioned* : STOOL PIGEON
stool pigeon *noun, pl* ~ **-geons** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : a criminal who gives the police information about other criminals

[1]stoop /ˈstuːp/ *verb* **stoops; stooped; stoop•ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to bend down or over ▪ She *stooped* down to hug the child. ▪ He had to *stoop* to pick it up.
2 : to walk or stand with your head and shoulders bent forward ▪ He tends to *stoop* as he walks.
3 : to do something that is not honest, fair, etc. ▪ She would never *stoop* to lying. [=she would never lie; she is too good a person to lie] ▪ He really did that? I didn't think he could *stoop* so low.
stoop to someone's level see [1]LEVEL

[2]stoop *noun* [*singular*] : a bend or curve forward of your back and shoulders ▪ He walks with a slight *stoop*. — compare [3]STOOP
– **stooped** *adj* ▪ His shoulders are *stooped*. [=his shoulders are bent forward]

[3]stoop *noun, pl* **stoops** [*count*] *US* : a raised area (such as a porch, platform, or stairway) at the entrance to a house or building ▪ I found a package on the (front/back) *stoop*. — compare [2]STOOP

[1]stop /ˈstɑːp/ *verb* **stops; stopped; stop•ping**
1 a [*no obj*] : to not move, walk, etc., after doing so before ▪ She was walking toward me, and then she suddenly *stopped*. ▪ The bus *stopped* at the corner. ▪ He *stopped* to watch the sun set. ▪ She had to *stop* to catch her breath. = She had to *stop* and catch her breath. ▪ He *stopped* to pick up a penny. ▪ The car was going so fast that it couldn't *stop* in time. ▪ The traffic light turned red, so she had to *stop*. ▪ *Stop*. [=*halt*] Who goes there? ▪ I ***stopped (dead) in my tracks*** [=stopped suddenly] when I saw the bear. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to not move, walk, etc., after doing so before ▪ *Stop* that man! He stole my wallet. ▪ They *stopped* us at the border to check our passports. ▪ She *stopped* the car and turned back. ▪ He was *stopped* by the police for speeding. ▪ The goalie *stopped* [=*blocked*] the ball/shot. ▪ The sight of the bear ***stopped me (dead) in my tracks***.
2 a : to not do something that you have been doing before : to not continue doing something [*no obj*] He constantly teases her and never knows when to *stop*. ▪ We've been working all morning. It's time to *stop* and take a break. ▪ The boss

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said that he was unhappy with some of his employees, but he ***stopped short of*** naming which ones. [=but he did not say which ones] ▪ Did you ever ***stop*** [=*pause*] ***to think*** about the risk you took? ▪ She never ***stopped to consider*** how her decision might affect others. [+ *obj*] Can you please *stop* what you are doing to help me? ▪ I *stop* work at 5 o'clock. ▪ The phone *stopped* ringing. ▪ *Stop* arguing/talking/running. ▪ She *stopped* [=*quit*] smoking last year. ▪ The patient suddenly *stopped* breathing. ▪ His heart *stopped* beating. ▪ ***Stop it/that*** or I'll tell Mom. **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) no longer do something : to keep (someone or something) from continuing to do something ▪ I'm leaving and you can't *stop* me. ▪ *Stop* me if you've heard this joke before. ▪ It's too late. There's no *stopping* them now. [=they can't be stopped now] ▪ (*Brit*) I couldn't *stop* him crying. — often + *from* in U.S. English ▪ I couldn't *stop* him *from* crying. ▪ He *stopped* [=*restrained*] himself *from* laughing out loud. ▪ Nothing can *stop* me *from* leaving. ▪ Environmentalists tried to *stop* them *from* cutting down the trees. ▪ There is nothing to *stop* you *from* going. ▪ We need to *stop* the disease *from* spreading.

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cause (something) to end : to end (something) ▪ The teacher *stopped* the fight. ▪ We need to *stop* the violence in our city. ▪ They tried to *stop* the bleeding. **b** : to cause (a recording) to not play ▪ She *stopped* the CD because it was skipping. ▪ We *stopped* [=*paused*] the movie to grab some snacks.

4 [*no obj*] : to no longer happen or exist : to end ▪ The music suddenly *stopped*. ▪ The path *stops* about halfway up the mountain. ▪ The rain had *stopped* by the time we left. [=it was not raining anymore when we left]

5 [*no obj*] : to suddenly not work or function ▪ The engine just *stopped*. ▪ His heart *stopped*.

6 [*no obj*] **a** : to not travel during a journey for a short period of time in order to rest, eat, etc. — + *for* ▪ We *stopped for* lunch. ▪ We need to *stop for* gas. [=we need to get gas] ▪ We *stopped for* a night in Atlanta. [=we stayed in Atlanta for a night] **b** : to go to a place during a journey ▪ I'll *stop* for a short visit. ▪ The tour *stops* in several cities. **c** : to make a brief social visit ▪ I'm not *stopping*. [=*staying*] I just wanted to drop this off. — see also STOP BY, STOP IN, STOP OFF, STOP OVER (below)

7 [+ *obj*] : to close, block, or fill (a hole) ▪ He *stopped* his ears with his fingers. [=he put his fingertips in his ears so that he couldn't hear] — usually + *up* ▪ She *stopped up* the cracks with plaster. ▪ The sink is *stopped up* [=*blocked*] with food.

8 [+ *obj*] **a** : to tell your bank not to pay a check ▪ I called to *stop* payment on the check. = I called to *stop* the check. **b** *chiefly Brit* : to take (money) from something — often + *from* ▪ £200 will be *stopped* [=*withheld*] *from* your wages next week.

9 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] *Brit, informal* : to stay or remain ▪ I am *stopping* at home. — see also STOP IN, STOP OUT, STOP UP (below)

stop and smell the roses see ²ROSE

stop at nothing — used to say that someone will do anything to achieve a goal or purpose ▪ She will *stop at nothing* to get what she wants.

stop by [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to visit someone briefly ▪ Feel free to *stop by* [=*drop by, drop in*] anytime. ▪ I'll *stop by* for a short visit.

stop in [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1** : to visit someone briefly ▪ You should *stop in* [=*stop by*] for tea sometime. **2** *Brit* : to stay at home ▪ I'm *stopping* [=*staying*] *in* tonight.

stop off [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to go or stay somewhere briefly while traveling to another place ▪ I'll *stop off* (at the store) to pick up some milk. ▪ She is *stopping off* in Miami to visit a friend. ▪ Could you *stop off* at the house to water the plants?

stop out [*phrasal verb*] *Brit, informal* : to stay out at night ▪ He doesn't normally *stop out* late.

stop over [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to go to or stay in a place while traveling to another place ▪ The plane *stops over* in Chicago before going on to Seattle. ▪ She *stopped over* at a friend's house for a couple of days.

stop up [*phrasal verb*] *Brit, informal* : to stay up at night ▪ She *stopped up* late last night. — see also ¹STOP 7 (above)

the buck stops here see ¹BUCK

²stop *noun, pl* **stops** [*count*]

1 : an act of stopping or a state of being stopped: such as **a** : a state in which someone or something is no longer moving — usually singular ▪ The car skidded/slowed ***to a stop***. [=to a halt] ▪ The ball rolled *to a stop*. ▪ The train ***came to a stop***. ▪ He slowly ***brought the car to a stop***. — see also FULL STOP **b** : a state in which no further activity happens — usually singular ▪ Production was ***brought to a stop*** [=was stopped] by the strike. ▪ Negotiations ***brought a stop to*** [=*ended*] the conflict. ▪ Work on the project ***came to a stop*** [=work on the project stopped] because of a lack of funding. ▪ The fighting *came to a* sudden *stop*. ▪ We need to ***put a stop to*** [=*end*] these practices. ▪ She wanted to *put a stop to* the rumors. **c** *sports* : a play that stops an opponent from scoring a goal ▪ The goalie made a great *stop*. [=*save*]

2 a : a place that you visit or go to for a short period of time during a journey ▪ His first *stop* will be Washington, D.C. ▪ Our first *stop* has to be the gas station. — see also PIT STOP, REST STOP, TRUCK STOP, WHISTLE-STOP **b** : a short period of time during which you stop or stay at a place during a journey ▪ The trip includes an overnight *stop* [=*stay*] in Paris. ▪ We'll ***make a stop*** [=*stop, rest*] when we get to the top of this hill. ▪ We should *make a stop* at the museum. [=we should visit the museum] ▪ I need to *make a stop* at the grocery store on the way home.

3 a : the place where a bus or train regularly stops on a route to let passengers get on and off ▪ a bus *stop* ▪ The next *stop* is Main Street and Tower Square. ▪ I'm getting off at the next *stop*. ▪ What is your *stop*? **b** *US* : a place on a road (such as an intersection) where traffic must stop ▪ a four-way *stop* ▪ Slow down as you approach the *stop*. ▪ a ***stop sign*** [=a sign telling drivers to stop and wait until they can continue safely] — see also STOPLIGHT

4 : an order that tells a bank not to pay a check — usually singular ▪ I ***put a stop on*** the check.

5 *music* **a** : a set of organ pipes that produce a similar sound **b** : STOP KNOB

6 *linguistics* : a sound (such as the "p" of "apt" or the "g" of "tiger") that is made by stopping the flow of air completely and then suddenly letting air out — see also GLOTTAL STOP

pull out all the stops *informal* : to do everything possible in order to do or achieve something ▪ The company *pulled out all the stops* to advertise their new product. = The company *pulled out all the stops* in advertising their new product. ▪ When he throws a party, he really *pulls out all the stops*.

– see also DOORSTOP, SHORTSTOP

stop–action /ˈstɑːpˈækʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : STOP-MOTION

stop–and–go /ˌstɑːpənˈgoʊ/ *adj, chiefly US* : making or having many stops : stopping and starting again and again ▪ *stop-and-go* driving/traffic ▪ It was *stop-and-go* on the highway.

stop·cock /ˈstɑːpˌkɑːk/ *noun, pl* **-cocks** [*count*] : a device used for controlling or stopping the flow of a liquid or gas through a pipe

stop·gap /ˈstɑːpˌgæp/ *noun, pl* **-gaps** [*count*] : someone or something that is intended to be used for a short time and then replaced by someone or something better : a temporary substitute ▪ The new law is intended only as a *stopgap*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *stopgap* solution

stop–go *adj, Brit* : having inactive periods followed by active periods ▪ a *stop-go* economy/policy

stop knob *noun, pl* **~ knobs** [*count*] *music* : any one of the handles that an organ player pushes in or pulls out to stop or allow sound from certain pipes

stop·light /ˈstɑːpˌlaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-lights** [*count*] *US* : TRAFFIC LIGHT

stop–mo·tion /ˈstɑːpˈmoʊʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a filming technique in which objects (such as clay models) are photographed in a series of slightly different positions so that the objects seem to move ▪ The show was filmed with *stop-motion*. — often used before another noun ▪ *stop-motion* films/animation

stop·over /ˈstɑːpˌoʊvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-overs** [*count*] : a brief period of time when you stop at a place during a journey ▪ We have a six-hour *stopover* [=*layover*] in Puerto Rico.; *also* : a place where a stopover occurs ▪ The city is a favorite *stopover* for tourists.

stop·page /ˈstɑːpɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-pag·es** [*count*]

1 : the act of stopping something ▪ the *stoppage* of payments

2 : a situation in which workers stop working for a period of time as a protest ▪ Workers threatened a *stoppage* [=*strike*] if their wages were not increased. ▪ work *stoppages*

3 *sports* : an occurrence in which play is stopped during a game ▪ The penalty caused a *stoppage* in play. ▪ There have been more than 10 minutes in *stoppages*. ▪ 10 minutes of *stoppage* time

¹stop·per /ˈstɑːpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*]

1 : someone or something that stops something ▪ crime *stoppers* ▪ His comment was a conversation *stopper*. — see also SHOWSTOPPER

2 : something that is used to block an opening ▪ a plastic bottle *stopper* ▪ a wine *stopper*

²stopper *verb* **-pers**; **-pered**; **-per·ing** [+ *obj*] : to close (something) with a stopper ▪ Please *stopper* the bottle. ▪ a *stoppered* bottle

stopping distance *noun, pl* ~ **-tances** [*count, noncount*] : the distance that a driver needs in order to safely bring a vehicle to a complete stop

stop·watch /ˈstɑːpˌwɑːʧ/ *noun, pl* **-watch·es** [*count*] : a watch that can be started and stopped very quickly and that is used for measuring the amount of time that is taken to do something (such as to run a race)

stor·age /ˈstorɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 a : space where you put things when they are not being used ▪ The house has plenty of *storage*. [=the house has plenty of space in its closets, cabinets, etc.] ▪ Her new house is much smaller, so she had to rent additional *storage*. **b** : the state of being kept in a place when not being used : the state of being stored somewhere ▪ We need to get our furniture out of *storage*. ▪ He kept his belongings ***in storage*** [=he stored his belongings] until he found an apartment. **c** : the act of putting something that is not being used in a place where it is available, where it can be kept safely, etc. : the act of storing something ▪ the body's *storage* of fat ▪ the *storage* of nuclear waste ▪ The table folds down ***for storage***. [=when you want to store it; when you are not using it] ▪ The cellar is used *for* (food/wine) *storage*.

2 *computers* **a** : space for placing information ▪ a computer with 64 megabytes of *storage* [=*memory*] ▪ disk *storage* **b** : the act of placing information in a computer memory ▪ data *storage*

– **storage** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ There is plenty of *storage* space in the attic. ▪ a *storage* room/area ▪ a rental/rented *storage* unit ▪ *storage* costs ▪ a *storage* capacity of 64 megabytes ▪ an internal/external *storage* device

storage battery *noun, pl* ~ **-teries** [*count*] : a type of battery that can be given a new charge by passing an electric current through it — called also *storage cell*

¹store /ˈstoɚ/ *verb* **stores**; **stored**; **stor·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to put (something that is not being used) in a place where it is available, where it can be kept safely, etc. ▪ I *stored* my furniture until I found a new apartment. ▪ She *stores* her jewels in a safe. ▪ The wine should be *stored* at room temperature. — often + *away* ▪ The grain was *stored away* for the winter. ▪ We *stored away* her old toys in the attic. **b** : to collect and put (something) into one location for future use ▪ The body *stores* fat. ▪ The solar panels *store* energy. — often + *up* ▪ The squirrels are *storing up* nuts for the winter. ▪ Plants *store up* the sun's energy. ▪ (*Brit*) If you get yourself into debt, you're only ***storing up trouble/problems*** for the future.

2 : to place (information) in a person's memory or a computer's memory ▪ They're studying how our brains *store* memories. — often + *away* ▪ He *stored away* his childhood memories. ▪ The file is *stored away* on the backup drive.

²store *noun, pl* **stores**

1 [*count*] **a** : a building or room where things are sold ▪ a grocery/furniture/pet/candy *store* ▪ I'm going to the *store* to buy groceries. ▪ The *stores* are always crowded around the holiday season. — see also BOOKSTORE, CHAIN STORE, CONVENIENCE STORE, DEPARTMENT STORE, DIME STORE, DRUGSTORE, GENERAL STORE, PACKAGE STORE, SUPERSTORE, VARIETY STORE ***usage*** see ¹SHOP 1a **b** : a large building in which something is kept for future use ▪ a grain/weapons *store*

2 [*count*] : a large amount or supply of something that is kept for future use ▪ the body's fat *stores* — often + *of* ▪ a *store of* wood/information

3 stores [*plural*] : things that are collected and kept for future use ▪ medical/military *stores*

4 [*noncount*] — used to say that something is regarded as having a lot of value or importance ▪ Our family ***sets/lays great store by*** tradition. [=our family values tradition very highly] ▪ He ***puts considerable store in/by*** her opinions. [=he feels her opinions are very important and valuable]

in store : in a state of being ready or prepared to happen or be done ▪ We have a big surprise *in store* [=*ready, prepared*] for you. — used to talk about what will happen to someone in the future ▪ I wonder what the future ***holds in store*** for us. = I wonder what ***lies in store*** for us in the future. [=I wonder what will happen to us in the future]

mind the store see ²MIND

store–bought /ˈstoɚˌbɑːt/ *adj, US* : bought at a store or shop and not made at home ▪ *store-bought* cookies

store brand *noun, pl* ~ **brands** [*count*] : a product that is made for a store and has the store's name on it — compare NAME BRAND

– **store–brand** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *store-brand* products

store card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] : a credit card that is given out by a store and that can be used to buy goods at that store

store·front /ˈstoɚˌfrʌnt/ *noun, pl* **-fronts** [*count*] *US*

1 : the front side of a store ▪ The *storefront* [=*shop front*] was decorated for the holidays.

2 : a room or group of rooms in the front part of a store building ▪ He rented a *storefront* on Main Street.

– **storefront** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *storefront* window/office

store·house /ˈstoɚˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous·es** [*count*]

1 : a building where goods are kept for future use : WAREHOUSE

2 : a large amount or supply of something ▪ a *storehouse* of information/knowledge/ideas

store·keep·er /ˈstoɚˌkiːpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : someone who owns or manages a store or shop : SHOPKEEPER

store·room /ˈstoɚˌruːm/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] : a room or space where things are stored

store·wide /ˈstoɚˈwaɪd/ *adj, US* : including all or most of the things that are being sold in a store ▪ a *storewide* sale/clearance

storey *chiefly Brit spelling of* ²STORY

¹sto·ried /ˈstorid/ *adj, always used before a noun* : having an interesting history ▪ a *storied* castle/player/leader : interesting because of stories that relate to it ▪ She has a *storied* past/career. — compare ²STORIED

²storied (*US*) *or Brit* **sto·reyed** /ˈstorid/ *adj* : having a specified number of stories — used in combination ▪ a two-*storied* house ▪ a 50-*storied* building — compare ¹STORIED

stork /ˈstoɚk/ *noun, pl* **storks** [*count*] : a large bird that has long legs and a long bill and neck

¹storm /ˈstoɚm/ *noun, pl* **storms** [*count*]

1 : an occurrence of bad weather in which there is a lot of rain, snow, etc., and often strong winds ▪ The sky got dark and it looked like a *storm* was coming. ▪ A ***storm was brewing***. ▪ We made it home before the ***storm struck/broke***. [=before the *storm* began] ▪ I went out for a walk and got ***caught in a storm***. [=I was outside when the storm began] — see also DUST STORM, ELECTRICAL STORM, ELECTRIC STORM, FIRESTORM, HAILSTORM, ICE STORM, RAINSTORM, SANDSTORM, SNOWSTORM, THUNDERSTORM, TROPICAL STORM, WINDSTORM

2 a : a sudden occurrence of something in large amounts — usually singular; often + *of* ▪ a *storm of* publicity ▪ The speaker was greeted with a *storm of* applause. ▪ a *storm of* punches — see also BRAINSTORM **b** : a situation in which many people are angry, upset, etc. — usually singular ▪ His racial comments ***kicked/whipped/stirred up a storm*** in the newspapers. [=newspapers criticized his racial comments very strongly] — often + *of* ▪ a *storm of* controversy/protest

any port in a storm see ¹PORT

a storm in a teacup *Brit* : a situation in which people are very angry or upset about something that is not important ▪ The whole controversy turned out to be *a storm in a teacup*. [=(*US*) *a tempest in a teapot*]

take (something) by storm **1** : to quickly become very successful or popular in (a particular place) or among (a particular group) ▪ The writer has *taken* the literary world *by storm*. ▪ The new fashion has *taken* London *by storm*. **2** : to attack and capture (a place) suddenly by using a lot of force or a large number of people ▪ The soldiers *took* the castle *by storm*.

the calm/lull before the storm : a period of quiet that comes before a time of activity, excitement, violence, etc. ▪ The college was quiet that morning, but it was *the calm before the storm*. Thousands of students would arrive later.

up a storm *informal* — used to say that something is being done with a lot of energy or enthusiasm ▪ They danced/sang *up a storm*. ▪ He was cooking *up a storm*.

weather the storm *or* ***ride out the storm*** : to deal with a

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difficult situation without being harmed or damaged too much ▪ Newspapers have *weathered the storm* of online information by providing news online themselves. ▪ It was a difficult time but they managed to *ride out the storm*.

[2]storm *verb* **storms; stormed; storm·ing**

1 [*no obj*] — used with *it* to say that a storm (sense 1) is happening ▪ *It stormed* all night.

2 : to attack (something) suddenly with a lot of force or with a large number of people [+ *obj*] Soldiers *stormed* the fort. ▪ Police *stormed* the building. [*no obj*] The army *stormed* ashore.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] **:** to go quickly and in an angry, loud way ▪ The mob *stormed* through the streets. ▪ She yelled at us and *stormed* off. ▪ He *stormed* out of the room. ▪ She *stormed* into the office.

4 : to shout loudly and angrily [*no obj*] — often + *at* ▪ She *stormed at* her parents and ran to her room. [+ *obj*] "Do you know who I am?" he *stormed*.

storm cloud *noun, pl* **~ clouds** [*count*] **:** a dark cloud which shows that a storm is coming — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Economic *storm clouds* loom on the horizon.

storm door *noun, pl* **~ doors** [*count*] *US* **:** a second door that is placed outside the usual outside door of a building for protection against cold and bad weather

storm drain *noun, pl* **~ drains** [*count*] **:** a drain that carries water (such as rainwater) away from a street, parking lot, etc.

storm trooper *noun, pl* **~ -ers** [*count*] **:** a member of a group of specially trained and violent soldiers especially in Nazi Germany during World War II

storm window *noun, pl* **~ -dows** [*count*] *US* **:** a second window that covers the usual outside window of a building for protection against cold and bad weather

stormy /'stoɚmi/ *adj* **storm·i·er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : relating to or affected by a storm ▪ a dark, *stormy* sky ▪ a *stormy* sea ▪ The weather/day was cold and *stormy*.

2 : full of anger, shouting, etc. ▪ a *stormy* meeting ▪ Their relationship was very *stormy*. ▪ a *stormy* family life

– storm·i·ness /'stoɚminəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sto·ry /'stori/ *noun, pl* **-ries**

1 [*count*] **:** a description of how something happened ▪ The movie is based on a true *story*. ▪ What is the *story* behind (the making of) this painting? ▪ That's not the whole *story*. [=there are more details to be told] ▪ Many years later they met again, but that's another *story*. ▪ He said he wasn't at the scene of the crime, but the fingerprints ***tell a different story***. [=the fingerprints show that he was there] ▪ "Why are you late?" "It's ***a long story***. [=it is too complicated to explain] I'll tell you later." ▪ (*US*) They were having a lot of problems. ***To make a long story short***, she decided to leave him. = (*Brit*) ***To cut a long story short***, she decided to leave him. ▪ (*informal*) He yelled at me, and I left. ***End of story***. [=there is nothing more to say about it] — often + *about* or *of* ▪ We're still waiting to hear the full *story* [=all of the details] *of* what happened. ▪ She's told us the *story of* the great snowstorm of 1977 many times. ▪ He told all sorts of *stories* [=*anecdotes*] *about* his childhood. ▪ Tell them the *story about* that time you got stuck in the elevator. ✧ The phrase ***the story goes*** is used to say that you are telling a story that you heard from other people. ▪ *The story goes* [=people say] that after he died, he haunted the house. ▪ *The story goes* like this: He was walking through the woods when he spotted a huge bear. ▪ She was very depressed or ***so the story goes***. [=or so people say] — see also HORROR STORY, SOB STORY, SUCCESS STORY, WAR STORY

2 [*count*] **a :** a description of imaginary events that is told as a form of entertainment ▪ Don't be scared. It's only a *story*. ▪ The *story* (of the book) is about growing up in Harlem during the 1920s. ▪ The movie is a *story* of three single women looking for true love. ▪ a horror/detective *story* ▪ She read the child a ***bedtime story***. [=a story that you read or tell a child at bedtime] — see also GHOST STORY, SHAGGY-DOG STORY, SHORT STORY **b :** the series of events that happen in a story ▪ The *story* [=*plot*] is the same in all her books/movies/plays.

3 [*count*] **:** something that is reported in a newspaper, on television, etc. : a news article or broadcast ▪ a news *story* [=*report*] ▪ The lead *story* in the news today is about the earthquake. ▪ His death was one of the biggest *stories* of the year. ▪ The *story* about the fire made the front page of the newspaper. = The front-page *story* was about the fire. ▪ The magazine ***ran a story*** [=printed an article] about the scandal. — see also COVER STORY

4 [*count*] **:** a description of the most important events in someone's life ▪ the Princess Diana *story* = the *story* of Princess Diana ▪ The biography is a *story* of courage. ▪ She told her ***life story*** to him. [=she told him about the things that had happened in her life] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Having bad luck with men is ***the story of my life***. [=I have often had bad luck with men] ▪ Gaining and losing weight is *the story of her life*.

5 a [*count*] **:** a condition or set of conditions that affects someone or something : SITUATION ▪ We lost power, and it's the same *story* throughout the city. [=people throughout the city also lost power] ▪ Living on your own is a whole different *story* [=*matter*] from living with your parents. ▪ She got good grades in math, but English was ***another story***. [=she did not do well in English] ▪ The restaurant has great desserts, but that's only/just ***half the story***. [=part of the story] It also has wonderful entertainment. ▪ It's ***the same old story*** [=things have not changed] with her—she just can't or won't keep a job. **b *the story*** *somewhat informal* **:** basic information about someone or something ▪ I'm still trying to find out *the story* [=the reason] behind this new policy. ▪ What's *the story* [=*the deal*] with that guy? [=what can you tell me about that guy?]

6 [*count*] **a :** a lie that someone tells : a false story ▪ You shouldn't tell *stories*. — see also COCK-AND-BULL STORY, FISH STORY **b :** an explanation or excuse and especially one that is not true ▪ The police don't believe his *story*. — often + *about* ▪ She made up some *story about* getting stuck in traffic.

a likely story see [1]LIKELY

– compare [2]STORY

[2]story *also chiefly Brit* **sto·rey** /'stori/ *noun, pl* **stories** [*count*] **:** a group of rooms or an area that forms one floor level of a building ▪ She lives/works on the second floor of a five-*story* building. [=a building that has five stories/floors] ▪ The building is 20 *stories* high. — see also MULTISTORY — compare [1]STORY

sto·ry·board /'stori,boɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] **:** a series of drawings or pictures that show the changes of scenes and actions for a movie, television show, etc.

– storyboard *verb* **-boards; -board·ed; -board·ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ He *storyboarded* the fight scene.

[1]sto·ry·book /'stori,bʊk/ *noun, pl* **-books** [*count*] **:** a book of stories for children

[2]storybook *adj, always used before a noun* **:** like something described in a storybook ▪ a *storybook* [=*fairy-tale*] ending/romance

story line *noun, pl* **~ lines** [*count*] **:** the series of events that happen in a story : PLOT

sto·ry·tell·er /'stori,tɛlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] **:** someone who tells or writes stories ▪ She's a good/master *storyteller*.

– sto·ry·tell·ing /'stori,tɛlɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She is good at *storytelling*.

stoup /'stu:p/ *noun, pl* **stoups** [*count*] **:** a container for holy water at the entrance of a church

[1]stout /'staʊt/ *adj* **stout·er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : thick and strong ▪ The plant has a *stout* [=*sturdy*] stem. ▪ *stout* legs ▪ a *stout* neck

2 : having a large body that is wide with fat or muscles ▪ a short, *stout* [=*stocky*] man

3 a *literary* **:** brave and strong ▪ a *stout* leader ▪ He has a *stout* heart. **b** *formal* **:** forceful and determined ▪ His lawyer put up a *stout* defense in court.

– stout·ly *adv* ▪ a *stoutly* built man ▪ She *stoutly* defended him.

[2]stout *noun, pl* **stouts** [*count, noncount*] **:** a very dark, heavy beer

stout·heart·ed /'staʊt,hɑɚtəd/ *adj, literary* **:** brave and determined ▪ a *stouthearted* soldier

[1]stove /'stoʊv/ *noun, pl* **stoves** [*count*]

1 *chiefly US* **:** a flat piece of kitchen equipment for cooking that usually has four devices (called burners) which become hot when they are turned on and that often is attached to an oven ▪ Is the *stove* on/off? ▪ She put the pan on the *stove* over medium heat. ▪ I cooked the burgers on the *stove*. — called also (*Brit*) *cooker*; compare COOKTOP; see also COOKSTOVE

2 : a device that burns fuel for heating or cooking ▪ a wood-burning/gas *stove* — see also POTBELLIED STOVE

3 : an oven or furnace that is used for hardening, burning, or drying something (such as pottery) : KILN

[2]stove *past tense and past participle of* [2]STAVE

S

stove•pipe /ˈstoʊvˌpaɪp/ *noun, pl* **-pipes** [*count*]
1 : a metal pipe used for carrying away smoke from a stove
2 : a very tall silk hat ▪ a *stovepipe* hat

stove•top /ˈstoʊvˌtɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-tops** [*count*] *US* **:** the top of a stove — compare COOKTOP

stow /ˈstoʊ/ *verb* **stows**; **stowed**; **stow•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to put (something that is not being used) in a place where it is available, where it can be kept safely, etc. **:** STORE ▪ He *stowed* his gear in a locker. ▪ Luggage may be *stowed* under the seat. — often + *away* ▪ The supplies were *stowed away* below deck.
stow away [*phrasal verb*] **:** to hide on a ship, airplane, etc., in order to travel without paying or being seen ▪ When he was a young boy he *stowed away* on a merchant ship headed for China. — see also STOWAWAY

stow•age /ˈstowɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** space especially on a ship or airplane for stowing things ▪ There's a lot of *stowage* below deck.

stow•away /ˈstowəˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-aways** [*count*] **:** someone who hides on a ship, airplane, etc., in order to travel without paying or being seen ▪ A *stowaway* was discovered on the ship. — see also *stow away* at STOW

strad•dle /ˈstrædl̩/ *verb* **strad•dles**; **strad•dled**; **strad•dling** [+ *obj*]
1 : to sit or ride with a leg on either side of (something) ▪ He *straddled* the stool. ▪ She *straddled* the horse.
2 a : to be on both sides of (something) ▪ Campsites *straddled* the river. — often used figuratively ▪ Their music *straddles* the line between rock and jazz. **b :** to have parts that are in (different places, regions, etc.) ▪ Turkey *straddles* Asia and Europe. — often used figuratively ▪ The movie *straddles* too many genres.
3 : to agree with or seem to agree with two opposite sides of (something) ▪ She *straddled* the issue.

strafe /ˈstreɪf/ *verb* **strafes**; **strafed**; **straf•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to attack (something) with machine guns from low-flying airplanes ▪ The planes *strafed* the town/battleship.

strag•gle /ˈstrægəl/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **strag•gles**; **strag•gled**; **strag•gling** [*no obj*]
1 : to walk slowly into or from a place in a way that is not continuous or organized ▪ The children *straggled* in from outside. ▪ People *straggled* off the train.
2 : to move away or spread out from others in a disorganized way ▪ She *straggled* behind the rest of the group. ▪ Branches *straggled* out and blocked the path.

strag•gler /ˈstræglɚ/ *noun, pl* **-glers** [*count*] **:** a person or animal that moves slower than others and becomes separated from them ▪ People waited for the *stragglers* to finish the race. ▪ The cowboy had to round up a few *stragglers*.

strag•gly /ˈstrægli/ *adj* **strag•gli•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] **:** growing or hanging in an untidy way **:** SCRAGGLY ▪ *straggly* hair ▪ His beard is *straggly*.

[1]straight /ˈstreɪt/ *adj* **straight•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : not having curves, bends, or angles ▪ a *straight* line/edge ▪ She has long, *straight* hair. ▪ Keep your back *straight*.
2 : vertical or level ▪ The flagpole is perfectly *straight*. ▪ The picture isn't quite *straight*.
3 *always used before a noun* **:** following one after the other in order ▪ He has won three *straight* [=*consecutive*] tournaments. **:** following each other without interruption ▪ We sat in the airport for five *straight* hours.
4 : honest and direct ▪ They wouldn't give me a *straight* answer. ▪ He's known for his *straight* dealing. ▪ They're not being *straight* with you. ▪ What we want is some ***straight talk***.
5 *always used before a noun* **a :** including only two people or things ▪ It was a *straight* choice: accept the offer or don't. ▪ a *straight* exchange/swap **b :** not including any things or parts of a different kind ▪ a *straight* romance novel ▪ The band plays *straight* blues. ▪ (*US*) He always votes a *straight* Democratic ticket. [=he always votes for Democratic candidates] ▪ (*US*) She got *straight* A's in all her classes last year. [=she got an A in every class] ▪ (*US*) a ***straight-A*** student
6 *not used before a noun* **:** with everything in its proper place ▪ After supper, the kids helped ***set/put*** the kitchen ***straight***. [=tidy up the kitchen]
7 *not used before a noun* **:** agreeing with what is true or what is stated to be true ▪ We have to have our stories *straight* or else the police will get suspicious. ▪ Let me ***get this straight*** [=I am surprised/confused by what you are saying and I want to be sure that I understand you correctly]: You want me to lend you $2,000? ▪ You need to ***get your facts straight***. [=you need to get your facts correct] ▪ He ***set/put her straight about/on*** what happened. [=he corrected her and explained to her what actually happened] — see also *set/put the record straight* at [1]RECORD
8 *not used before a noun, informal* **:** having nothing owed by either side ▪ You pay for my ticket, and I'll consider us *straight*. [=*even*]
9 : behaving in a way that is socially correct and acceptable ▪ (*disapproving*) She's too *straight* [=*conventional*] and needs to lighten up. ▪ (*informal*) He left the gang and promised himself that he would ***go straight***. [=stop being a criminal]
10 *informal* **:** HETEROSEXUAL ▪ He's gay but he has a lot of *straight* friends.
11 : not using drugs or alcohol ▪ She has been *straight* for two years now.
12 *US, of alcoholic drinks* **:** not mixed with anything **:** without ice or water added ▪ I like my bourbon/whiskey *straight*. [=*neat*] ▪ I'll have a martini ***straight up***.
13 : not joking or funny **:** SERIOUS ▪ a *straight* actor ▪ *straight* theatrical drama — see also STRAIGHT MAN
– straight•ness *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]straight *adv*
1 : in a straight or direct way ▪ She looked him *straight* [=*right, directly*] in the eye and told him to leave. ▪ She walked *straight* up to him and slapped him in the face. ▪ The tunnel goes *straight* through the mountain. ▪ The library is *straight* ahead. ▪ This road will take you *straight* [=*directly*] to the next town. ▪ He was so drunk he couldn't walk *straight*. ▪ She sat with her legs *straight* out. ▪ The tree fell *straight* down. ▪ The car went *straight* off the road. ▪ She told him ***straight to his face*** that she hated him.
2 : in or into a vertical position ▪ Pine trees stood *straight* along the path. ▪ Sit up *straight* and don't slouch.
3 a : without any delay **:** directly or immediately ▪ She came *straight* [=*right*] home from school. ▪ The company hires many people *straight* [=*right*] out of college. ▪ He went *straight* to bed when he came home. ▪ Let me ***get/come straight to the point***: I think we should break up. **b :** without interruption ▪ The rescue crew has been working for three days *straight*. ▪ The baby slept *straight* through the night. ▪ Since no one objected to her plan, she went ***straight on*** to talk about how to begin.
4 : in an honest and direct way ▪ Tell me *straight*: did you do it or didn't you? ▪ Are you ***dealing/playing straight*** with me? [=are you being honest with me?] ▪ (*informal*) ***Straight up***, what did you really pay for the tickets?
5 : in the usual, normal, or correct way ▪ She was so drunk she couldn't ***see straight***. ▪ Can you please be quiet? I can't ***think straight***.
ramrod straight see RAMROD
straight off *US, informal* **:** without delay or hesitation **:** IMMEDIATELY ▪ I told him *straight off* that I wouldn't help him. ▪ I knew *straight off* [=*right away*] that she was lying.
straight out *informal* **:** in a very direct way ▪ I asked him *straight out* if he was doing drugs.

[3]straight *noun, pl* **straights** [*count*]
1 *informal* **:** HETEROSEXUAL — usually plural ▪ gays and *straights*
2 : a straight part of a racecourse **:** STRAIGHTAWAY — usually singular ▪ He overtook them on the *straight*.
3 : a hand of playing cards in poker that contains five cards in sequence (such as a five, a six, a seven, an eight, and a nine)
the straight and narrow *informal* **:** the way of living that is honest and morally proper ▪ His wife keeps him ***on the straight and narrow***.

straight–arm /ˈstreɪtˌɑɚm/ *noun, pl* **-arms** [*count*] *American football* **:** the act of pushing another player away from you with the palm of your hand while your arm is fully extended — called also *stiff-arm*
– straight–arm *verb* **-arms**; **-armed**; **-arm•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ The ball-carrier *straight-armed* the tackler.

straight arrow *noun, pl* ~ **-rows** [*count*] *US, informal* **:** a person who is very honest and morally proper ▪ He doesn't drink or smoke. He's a real *straight arrow*.

[1]straight•away /ˌstreɪtəˈweɪ/ *adv* **:** without any delay **:** IMMEDIATELY ▪ He found the information *straightaway*.

[2]straight•away /ˈstreɪtəˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-aways** [*count*] *chiefly US* **:** a straight part of a racecourse — usually singular ▪ He overtook them on the *straightaway*.

straight•edge /ˈstreɪtˌɛʤ/ *noun, pl* **-edg•es** [*count*] **:** a piece of wood, metal, plastic, etc., with a straight edge that you use to make sure something (such as a line or surface) is

S

straight or to make straight lines or cuts

straight•en /'streɪtn̩/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing**

1 : to make (something) straight or to become straight [+ *obj*] He *straightened* the bent antenna. ▪ *Straighten* your legs. — often + *out* ▪ You need to *straighten out* your legs for this stretch. [*no obj*] The drooping flowers *straightened* in the rain. — often + *out* ▪ The river curves and then *straightens out* again.

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) organized or tidy : to put (something) in order — usually + *out* or *up* ▪ He took time to *straighten out* the papers on his desk. ▪ They *straightened up* the house after the party.

straighten out [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***straighten out (something)*** *or* ***straighten (something) out*** : to deal with (something) successfully ▪ I need more time to *straighten out* my problems. **2 a** ***straighten out*** *or* ***straighten out (something)*** *or* ***straighten (something) out*** : to improve in behavior or condition ▪ He *straightened out* after joining the army. ▪ The problem will not *straighten out* on its own. ▪ You need to *straighten* your life *out*. **b** ***straighten (someone) out*** *or* ***straighten out (someone)*** : to improve the behavior of (someone) ▪ Her parents sent her to boarding school to *straighten* her *out*.

straighten up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to move your body to an upright position ▪ *Straighten up*. There's no excuse for slouching. **2** *US* : to improve in behavior ▪ You need to *straighten up*, young man.

– **straight•en•er** /'streɪtnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] She uses a *straightener* to make her hair straight. [*noncount*] a bottle of hair *straightener*

straight face *noun, pl* ~ **faces** [*count*] : a face that shows no emotion and especially no amusement ▪ She lied with a *straight face*. ▪ It was hard to ***keep a straight face***. [=to not laugh or smile] ▪ The students quickly ***put on straight faces*** as the teacher walked into the room.

– **straight–faced** /'streɪt'feɪst/ *adj* ▪ *straight-faced* lawyers ▪ He told the story *straight-faced*. [=with a straight face]

straight flush *noun, pl* ~ **flushes** [*count*] : a hand of playing cards in poker that contains five cards of the same suit in sequence (such as a five, a six, a seven, an eight, and a nine of clubs) — compare ROYAL FLUSH

straight•for•ward /ˌstreɪt'foɚwɚd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : easy to do or understand : not complicated ▪ Using the computer program is fairly *straightforward*. ▪ The instructions are *straightforward*.

2 : honest and open ▪ He was very *straightforward* with us. ▪ She gave a *straightforward* account of what happened.

– **straight•for•ward•ly** *adv* ▪ She spoke *straightforwardly* about what had happened. – **straight•for•ward•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

straightjacket *variant spelling of* STRAITJACKET

straightlaced *variant spelling of* STRAITLACED

straight man *noun, pl* ~ **men** [*count*] : a member of a comedy team who says things that allow a partner to make jokes

straight–out /'streɪt'aʊt/ *adj* : very clear and direct ▪ Her answer was a *straight-out* no.

straight razor *noun, pl* ~ **-zors** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a razor that is enclosed in a case which forms a handle when the razor is pulled out for use — called also (*Brit*) *cut-throat razor*

straight shooter *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *US, informal* : a person who is very honest ▪ He's a *straight shooter* who says what he thinks.

straight•way /'streɪt'weɪ/ *adv, old-fashioned* : STRAIGHTAWAY, IMMEDIATELY ▪ I spotted them *straightway*.

[1]strain /'streɪn/ *noun, pl* **strains**

1 : a feeling of stress and worry that you have because you are trying to do too much, are dealing with a difficult problem, etc. [*count*] The work has been a *strain* on me. [=it has been stressful for me] ▪ The *strain* of working and going to school full-time was too much for her. ▪ He talked about the ***stresses and strains*** of owning a business. ▪ The long hours at work have ***put/placed a strain on*** me. ▪ She has been ***under a strain*** lately. [*noncount*] Help from other workers took some of the *strain* [=*pressure*] off me. ▪ She has been ***under (a lot of) strain*** lately. ▪ He is holding up ***under the strain***. [=he is able to deal with the pressure] ▪ He ***cracked/collapsed/buckled under the strain***. [=he was not able to deal with the pressure]

2 : something that is very difficult to deal with and that causes harm or trouble [*count*] There are *strains* [=*problems*] in their relationship. ▪ Being deeply in debt has been a *strain* [=*burden*] on our marriage. ▪ The disagreement has ***put/placed a strain on*** their friendship. ▪ Sending their children to college has *put/placed a strain on* their finances. [*noncount*] Being in debt has been a source of *strain* on our marriage. ▪ Their friendship is ***under strain***.

3 : a force that pulls or stretches something : STRESS [*count*] The cable is designed to withstand *strains* of more than four tons. — usually singular ▪ The *strain* on the cables supporting the bridge is enormous. ▪ The cables could not take the *strain* of the extra weight. [*noncount*] If there is too much *strain* on the cables they will snap. ▪ Moving the piano will ***put/place too much strain*** on our back muscles. ▪ The cable broke ***under the strain***.

4 : an injury to a body part or muscle that is caused by too much tension, effort, or use [*count*] a leg/muscle *strain* [*noncount*] Long hours of study can cause eye *strain*. ▪ Heavy lifting is a cause of muscle *strain*.

– compare [3]STRAIN

[2]strain *verb* **strains**; **strained**; **strain•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to injure (a body part or muscle) by too much tension, use, or effort ▪ I *strained* my back trying to lift the couch. ▪ Too much computer work *strains* the eyes. ▪ He *strained* a muscle in his leg. — compare SPRAIN

2 : to try very hard to do or get something [*no obj*] — often + *for* ▪ He was *straining for* air. [=he was struggling to breathe] — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ He *strained to open* the jar. ▪ She *strained to sing* the high notes. ▪ The people in the back of the room *strained to hear* the speaker. [+ *obj*] I ***strained my ears*** to hear [=I tried very hard to hear] what they were whispering. ▪ I ***strained my eyes*** [=I tried very hard to see] in the darkness.

3 a : to be pulled or stretched in a forceful way [*no obj*] His muscles *strained* under the heavy weight. [+ *obj*] People were ***straining their necks*** [=were lifting their heads as high as they could by stretching their necks] to see the fight. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ You are *straining* (the limits of) my patience with your nagging. **b** [*no obj*] : to pull hard on or push hard against something — + *at* or *against* ▪ The dog *strained at* its leash. ▪ His belly *strained against* the buttons of the shirt. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The kids were ***straining at the leash*** to get going. [=were very eager to get going]

4 [+ *obj*] : to cause problems or trouble for (something) ▪ The disagreement *strained* their relationship. ▪ The rent has *strained* our finances. ▪ The company is financially *strained*.

5 [+ *obj*] : to separate a liquid from solid pieces by using a special device (called a strainer) ▪ He *strained* the pasta. = He *strained* the water from the pasta. ▪ She *strained* the gravy. = She *strained* the lumps out of the gravy.

strain yourself **1** : to injure yourself by making your muscles do too much work ▪ Don't *strain yourself* trying to move the couch. **2** : to put a lot of physical or mental effort into doing something ▪ Don't *strain yourself* trying to think of the answer. I can tell you what it is.

[3]strain *noun, pl* **strains**

1 [*count*] : a group of closely related plants or animals : VARIETY — often + *of* ▪ a strong *strain of* wheat ▪ a new *strain of* bacteria ▪ This *strain of* mice is resistant to the disease.

2 [*count*] *literary* + *somewhat old-fashioned* : a usually bad quality that someone or something has — usually singular; usually + *of* ▪ There is a *strain of* snobbery in her. ▪ There is a *strain of* madness in that family.

3 [*singular*] *formal* + *literary* : a small amount of something ▪ There was a *strain* [=*touch, trace*] of sadness in his voice.

4 [*count*] : a kind or sort of something — usually + *of* ▪ a different *strain of* philosophy ▪ a new *strain of* pop music

5 ***strains*** [*plural*] *formal* : the musical sounds *of* someone or something ▪ We relaxed to the *strains of* Chopin. ▪ the *strains of* a harp

– compare [1]STRAIN

strained /'streɪnd/ *adj*

1 : feeling or showing the effect of too much work, use, effort, etc. ▪ Her voice sounded *strained*. ▪ a *strained* face

2 : not natural and sincere : FORCED ▪ a *strained* smile ▪ He made a *strained* attempt at being polite. ▪ His apology seemed *strained*.

3 : not friendly and relaxed ▪ Their relationship was *strained*.

strain•er /'streɪnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a kitchen device that has many small holes and that is used to hold back solid pieces while a liquid passes through : SIEVE

strait /'streɪt/ *noun, pl* **straits**

1 [*count*] : a narrow passage of water that connects two large

bodies of water ▪ the Bering *Strait* — often plural ▪ the *Straits* of Gibraltar

2 straits [*plural*] : a very difficult situation ▪ Her campaign is in desperate *straits*. ▪ The company is in desperate financial *straits*. ▪ The economy is in ***dire straits***.

strait•ened /ˈstreɪtn̩d/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : not having enough money : having less money than before ▪ They live ***in straitened circumstances***.

strait•jack•et *also* **straight•jack•et** /ˈstreɪtˌʤækət/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*] : a jacket that has long arms which can be tied together behind someone's back and that is used to control the movements of a violent prisoner or patient — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He struggled to free himself from the *straitjacket* of debt.

strait•laced *or* **straight•laced** /ˈstreɪtˈleɪst/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : very proper in manners, morals, or opinion ▪ She is very *straitlaced*.

[1]strand /ˈstrænd/ *noun, pl* **strands** [*count*]

1 : a thin piece of thread, wire, hair, etc. ▪ The *strands* were twisted together. — often + *of* ▪ a *strand of* thread ▪ The police found a single *strand of* hair at the crime scene.

2 : something that is long like a string — often + *of* ▪ a *strand of* pearls ▪ a *strand of* DNA

3 : one of the parts of something that is very complicated — often + *of* ▪ All the *strands of* the story's plot are woven together in the final chapter. ▪ The police are slowly putting the *strands of* evidence together.

– compare [3]STRAND

[2]strand *verb* **strands; strand•ed; strand•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to leave (a person or animal) in a place without a way of leaving it — usually used as *(be) stranded* ▪ She *was stranded* in a foreign city with no money. ▪ They *were stranded* on a deserted island. ▪ His car broke down, and he *was stranded* in the middle of nowhere. ▪ Her flight was canceled, so she was ***left stranded*** at the airport.

2 : to cause (something, such as a boat or a sea animal) to become stuck on land — usually used as *(be) stranded* ▪ The ship *was stranded* on the sandbank. ▪ a *stranded* [=*beached*] whale

3 *baseball* : to leave (a base runner) on base at the end of an inning ▪ The team *stranded* 10 runners during the game. ▪ Two base runners were ***left stranded*** at the end of the inning.

[3]strand *noun, pl* **strands** [*count*] : the land along the edge of a sea, lake, etc. : a shore or beach ▪ We walked along the *strand*. — compare [1]STRAND

strange /ˈstreɪnʤ/ *adj* **strang•er; strang•est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : different from what is usual, normal, or expected : ODD ▪ Does his behavior seem *strange* to you? ▪ Truth is sometimes *stranger* than fiction. ▪ That is one of the *strangest* creatures I have ever seen. ▪ What a *strange*-looking animal. ▪ There was something *strange* [=*peculiar*] about his new friend. ▪ She got a *strange* [=*weird*] feeling when the phone rang. ▪ He gave me a *strange* look. ▪ *Strange* as it may seem, I don't like walking barefoot on the grass. ▪ It's *strange* that nobody told me about this before. ▪ It's *strange* [=*surprising*] how quickly a person's opinion can change. ▪ It is *strange* (that) he would leave town and not tell anybody. ▪ That's *strange*. He was here a minute ago. ▪ The *strange* thing is that nobody saw him enter or leave the building. ▪ A *strange* [=*funny*] thing happened to me on my way home. ▪ ***For some strange reason***, we thought you weren't coming. [=it is strange that we thought you weren't coming] ▪ ***Strange to say*** [=*strangely*], I was thinking the same thing.

2 : not known, heard, or seen before : UNFAMILIAR ▪ Children are taught not to talk to *strange* people. ▪ The language was *strange* to me. ▪ a *strange* city/country

3 *not used before a noun* : not entirely comfortable or well ▪ He ***felt strange*** being the boss of people who were as old as his parents. ▪ My stomach *feels* a little *strange*. ▪ I began to *feel strange*, and then I fainted.

– **strange•ness** /ˈstreɪnʤnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The *strangeness* of the dream puzzled me.

strange•ly /ˈstreɪnʤli/ *adv*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] : in a strange way ▪ He has been acting very *strangely* lately. ▪ She had never been there before, but the place seemed *strangely* [=*oddly*] familiar to her.

2 — used to say that something is strange or surprising ▪ *Strangely*, my dad never asked me why I needed to borrow the car. ▪ ***Strangely enough***, he wasn't disappointed that he didn't get the job.

strang•er /ˈstreɪnʤɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : someone who you have not met before or do not know ▪ Children are taught not to talk to *strangers*. ▪ He is a complete/total/perfect *stranger* to me.

2 : someone who has not experienced something — + *to* ▪ He is a *stranger to* losing. [=he does not know what losing is like] — usually used in negative statements ▪ She is ***no stranger to*** controversy. [=she has been involved in controversy before]

3 : someone who is in a new and unfamiliar place ▪ "Excuse me. Do you know where the library is?" "I'm sorry. I'm a *stranger* here myself." ▪ I'm a *stranger* to the area.

4 *informal* **a** — used to greet someone you have not seen in a long time ▪ Hello, *stranger*. I haven't seen you in ages. **b** — used to say that you hope to see someone again soon ▪ ***Don't be a stranger***, now. Come back real soon.

stran•gle /ˈstræŋgəl/ *verb* **stran•gles; stran•gled; stran•gling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to kill (a person or animal) by squeezing the throat ▪ He used a rope to *strangle* her (to death). = He *strangled* her (to death) with a rope.

2 : to stop (something) from growing or developing ▪ The weeds are *strangling* the plant. ▪ The company is trying to *strangle* the smaller competition.

– **stran•gler** /ˈstræŋglɚ/ *noun, pl* **-glers** [*count*] ▪ She was the first victim killed by the *strangler*.

strangled *adj* — used to describe a cry or other sound that stops suddenly or that seems strained because of tightness in the throat ▪ She let out a *strangled* cry/sob. ▪ He spoke in a *strangled* voice.

stran•gle•hold /ˈstræŋgəlˌhoʊld/ *noun, pl* **-holds** [*count*]

1 : an illegal hold in wrestling by which your opponent is choked

2 : a force or influence that stops something from growing or developing — usually singular ▪ He finally broke free from the *stranglehold* of his domineering parents. — often + *on* ▪ The state has a *stranglehold on* the city's finances.

stran•gu•la•tion /ˌstræŋgjəˈleɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of killing someone by squeezing the throat : the act of strangling someone ▪ The cause of death was *strangulation*.

[1]strap /ˈstræp/ *noun, pl* **straps** [*count*] : a narrow and usually flat piece of a material that is used for fastening, holding together, or wrapping something ▪ a bra/leather *strap* ▪ a watch *strap* — see pictures at BAG, SHOE; see also BOOTSTRAPS, JOCKSTRAP, SHOULDER STRAP, SPAGHETTI STRAP

[2]strap *verb* **straps; strapped; strap•ping** [+ *obj*]

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to fasten (someone or something) by using a strap ▪ We *strapped* our snowshoes on. ▪ She climbed the mountain with a 40-pound pack *strapped* to her back. ▪ She ***strapped*** the children ***in*** [=fastened the children's seat belts] and drove away. ▪ She made sure that both children were ***strapped in***.

2 *chiefly Brit* : to wrap (an injured or broken part of the body) with bandages — often + *up* ▪ His broken leg will be *strapped up* for a long time.

strap on the feedbag see FEEDBAG

strap•less /ˈstræpləs/ *adj* : made or worn without straps over the shoulders ▪ a *strapless* evening gown

strapped *adj, informal* : not having enough money : lacking money ▪ The company is financially *strapped* and is expected to file for bankruptcy. ▪ I can't go out tonight. I'm ***strapped for cash***.

strapping *adj, always used before a noun, of a person* : tall, strong, and healthy ▪ a *strapping* young man

strap•py /ˈstræpi/ *adj, always used before a noun* : having straps ▪ *strappy* sandals/shoes

strata *plural of* STRATUM

strat•a•gem /ˈstrætəʤəm/ *noun, pl* **-gems** [*count*] *formal* : a trick or plan for deceiving an enemy or for achieving a goal ▪ a clever *stratagem*

stra•te•gic /strəˈtiːʤɪk/ *also* **stra•te•gi•cal** /strəˈtiːʤɪkəl/ *adj*

1 : of or relating to a general plan that is created to achieve a goal in war, politics, etc., usually over a long period of time ▪ *strategic* planning/warfare ▪ The bridges have great *strategic* value. ▪ *strategic* maneuvers [=maneuvers that are done as part of a general strategy] ▪ *strategic* bombing ▪ a *strategic* retreat [=a retreat that is done in order to help accomplish a general plan] ▪ *strategic* nuclear weapons [=powerful nuclear weapons that are designed to be used against targets that are chosen as part of a general plan to defeat an enemy rather than in an attempt to win a specific battle]

2 : useful or important in achieving a plan or strategy ▪ The hill is located at a *strategic* position. ▪ a *strategic* location

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– **stra•te•gi•cal•ly** /strə'ti:ʤɪkli/ *adv* ▪ *strategically* placed armies ▪ The road is *strategically* located.

strat•e•gist /'strætəʤɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*] : a person who is skilled in making plans for achieving a goal : someone who is good at forming strategies ▪ military/political/campaign *strategists*

strat•e•gize /'strætəˌʤaɪz/ *verb* **-giz•es**; **-gized**; **-giz•ing** [*no obj*] *US* : to make a plan for achieving a goal and especially a military or political goal : to form a strategy ▪ The organization *strategizes* for Republican candidates.

strat•e•gy /'strætəʤi/ *noun, pl* **-gies**

1 [*count*] : a careful plan or method for achieving a particular goal usually over a long period of time ▪ They are proposing a new *strategy* for treating the disease with a combination of medications. ▪ The government is developing innovative *strategies* to help people without insurance get medical care. ▪ marketing/business/investment/defense *strategies*

2 [*noncount*] : the skill of making or carrying out plans to achieve a goal ▪ a specialist in campaign/military *strategy*

strat•i•fi•ca•tion /ˌstrætəfə'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count, noncount*] : the state of being divided into social classes ▪ social *stratification/stratifications*

2 [*noncount*] *technical* : the state of having many layers ▪ the *stratification* of the Earth's crust

strat•i•fied /'strætəˌfaɪd/ *adj*

1 : arranged or formed in layers ▪ *stratified* rock

2 [*more ~; most ~*] : divided into social classes ▪ *stratified* societies

strato•sphere /'strætəˌsfɪə/ *noun*

the stratosphere **1** : the upper layer of the Earth's atmosphere that begins about 7 miles (11 kilometers) above the Earth's surface and ends about 30 miles (50 kilometers) above the Earth's surface **2** : a very high position, level, or amount ▪ Tuition at many colleges has soared into *the stratosphere*. [=has become extremely expensive] ▪ His career is clearly headed for *the stratosphere*.

stra•tum /'streɪtəm, *Brit* 'strɑ:təm/ *noun, pl* **stra•ta** /'streɪtə, *Brit* 'strɑ:tə/ [*count*]

1 : one of usually many layers of a substance (such as rock) ▪ a rock *stratum* ▪ a *stratum* of earth

2 : a level of society made up of people of the same rank or position ▪ Drug abuse is a problem in every *stratum* of society. = Drug abuse is a problem in all social *strata*.

straw /'strɑ:/ *noun, pl* **straws**

1 a [*noncount*] : the dry stems of wheat and other grain plants ▪ a bed/pile of *straw* — often used before another noun ▪ a *straw* hat/mat **b** [*count*] : a single dry stem of a grain plant ▪ He was chewing on a *straw*.

2 [*count*] : a thin tube used for sucking up a drink ▪ He asked for a *straw* for his iced tea. ▪ She drank the juice through a *straw*.

clutch/grasp at straws : to try to solve a problem by doing things that probably will not help ▪ I asked her for a loan. I didn't think she'd agree, but at that point I was *grasping at straws*.

draw straws see ¹DRAW

straw in the wind : a sign of what might come in the future ▪ A few *straws in the wind*—such as increased tourism and shopping—suggest that the economy is improving.

the final/last straw *or* ***the straw that breaks/broke the camel's back*** : the last in a series of bad things that happen to make someone very upset, angry, etc. ▪ It had been a difficult week, so when the car broke down, it was *the last straw*.

straw•ber•ry /'strɑ:ˌbɛri, *Brit* 'strɔ:bri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : a soft, juicy red fruit that grows on a low plant with white flowers ▪ We picked *strawberries*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *strawberry* plant ▪ *strawberry* jam/preserves/sauce — see color picture on page C5

strawberry blonde *or* **strawberry blond** *noun, pl* ~ **blondes** *or* ~ **blonds** [*count*] : a person who has reddish-blond hair

– **strawberry blonde** *or* **strawberry blond** *adj* ▪ *strawberry blonde* hair

strawberry mark *noun, pl* ~ **marks** [*count*] : a red mark on a person's skin : a red birthmark

straw–colored (*US*) *or Brit* **straw–coloured** *adj* : light yellow in color : like the color of straw ▪ *straw-colored* hair

straw man *noun, pl* ~ **men** [*count*] *US* : a weak or imaginary argument or opponent that is set up to be easily defeated — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *man of straw*

straw poll *noun, pl* ~ **polls** [*count*] : an informal and unofficial poll or vote that is done to get information about what people think about something — called also (*US*) *straw vote*

¹stray /'streɪ/ *verb* **strays**; **strayed**; **stray•ing** [*no obj*] : to go in a direction that is away from a group or from the place where you should be ▪ Two cows *strayed* [=*wandered*] into the woods. ▪ The airplane *strayed* off course. — often + *from* ▪ She *strayed from* the group and got lost. ▪ Her eyes *strayed from* her computer to the window. [=she stopped looking at her computer and began looking at/out the window] — often used figuratively ▪ She never *strayed* [=*deviated*] *from* the path her parents envisioned for her. ▪ The menu at their house rarely *strays* (too) far *from* meat and potatoes. ▪ The class discussion *strayed* [=*deviated*] *from* the original topic. ▪ a *straying* husband [=a husband who has sexual relations with a woman who is not his wife]

²stray *adj, always used before a noun*

1 *of an animal* : lost or having no home ▪ a *stray* cat/dog

2 : separated from another or others of the same kind ▪ a *stray* sock

3 : not in or going in the proper or intended place ▪ a few *stray* hairs ▪ He was hit by a *stray* bullet. [=a bullet that was supposed to go somewhere else]

³stray *noun, pl* **strays** [*count*]

1 : an animal (such as a cat or dog) that is lost or has no home ▪ Both of her cats were *strays* that she found wandering in the neighborhood.

2 : a person or thing that is separated from a group ▪ I matched up the socks in the laundry but I was left with one *stray*. [=one extra sock]

¹streak /'stri:k/ *noun, pl* **streaks** [*count*]

1 : a long, thin mark that is a different color from its background ▪ He left *streaks* where he wiped the glass. ▪ The miners had *streaks* of coal dust on their faces.

2 : a quality that is noticeable especially because it is different from a person's other qualities — usually singular ▪ a *streak* of stubbornness = a stubborn *streak* ▪ She has an adventurous/competitive *streak* in her. ▪ He has a ***mean streak***. [=a tendency to be mean]

3 : a period of repeated success or failure ▪ a lucky *streak* ▪ a *streak* of 11 straight victories ▪ a ***winning/losing streak*** [=a series of wins/losses] ▪ The team has recently been on a ***hot streak***. [=the team has been winning a lot of games recently]

4 : a long, narrow area or flash *of* light ▪ a *streak of* lightning/light

²streak *verb* **streaks**; **streaked**; **streak•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to make long lines of a different color on or in (something) ▪ Tears *streaked* her face. — often used as *(be) streaked with* ▪ Her face *was streaked with* tears. ▪ Her hair *is streaked with* gray.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to go or move very quickly ▪ A shooting star *streaked* across the sky. ▪ A skateboarder *streaked* past us.

3 [*no obj*] : to run through a public place naked in order to get attention

streak•er /'stri:kə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who runs through a public place naked in order to get attention ▪ The ceremony was interrupted when a *streaker* ran across the stage.

streaky /'stri:ki/ *adj* **streak•i•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : having or showing streaks ▪ *streaky* windows

2 *chiefly US* : good or successful at some times and bad or unsuccessful at others : not reliably or consistently good ▪ a *streaky* player/golfer ▪ The team's play has been very *streaky* this year. [=the team has played very well at times and very badly at other times]

¹stream /'stri:m/ *noun, pl* **streams** [*count*]

1 : a natural flow of water that is smaller than a river ▪ a mountain *stream* ▪ A *stream* flows/runs through the field. — compare RIVER

2 : any flow of liquid or gas — often + *of* ▪ a *stream of* urine ▪ A *stream of* cold air came in through the crack. — see also BLOODSTREAM, JET STREAM, SLIPSTREAM

3 : a continuous flow of people or things — usually + *of* ▪ a *stream of* words ▪ The island is visited by a continuous/constant/steady *stream of* tourists. ▪ an endless *stream of* traffic

4 *Brit* : ¹TRACK 8

on stream *chiefly Brit* : in or into a working or functioning state : in or into operation ▪ This week the new factory came *on stream*. [=*on line*]

²stream *verb* **streams**; **streamed**; **stream•ing**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to

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move in a steady flow ▪ Tears *streamed* down his cheeks. ▪ I could feel the cold air *streaming* in through the crack in the window. ▪ Sunlight was *streaming* in through the window. ▪ rays of light *streaming* through the clouds

2 *of the body or a body part* **a** : to produce a liquid continuously and often in large amounts [*no obj*] — usually + *with* ▪ Her eyes were *streaming with tears*. [+ *obj*] Her eyes *streamed* tears. **b** [*no obj*] : to be or become wet *with* a liquid ▪ His face *streamed with* sweat.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to come or flow continuously to a place in large numbers ▪ People *streamed* into the hall. ▪ Immigrants *streamed* into the country. ▪ Hundreds of letters *streamed* in from listeners.

4 [*no obj*] : to move freely in one direction especially in wind or water ▪ Her long hair *streamed* behind her as she ran.

5 [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to group students in a particular grade according to their abilities and needs : TRACK ▪ Children were *streamed* according to ability.

stream•er /ˈstri:mɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a long, narrow piece of colored paper or plastic that is used as a decoration

2 : a long, narrow flag

stream•ing /ˈstri:mɪŋ/ *adj, computers* : playing continuously as data is sent to a computer over the Internet ▪ *streaming* audio/media/video

stream•line /ˈstri:mˌlaɪn/ *verb* **-lines**; **-lined**; **-lin•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to design or make (something, such as a boat or car) with a smooth shape which makes motion through water or air easier ▪ The manufacturer has *streamlined* the car's design.

2 : to make (something) simpler, more effective, or more productive ▪ The business is looking for ways to *streamline* production/operations.

– **stream•lined** /ˈstri:mˌlaɪnd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a very *streamlined* car/design

stream of consciousness *noun* [*noncount*] : the continuous series of thoughts that occur in someone's mind especially when they are expressed in writing as a constant flow of words ▪ the narrator's *stream of consciousness*

[1]street /ˈstri:t/ *noun, pl* **streets** [*count*]

1 : a road in a city or town that has houses or other buildings on one or both sides ▪ They live on a busy/residential *street*. ▪ a deserted *street* ▪ a dead-end/one-way *street* ▪ You should look both ways before crossing the *street*. ▪ Trash littered the *streets*. ▪ The police car cruised up/down the *street*. ▪ People don't feel safe ***walking the streets*** (of the city) at night. [=don't feel safe walking outside in the city at night] ▪ our neighbor ***down the street*** [=our neighbor who lives farther down on our street] ▪ They live ***across the street*** (from us). [=they live across from us on the other side of the street] ▪ Many of our customers walk in ***off the street*** without having heard of us before. ▪ Angry citizens ***took to the streets*** [=went outside on the streets] to protest the war. ▪ He lost his job and eventually was living ***on the street(s)***. [=was homeless] — often used in names ▪ The store is at 84th *Street* and 35th Avenue. ▪ My address is 156 Elm *Street*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Word ***on the street*** is that the company is going out of business. [=people are saying that the company is going out of business] — see also EASY STREET, FLEET STREET, HIGH STREET, MAIN STREET, WALL STREET

2 *informal* : a poor part of a city where there is a lot of crime — usually plural ▪ He is from the *streets*. ▪ the raw language of the *streets*

hit the streets see [1]HIT

pound the streets see [2]POUND

streets ahead of *Brit, informal* : much better than (other people or things) ▪ She is *streets ahead of* the other students.

the man in the street see [1]MAN

up someone's street *Brit, informal* : suited to someone's tastes or abilities ▪ The job is ***right up his street***. [=the job suits him very well] ▪ Working with animals is *right up her street*. [=(*chiefly US*) *right up her alley*]

[2]street *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : of or relating to streets ▪ a *street* map ▪ the store's *street* address ▪ poor *street* lighting ▪ I saw him standing on the ***street corner*** [=the area of the sidewalk where two streets meet] waiting for the bus. ▪ Our apartment is at ***street level***. [=our apartment is on the ground floor of the building]

2 : occurring, performing, working, or living on a street or sidewalk ▪ *street* fighting/musicians/vendors ▪ a *street* fair/demonstration ▪ ***street people*** [=homeless people]

3 : of, relating to, or characteristic of a poor part of a city where there is a lot of crime ▪ *street* drugs/crime/culture/gangs/slang

street•car /ˈstri:tˌkɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-cars** [*count*] *US* : a vehicle that travels on streets on metal tracks and that is used for carrying passengers — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *tram*

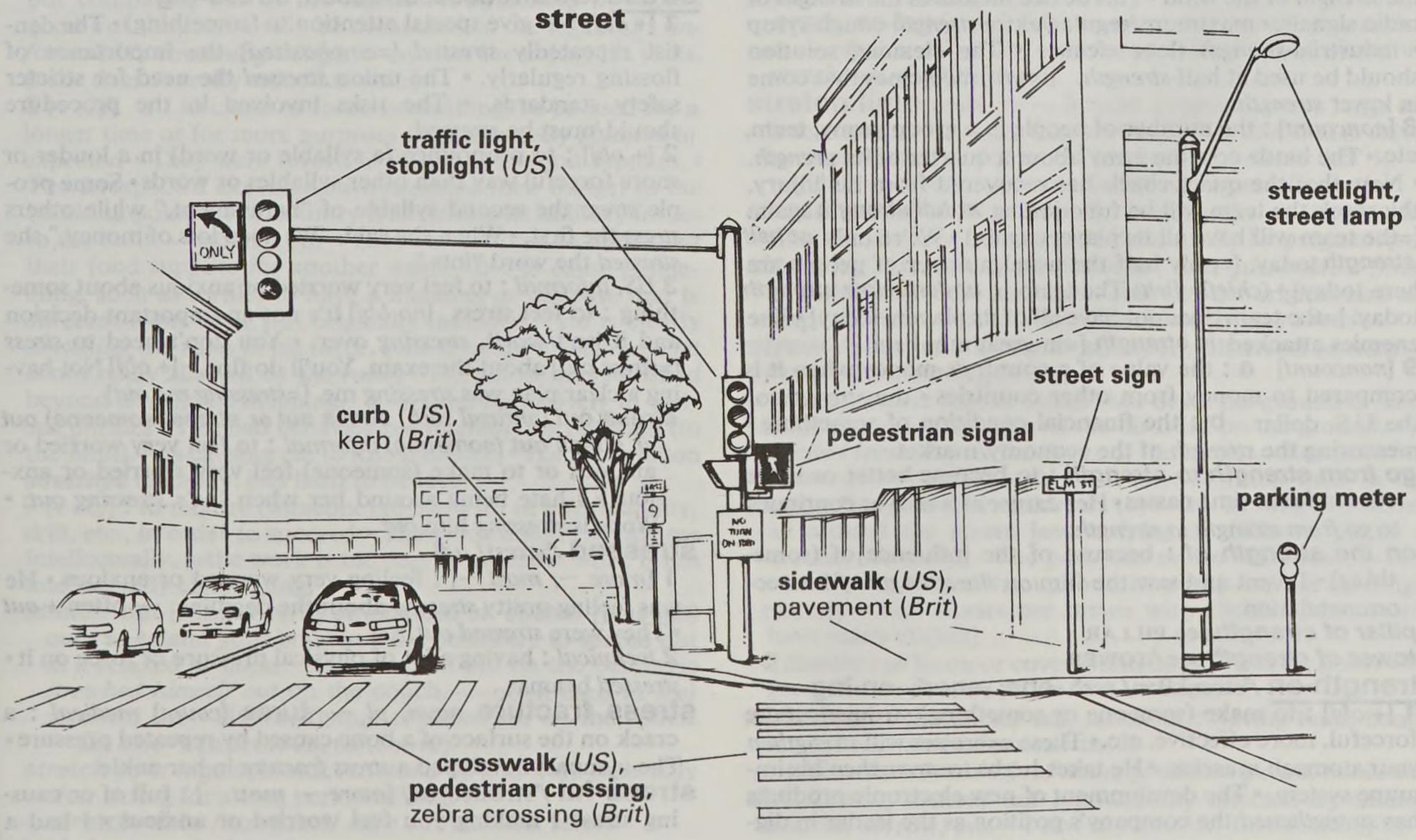
street clothes *noun* [*noncount*] : the ordinary clothes that people wear in public ▪ She changed out of her uniform and into her *street clothes*.

street cred *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : the acceptance and respect of people who live in poor city neighborhoods ▪ the tough neighborhood where he earned his *street cred*

street hockey *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : a game like ice hockey that is played on a hard surface using hockey sticks and a small ball

street•light /ˈstri:tˌlaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-lights** [*count*] : a light on a tall pole next to a public road — called also *street lamp*; see picture at STREET

street



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street–smart /ˈstriːtˌsmɑɚt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *chiefly US* : STREETWISE ▪ *street-smart* teenagers

street smarts *noun* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : the knowledge needed to survive in difficult and dangerous places or situations in a city

street•walk•er /ˈstriːtˌwɑːkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a prostitute who finds customers by walking around in the streets

street•wise /ˈstriːtˌwaɪz/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having the knowledge needed to survive in difficult and dangerous places or situations in a city ▪ a smart, *streetwise* cop

strength /ˈstrɛŋkθ/ *noun, pl* **strengths**

1 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being physically strong ▪ I don't have enough *strength* [=I'm not strong enough] to lift the box by myself. ▪ I was impressed by his *strength*. ▪ She's doing exercises to build up the *strength* in her legs. ▪ Don't work too hard. You need to conserve/save your *strength* for tomorrow. ▪ Pull-ups increase upper body *strength*. ▪ muscular *strength* ▪ Working on a farm requires a lot of ***physical strength*** ▪ He didn't mean to knock you down; he just ***doesn't know his own strength*** [=doesn't realize how strong he really is] ▪ She hit the ball ***with all her strength*** [=she hit the ball as hard as she could] ▪ She goes to the gym for ***strength training*** [=activities that make muscles stronger]

2 [*noncount*] : the ability to resist being moved or broken by a force ▪ the *strength* and durability of the material ▪ bone *strength*

3 [*noncount*] : the quality that allows someone to deal with problems in a determined and effective way ▪ I pray that I'll have the *strength* to do what I have to do. ▪ moral *strength* ▪ His determination shows real ***strength of character*** ▪ Her ***inner strength*** is an inspiration to us all.

4 [*count*] : a quality or feature that makes someone or something effective or useful ▪ Her greatest *strength* is her keen attention to details. ▪ We talked about the *strengths* and weaknesses [=the good parts and bad parts] of the movie. — opposite WEAKNESS

5 [*noncount*] : the power or influence of a group, organization, etc. ▪ The antiwar movement is gathering/gaining *strength*. [=is becoming stronger and more effective] ▪ The country has great military/economic *strength*. ▪ There is ***strength in numbers*** [=a group of people has more influence or power than one person] ▪ We are negotiating from a ***position of strength*** [=from a strong position; from a position that gives us an advantage] ▪ The strike was intended as a ***show of strength*** by the union's leaders.

6 [*noncount*] — used to describe how strong or deeply held an emotion or opinion is ▪ The *strength* of their feelings inspired us all. = Their *strength* of feeling inspired us all. ▪ I was impressed by the *strength* of her convictions.

7 — used to describe how powerful something is [*noncount*] the *strength* of the wind ▪ This device measures the *strength* of radio signals. ▪ maximum/regular/extra *strength* cough syrup ▪ industrial-*strength* floor cleaner ▪ The cleaning solution should be used at half-*strength*. [*count*] medicines that come in lower *strengths*

8 [*noncount*] : the number of people in a group, army, team, etc. ▪ The battle cost the army about a quarter of its *strength*. ▪ Now that the quarterback has recovered from his injury, this week the team will be functioning ***at full strength*** again. [=the team will have all its players again] ▪ We're only ***at half strength*** today. [=only half the usual number of people are here today] ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) The team is ***under/below strength*** today. [=the team does not have all of its players today] ▪ The enemies attacked ***in strength*** [=in great numbers]

9 [*noncount*] **a** : the value of a country's money when it is compared to money from other countries ▪ the *strength* of the U.S. dollar **b** : the financial condition of something ▪ measuring the *strength* of the economy/market

go from strength to strength : to become better or more successful as time passes ▪ Her career as a lawyer continues to *go from strength to strength*.

on the strength of : because of the influence of (something) ▪ I went and saw the film *on the strength of* his recommendation.

pillar of strength see PILLAR

tower of strength see ¹TOWER

strength•en /ˈstrɛŋkθən/ *verb* **-ens; -ened; -en•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) stronger, more forceful, more effective, etc. ▪ These exercises will *strengthen* your stomach muscles. ▪ He takes herbs to *strengthen* his immune system. ▪ The development of new electronic products has *strengthened* the company's position as the leader in digital technology. ▪ Holidays often serve to *strengthen* bonds between family members. ▪ Their financial situation *strengthened* her determination to find a new career. ▪ The team has been *strengthened* by the addition of several new players.

2 [*no obj*] : to become stronger, more forceful, more effective, etc. ▪ The winds are expected to *strengthen*. ▪ The storm is continuing to *strengthen* [=to become more powerful] as it approaches land. ▪ Her determination has *strengthened*. ▪ The economy is slowly *strengthening*.

3 *of money* : to increase in value when compared to money from other countries [*no obj*] The Canadian dollar is ***strengthening against*** the U.S. dollar. [+ *obj*] The trade restrictions will *strengthen* the pound. — opposite WEAKEN

stren•u•ous /ˈstrɛnjəwəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : requiring or showing great energy and effort ▪ Avoid all *strenuous* exercise until the sprain heals. ▪ a *strenuous* climb ▪ Today has been a very *strenuous* day. ▪ *strenuous* efforts ▪ The proposal has faced *strenuous* opposition.

– **stren•u•ous•ly** *adv*

strep throat /ˈstrɛp-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US, medical* : a painful infection of the throat caused by streptococcus bacteria ▪ He has *strep throat*. — called also *strep*

strep•to•coc•cus /ˌstrɛptəˈkɑːkəs/ *noun, pl* **-coc•ci** /-ˈkɑːˌkaɪ/ [*count*] *medical* : a type of bacteria that causes diseases in people and animals

¹stress /ˈstrɛs/ *noun, pl* **stress•es**

1 a [*noncount*] : a state of mental tension and worry caused by problems in your life, work, etc. ▪ She uses meditation as a way of reducing/relieving *stress*. ▪ Hormones are released into the body in response to emotional *stress*. ▪ He needs help with ***stress management*** [=ways to deal with stress] **b** : something that causes strong feelings of worry or anxiety [*noncount*] I'm sorry for being grumpy. I've been ***under*** (a lot of) ***stress*** at work lately. [*count*] She is dealing with the *stresses* of working full-time and going to school. ▪ He talked about the ***stresses and strains*** of owning a business.

2 : physical force or pressure [*noncount*] Carrying a heavy backpack around all day puts a lot of *stress* on your shoulders and back. ▪ To reduce the amount of *stress* on your back, bend your knees when you lift something heavy. ▪ The ship's mast snapped ***under the stress*** of high winds. [*count*] measuring the effects of *stresses* on the material

3 [*noncount*] : special importance or attention that is given to something ▪ The teacher ***laid/put stress on*** [=*emphasized*] the need for good study habits.

4 : greater loudness or force given to a syllable of a word in speech or to a beat in music [*noncount*] *Stress* falls on the first syllable of the word "language." [*count*] *Stresses* fall on different beats in different parts of the song. ▪ The *stress* [=*accent*] is on the first syllable.

²stress *verb* **stresses; stressed; stress•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to give special attention to (something) ▪ The dentist repeatedly *stressed* [=*emphasized*] the importance of flossing regularly. ▪ The union *stressed* the need for stricter safety standards. ▪ The risks involved in the procedure should/must be *stressed*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to pronounce (a syllable or word) in a louder or more forceful way than other syllables or words ▪ Some people *stress* the second syllable of "harassment," while others *stress* the first. ▪ When she said, "We need lots of money," she *stressed* the word "lots."

3 *US, informal* : to feel very worried or anxious about something : to feel stress [*no obj*] It's not an important decision and it isn't worth *stressing* over. ▪ You don't need to *stress* [=*stress out*] about the exam. You'll do fine. [+ *obj*] Not having a clear plan was *stressing* me. [=*stressing me out*]

stress out [*phrasal verb*] ***stress out*** *or* ***stress (someone) out*** *or* ***stress out (someone)*** *informal* : to feel very worried or anxious or to make (someone) feel very worried or anxious ▪ I hate being around her when she's *stressing out*. ▪ Work is *stressing* him *out*.

stressed /ˈstrɛst/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] : feeling very worried or anxious ▪ He was feeling pretty *stressed* about the deadline. — often + *out* ▪ They were *stressed out*.

2 *technical* : having a lot of physical pressure or force on it ▪ *stressed* beams

stress fracture *noun, pl* **~ -tures** [*count*] *medical* : a crack on the surface of a bone caused by repeated pressure ▪ The gymnast developed a *stress fracture* in her ankle.

stress•ful /ˈstrɛsfəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : full of or causing stress : making you feel worried or anxious ▪ I had a

stressful day at work today. ▪ a *stressful* situation/event/job

stress mark *noun, pl* ~ **marks** [*count*] : a mark (such as ˈ or ˌ) used to show the part of a word that should be given greater stress when it is spoken

stress•or /ˈstrɛsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ors** [*count*] : something that makes you worried or anxious : a source of stress ▪ Credit card debt is a major *stressor* in her life.

stress test *noun, pl* ~ **tests** [*count*] : a test to show how strong something is; *especially* : a medical test to show how strong and healthy your heart is during a period of exercise

[1]stretch /ˈstrɛʧ/ *verb* **stretch•es; stretched; stretch•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to make (something) wider or longer by pulling it ▪ Don't yank on my sweater. You'll *stretch* it. ▪ I'm trying to *stretch* (out) the wool hat that shrank in the wash. ▪ Carefully *stretch* the dough. **b** [*no obj*] : to become longer or wider when pulled ▪ The elastic waistband of my pants won't *stretch* any more. ▪ jeans/pants that *stretch* ▪ The material/fabric *stretches*.

2 a : to put your arms, legs, etc., in positions that make the muscles long and tight [*no obj*] It's important to *stretch* before you exercise. ▪ The baby *stretched* and yawned. [+ *obj*] She woke up and *stretched* her arms above her head. ▪ These exercises *stretch* (the muscles of) your lower back. **b** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to extend your arm, leg, etc., in order to reach something [*no obj*] She *stretched* over us to open the window. — often + *out* ▪ Her hand *stretched out* toward him. [=she reached toward him with her hand] [+ *obj*] She *stretched* her hand toward him. — often + *out* ▪ She *stretched out* her hand.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to pull (something) so that it becomes flat and smooth and goes across a surface or area ▪ She *stretched* the canvas over the wooden frame. ▪ The T-shirt was *stretched* tight over his belly. ▪ A big banner was *stretched* across the doorway.

4 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] **a** : to continue for a specified distance : to extend over an area ▪ The cornfields *stretch* as far as the eye can see. ▪ The restaurant chain began in Chicago but now *stretches* to the West Coast. — used to describe how long something is ▪ The horse's tail *stretches* three and a half feet from base to end. **b** : to continue over a period of time ▪ Her interest in art *stretches* back to her childhood. [=she has been interested in art since she was a child] ▪ Construction that began in late April *stretched* [=*continued*] into June.

5 [+ *obj*] : to say something that is not exactly true ▪ He was ***stretching the truth*** [=*exaggerating*] to make the story more interesting. ▪ Although it may be ***stretching a point*** [=exaggerating slightly] to say that this was his best win ever, it was nevertheless impressive. ▪ (*informal*) She's a good musician but comparing her to the legends is ***stretching it***. [=she's good but she can't really be compared to the legends] ▪ (*informal*) It's ***stretching things*** to say that she enjoys his visits. [=she doesn't really enjoy his visits]

6 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cause or force (something) to be used for a longer time or for more purposes than originally planned or expected ▪ They were forced to *stretch* their food supplies. ▪ The unexpected expenses have *stretched* their budget to the breaking point. ▪ The country is *stretching* its military forces to the limit. — often + *out* ▪ They were forced to *stretch out* their food supplies for another week. **b** : to cause (something, such as a rule) to have a meaning or purpose that is different from what was originally intended ▪ He is clearly *stretching* the rules in his favor. [=he is doing something that is not really allowed by the rules] ▪ The clause was *stretched* beyond its original meaning. **c** — used figuratively in various phrases ▪ Her bad behavior is ***stretching my patience*** (to the limit). [=is causing me to lose patience] ▪ His explanation ***stretches credulity***. [=is hard to believe]

7 [+ *obj*] : to require (someone) to use a lot of effort, ability, skill, etc., in order to succeed ▪ The work doesn't *stretch* me intellectually. [=the work is too easy for me; the work is not intellectually challenging]

stretch out [*phrasal verb*] ***stretch out or stretch (yourself) out*** : to extend your body in a flat position : to spread out in a relaxed position ▪ She *stretched out* on the bed. ▪ He *stretched himself out* on the couch. — often used as *(be) stretched out* ▪ He *was* (lying) *stretched out* on the couch. — see also [1]STRETCH 2b, 6a (above)

stretch your legs *informal* : to stand up and walk especially after sitting for a long period of time

– stretch•able /ˈstrɛʧəbəl/ *adj* ▪ a *stretchable* fabric

[2]stretch *noun, pl* **stretches**

1 [*count*] : a continuous area or length of land or water ▪ a 60-mile *stretch* of beach ▪ an open *stretch* of highway/road

2 [*count*] **a** : a continuous period of time ▪ We sat silently for a long/short/brief *stretch* (of time). ▪ She can sit and read for hours ***at a stretch***. [=at one time without stopping] **b** *informal* : a period of time spent in prison — usually singular ▪ He just got out of prison after a six-year *stretch*.

3 : an act of stretching your body or part of your body [*count*] These are good *stretches* for your leg muscles. ▪ I always spend a few minutes doing *stretches* before I exercise. [*noncount*] I can feel the *stretch* in the back of my legs.

4 *the stretch* : the final straight part of a racecourse before the finish line ▪ the horses are in *the* (final) *stretch* — often used figuratively ▪ They won some crucial games down *the stretch*. [=in the last part of the season] ▪ She's in *the* final *stretch*. The baby's due next month. — see also HOME-STRETCH

5 [*noncount*] : the ability to be stretched without breaking or being torn ▪ material with a lot of *stretch*

6 [*singular*] *chiefly US* **a** : something that requires a special effort to be done : something that is beyond a person's usual abilities ▪ Portraying a famous actress was not much of a *stretch* [=*challenge*] for the popular movie star. **b** : a statement, description, etc., that is not strictly true or accurate ▪ Some people think it's a *stretch* to call fishing a sport.

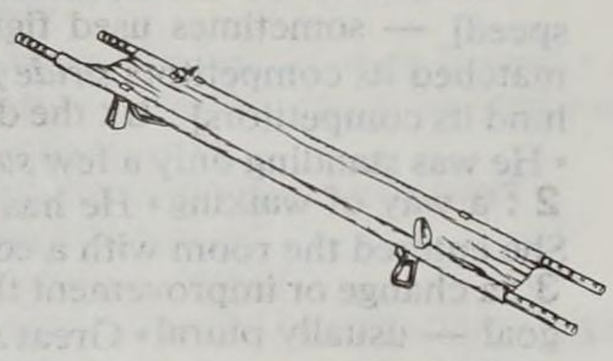
at full stretch *Brit, informal* : with as much effort as possible ▪ The medical team worked *at full stretch*.

by any/no stretch of the imagination — used to emphasize that something is not true, does not happen, etc. ▪ They're not wealthy *by any stretch of the imagination*. [=they're not wealthy at all] ▪ *By no stretch of the imagination* does the factory operate efficiently. [=the factory does not operate at all efficiently]

the seventh-inning stretch *baseball* : the time between the two halves of the seventh inning when the people watching a game traditionally stand up and stretch their legs

[3]stretch *adj, always used before a noun* : made to stretch easily and then return to the original shape and size ▪ *stretch* socks/pants

[1]stretch•er /ˈstrɛʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a device that is made of a long piece of thick cloth stretched between two poles and that is used for carrying an injured or dead person ▪ They carried her out to the ambulance on a *stretcher*.



stretcher

[2]stretcher *verb* **-ers; -ered; -er•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to carry (someone) on a stretcher — often used as *(be) stretchered* ▪ The injured player *was stretchered* off the field.

stretch limo *noun, pl* ~ **lim•os** [*count*] : a very large and fancy car that is longer than standard cars and that is driven by a professional driver ▪ The chauffeur drove her to the wedding in a *stretch limo*. — called also *stretch limousine*

stretch marks *noun* [*plural*] : long marks on the skin left after the skin has been stretched especially by pregnancy

stretchy /ˈstrɛʧi/ *adj* **stretch•i•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : able to stretch and then return to the original size and shape ▪ a tight *stretchy* shirt ▪ The fabric is very *stretchy*.

strew /ˈstru:/ *verb* **strews; strewed; strewed** *or* **strewn** /ˈstru:n/; **strew•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to spread or scatter things over or on the ground or some other surface ▪ She *strewed* the birdseed on the ground. ▪ He *strewed* fresh hay on the floors of the stable. = He *strewed* the floors of the stable with fresh hay. — often used as *(be) strewed/strewn* ▪ The children's toys *were strewed* [=*scattered*] all around the room. [=were lying in different places all around the room] ▪ The park *was strewn* with litter. [=there was litter scattered throughout the park] — often used figuratively ▪ Her stories *are strewn* with clichés. [=her stories have many clichés]

2 *literary* : to lie on or cover (something) ▪ Leaves *strewed* the ground.

stri•at•ed /ˈstraɪˌeɪtəd/ *adj, technical* : having lines, bands, or grooves ▪ *striated* muscle tissue

– stri•a•tion /straɪˈeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

strick•en /ˈstrɪkən/ *adj* : powerfully affected by disease, trouble, sorrow, etc. ▪ I saw her *stricken* face looking up at us. — often + *by* or *with* ▪ He was too *stricken by* embarrass-

S

ment to speak. ▪ a nation *stricken with* grief ▪ She had been *stricken with* polio as a child. — often used in combination ▪ disease-*stricken* villages — see also GRIEF-STRICKEN, PANIC-STRICKEN, POVERTY-STRICKEN, [1]STRIKE

strict /ˈstrɪkt/ *adj* **strict•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 — used to describe a command, rule, etc., that must be obeyed ▪ *strict* rules/laws/regulations ▪ They want to impose *strict* limits on government spending. ▪ We are ***under strict orders*** not to leave the prisoner alone.

2 : demanding that people obey rules or behave in a certain way ▪ a *strict* teacher ▪ Her parents aren't very *strict*.

3 a : carefully obeying the rules or principles of a religion or a particular way of life ▪ a *strict* Hindu ▪ a *strict* vegetarian **b** : complete or thorough ▪ This project requires *strict* [=*absolute*] secrecy. ▪ He insists on *strict* adherence to the rules.

4 : completely correct : exact or precise ▪ He's not a volunteer ***in the strict/strictest sense (of the word)*** [=he is not really a volunteer] because he receives a small stipend.

– strict•ly /ˈstrɪktli/ *adv* ▪ The speed limit is *strictly* enforced. ▪ Smoking is *strictly* forbidden/prohibited. ▪ From a *strictly* practical perspective, this is the best way of doing things. ▪ She follows a *strictly* vegetarian diet. ▪ All personal information is kept *strictly* confidential. ▪ ***Strictly speaking***, the book is not a novel but a series of short stories.

– strict•ness /ˈstrɪktnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

stric•ture /ˈstrɪkʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** [*count*] *formal*

1 : a law or rule that limits or controls something : RESTRICTION ▪ moral *strictures* — often + *against* or *on* ▪ *strictures on/against* the sale and possession of weapons

2 : a strong criticism — usually plural ▪ I don't agree with all of her *strictures* on the state of contemporary literature.

[1]stride /ˈstraɪd/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **strides; strode** /ˈstroʊd/; **strid•den** /ˈstrɪdn̩/; **strid•ing** /ˈstraɪdɪŋ/ [*no obj*] : to walk with very long steps ▪ She *strode* across the room towards me.

[2]stride *noun, pl* **strides** [*count*]

1 a : a long step ▪ She crossed the room in only a few *strides*. ▪ As he ran down the field, the defender kept up with him ***stride for stride*** [=the defender ran next to him at the same speed] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The company has matched its competitors *stride for stride*. [=has not fallen behind its competitors] **b** : the distance covered by a long step ▪ He was standing only a few *strides* away from me.

2 : a way of walking ▪ He has a distinctive bouncy *stride*. ▪ She entered the room with a confident *stride*.

3 : a change or improvement that brings someone closer to a goal — usually plural ▪ Great *strides* [=*advances*] have been made in the control of tuberculosis. ▪ The patient is making *strides* toward a complete recovery.

break (your) stride *chiefly US* : to stop walking or running in a regular and steady way ▪ He caught the ball and passed it to a teammate without *breaking stride*. — often used figuratively ▪ She graduated from college, went to law school, and without *breaking stride* joined a successful law firm.

hit your stride (*US*) *or Brit* ***get into your stride*** : to begin to do something in a confident and effective way after starting slowly ▪ Both teams seem to have *hit their stride* in the second half.

off stride ✧ If you are walking or running and someone or something (*chiefly US*) ***throws/knocks you off (your) stride*** or (*chiefly Brit*) ***puts you off your stride***, you are unable to continue walking or running steadily. ▪ Another runner bumped into him and *threw/knocked him off his stride*. These phrases are often used figuratively. ▪ She was surprised and *thrown off stride* [=*thrown off balance*] by the unexpected question. ▪ He was working steadily until an interruption *put him off his stride*.

take (something) in stride (*US*) *or Brit* ***take (something) in your stride*** : to deal with (something difficult or upsetting) in a calm way ▪ I thought she'd be upset, but she has *taken* the news *in stride*.

stri•dent /ˈstraɪdn̩t/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : sounding harsh and unpleasant ▪ The *strident* tone in his voice revealed his anger. ▪ a *strident* voice

2 : expressing opinions or criticism in a very forceful and often annoying or unpleasant way ▪ *strident* critics/slogans

– stri•den•cy /ˈstraɪdn̩si/ *noun* [*noncount*] **– stri•dent•ly** *adv*

strife /ˈstraɪf/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : very angry or violent disagreement between two or more people or groups ▪ political/religious *strife* ▪ civil *strife*

[1]strike /ˈstraɪk/ *verb* **strikes; struck** /ˈstrʌk/; **struck** *also* **strick•en** /ˈstrɪkən/; **strik•ing** /ˈstraɪkɪŋ/

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to hit (someone or something) in a forceful way ▪ The ship *struck* an iceberg. ▪ The car *struck* the tree. ▪ The bullet *struck* him in the leg. ▪ The cyclist was *struck* by a car. ▪ The tree was *struck* by lightning. ▪ He fell and his head *struck* the pavement. ▪ I could hear the rain *striking* the rooftop. **b** : to cause (something) to hit something in a forceful way ▪ I *struck* [=*banged, bumped*] my knee against the leg of the table. ▪ She *struck* the cymbals together. **c** : to hit (someone or something) with your hand, a weapon, etc. ▪ The killer *struck* him with a blunt object. ▪ She accidentally *struck* another player in the face.

2 [*no obj*] : to attack someone or something suddenly ▪ The snake was about to *strike*. ▪ Police say that the killer may *strike* again. — often + *at* ▪ The snake *struck at* the mouse. ▪ He *struck at* her with a knife. — often used figuratively ▪ He hurt her feelings by *striking at* [=*attacking, criticizing*] her personal beliefs. ▪ The proposed law *strikes at* the foundations of our democracy.

3 *not used in progressive tenses* : to affect (someone or something) suddenly in a bad way : to cause damage, harm, illness, etc., to (someone or something) [+ *obj*] The flu *strikes* millions of people each year. [=millions of people get sick with the flu each year] ▪ A hurricane *struck* the island. ▪ The city has been *struck* by a powerful earthquake. — often used as *(be) stricken* ▪ He *was stricken* with a high fever. [*no obj*] The hurricane is expected to *strike* tomorrow. ▪ When disaster *strikes*, will you be prepared? — often used figuratively ▪ The home team *struck* [=*scored*] first on the opening drive.

4 *not used in progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to be in a certain condition suddenly — usually used as *(be) struck* ▪ They *were struck* speechless with surprise. ▪ He ***was struck deaf/blind*** [=he became deaf/blind] at an early age. ▪ I was ***struck dumb*** [=*dumbstruck*] by the news.

5 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cause someone to feel (a strong emotion) suddenly — often + *in* or *into* ▪ Their war cries *struck* terror *in* (the hearts of) their enemies. ▪ Her words ***struck fear into the hearts*** of her listeners. **b** : to affect (someone) *with* a strong emotion ▪ He was *struck with* horror at the sight. = The sight *struck* him *with* horror.

6 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to happen or exist : to do or achieve (something) ▪ He needs to ***strike a*** better ***balance*** between his work life and his family life. [=he needs to spend less time at work and more time with his family] ▪ They ***struck a blow*** for freedom and against tyranny. [=they did something that helped freedom and opposed tyranny] ▪ Fate has *struck a* heavy *blow* against us. = Fate has *struck* us *a* heavy *blow*.

7 *not used in progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] : to be thought of by (someone) suddenly : to occur to (someone) ▪ It suddenly *struck* me [=I realized suddenly] that I would never see her again. ▪ The answer just *struck* me. ▪ ***It strikes me*** [=I realize] that there is a larger issue at stake.

8 *not used in progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to think about someone or something in a particular way ▪ What really *struck* me was their enthusiasm. [=I especially noticed their enthusiasm] ▪ ***It strikes me*** [=it surprises me] that so few of them were willing to help. — often + *as* ▪ Her comment *struck* me *as* odd. [=her comment seemed odd to me] ▪ She *strikes* us *as* a very qualified candidate. [=we think she is a very qualified candidate]

9 [*no obj*] *of a group of workers* : to stop work in order to force an employer to agree to demands : to refuse to work until your employer does what you want ▪ The teachers are threatening to *strike*. [=*go on strike*] ▪ *striking* workers — often + *for* ▪ The workers are *striking for* an increase in pay.

10 *of a clock* : to make the time known by making a sound [*no obj*] The clock *struck* as they entered the room. [+ *obj*] The clock *struck* one.

11 [+ *obj*] : to cause (a match) to start burning by rubbing it against a surface ▪ She *struck* a match and lit the candle.

12 [+ *obj*] : to make (an agreement) ▪ The two parties have finally ***struck a bargain/deal***

13 [+ *obj*] : to remove (something) *from* (something) ▪ She *struck* the song *from* the album at the last minute. ▪ He *struck* [=*deleted*] the sentence *from* the paragraph. ▪ The clause has been *stricken from* the contract.

14 *not used in progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] : to find or discover (something) especially by digging ▪ They are hoping to *strike* oil/gold. — see also STRIKE GOLD (below)

15 [+ *obj*] : to place yourself in (a particular position, posture, etc.) ▪ She *struck* [=*assumed, took on*] a dramatic pose. ▪ He *struck* a defensive attitude.

16 [+ *obj*] : to play (a note, chord, etc.) on a musical instrument by using your fingers on keys or strings ▪ Fans cheered when he *struck* the song's opening chords. — often used figuratively ▪ She *struck* the right note/tone with her speech. [=she said things in a way that appealed to her audience]

17 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to begin to walk or go in a particular direction — usually + *off* or *out* ▪ He *struck off* through the woods. ▪ The men *struck out* for/toward their campsite when they saw the storm clouds moving in. — see also STRIKE OUT 4 (below)

18 [+ *obj*] : to make (a coin, medal, etc.) by pressing an image into a piece of metal ▪ The coins were *struck* in 1789.

be struck by *informal* : to be very impressed by or pleased with (something or someone) ▪ Visitors *are* always *struck by* the beauty of the landscape.

lightning never strikes (the same place) twice see [1]LIGHTNING

strike a chord see [2]CHORD

strike a nerve see NERVE

strike back [*phrasal verb*] : to try to hurt someone who has hurt you or treated you badly ▪ When he called her lazy, she immediately *struck back* by calling him fat. — often + *at* ▪ He angrily *struck back at* his critics.

strike down [*phrasal verb*] **1 *strike (someone) down*** **a** : to make (someone) unable to work, act, or function in the usual way — usually used as *(be) struck down* ▪ She *was struck down* by an injury at the height of her athletic career. **b** : to cause (someone) to die suddenly — usually used as *(be) struck down* ▪ He *was struck down* by a heart attack at age 55. **2 *strike (something) down* or *strike down (something)*** *chiefly US, law* : to say officially that (something) is no longer legally valid ▪ The board *struck down* the appointment. ▪ The Supreme Court *struck down* the law.

strike gold : to have great success with something ▪ The studio *struck gold* with their latest film. — see also [1]STRIKE 14 (above)

strike home see [2]HOME

strike it rich *informal* : to become rich suddenly ▪ Her family *struck it rich* when they won the lottery.

strike off [*phrasal verb*] **1 *strike off (something)* or *strike (something) off*** : to draw a line through (a name or item on a list) ▪ The teacher *struck off* [=*crossed out*] the names as he called them out. **2 *strike off (something)* or *strike (something) off*** : to remove (something) by hitting it with a tool in a forceful way ▪ He *struck off* the top of the coconut with a machete. **3 *strike off (someone)* or *strike (someone) off*** *Brit* : to remove the name of (someone, such as a doctor or lawyer) from an official register — usually used as *(be) struck off* ▪ The doctor *was struck off* for unethical practices. [=the doctor is no longer allowed to practice] — see also [1]STRIKE 17 (above)

strike on/upon [*phrasal verb*] **1 *strike on/upon (something)*** *not used in progressive tenses* : to find or discover (something) especially suddenly ▪ He *struck on* an idea for his novel. ▪ They *struck upon* a salt mine. **2 *be struck on*** *Brit, informal* : to like or be impressed by (someone or something) very much ▪ He *was* quite *struck on* her. ▪ She seems to *be* very ***struck on herself.*** [=*stuck on herself*]

strike out [*phrasal verb*] **1** *baseball* **a *strike (someone) out* or *strike out (someone)*** *of a pitcher* : to cause (a batter) to be out by pitching three strikes ▪ The pitcher *struck* him *out* with a curve. ▪ The pitcher *struck out* the first two batters. **b** *of a batter* : to make an out by getting three strikes ▪ The first two batters *struck out*. — see also STRIKEOUT **2 *strike (something) out* or *strike out (something)*** : to remove (something) from a document : DELETE ▪ The editor *struck out* the last paragraph. **3** *US, informal* : to be unsuccessful : FAIL ▪ "Did you get her phone number?" "No, I *struck out*." **4** : to begin a course of action ▪ She ***struck out on her own*** after graduation. — see also [1]STRIKE 17 (above) **5** : to try to hit someone or something suddenly ▪ He *struck out* wildly with his arms. — often + *at* ▪ He *struck out* wildly *at* the police officers. **6** : to make a sudden and angry attack against someone — often + *at* ▪ Both candidates *struck out at* their critics.

strike pay dirt see PAY DIRT

strike (someone) dead : to kill (someone) in a quick and unexpected way ▪ A bolt of lightning *struck him dead*.

strike up [*phrasal verb*] **1 *strike up (something)*** **a** : to begin to play (a piece of music) ▪ The orchestra *struck up* a waltz. **b** : to cause (an orchestra, a band, etc.) to begin playing ▪ The conductor *struck up* the band. **2 *strike up (something)*** *also* ***strike (something) up*** : to begin (something) ▪ I *struck up* a conversation with him at the party. ▪ The two boys *struck up* a friendship.

strike while the iron is hot : to do something immediately while you still have a good chance to do it ▪ We may not have a chance like this again. We need to *strike while the iron is hot*.

– see also STRIKING DISTANCE

[2]strike *noun, pl* strikes

1 : a period of time when workers stop work in order to force an employer to agree to their demands [*count*] a teachers' *strike* ▪ a *strike* by airline pilots [*noncount*] The workers are ***on strike***. ▪ Workers are threatening to ***go (out) on strike***. = (*Brit*) Workers are threatening to ***come out on strike***. ▪ Workers threatened to take ***strike action***. — see also HUNGER STRIKE, LIGHTNING STRIKE

2 [*count*] : a military attack ▪ The allies have launched several *strikes*. ▪ an ***air strike*** [=an attack by aircraft] — see also FIRST STRIKE, SURGICAL STRIKE

3 [*count*] : the act of hitting something with force ▪ The forest fire was caused by a ***lightning strike***. [=was caused when something on the ground was hit/struck by lightning]

4 [*count*] **a** *baseball* : a pitch that passes through a certain area over home plate without being hit and that counts against the batter ▪ The first pitch was a ball but the next two pitches were *strikes*. ▪ That's *strike* two. One more *strike* and he's out. — see also STRIKE ZONE **b** *US* : a perfectly thrown ball or pass ▪ The quarterback threw a *strike* to the receiver.

5 [*count*] *chiefly US* : something that makes someone or something less likely to be accepted, approved, successful, etc. ▪ Her poor attendance was a ***strike against*** her. [=her poor attendance counted against her] ▪ He has a criminal record, so that's one *strike against* him. ▪ I want the job, but I'm young and I don't have much experience, so I feel like I already have two *strikes against* me.

6 [*count*] *bowling* : the achievement of knocking down all 10 pins with the first ball ▪ She ***made/bowled a strike***. — compare [3]SPARE 2

7 [*count*] : a discovery of something valuable (such as oil) — usually singular ▪ an oil *strike*

strike•break•er /ˈstraɪkˌbreɪkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who is hired to replace a worker who is on strike or who continues to work during a strike

– **strike•break•ing** /ˈstraɪkˌbreɪkɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

strike force *noun, pl* ~ **forces** [*count*]

1 : a military force that is ready to attack

2 *US* : a team of federal agents assigned to investigate organized crime in a specific area

strike•out /ˈstraɪkˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] *baseball* : an out in baseball that occurs when a batter gets three strikes ▪ The pitcher had 10 *strikeouts* in the game. [=the pitcher struck out 10 batters] — see also *strike out* at [1]STRIKE

strik•er /ˈstraɪkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a worker who is on strike

2 : a forward in soccer

strike zone *noun*

the strike zone *baseball* : the area over home plate where the baseball must pass after it is pitched in order to be called a strike

strik•ing /ˈstraɪkɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : unusual or extreme in a way that attracts attention ▪ a place of *striking* [=*remarkable*] beauty ▪ The poverty of the city is *striking*. ▪ There is a *striking* resemblance between the girls. ▪ The building's modern style is/stands ***in striking contrast to*** the surrounding neighborhood. [=is very different from the surrounding neighborhood]

2 : very attractive especially in an unusual or interesting way ▪ a *striking* young man ▪ an actress known for her *striking* good looks

– **strik•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ a *strikingly* beautiful woman ▪ The two islands are *strikingly* different.

striking distance *noun* [*noncount*] : the distance from which something can be easily reached ▪ The snake was ***within striking distance***. ▪ They live *within striking distance* of the city. [=they live close to the city] — often used figuratively ▪ They were almost *within striking distance* of their goal. = Their goal was almost *within striking distance*. [=they were close to achieving their goal]

[1]string /ˈstrɪŋ/ *noun, pl* strings

1 : a long, thin piece of twisted thread that you use to attach things, tie things together, or hang things [*count*] She tied a *string* around the boxes. [*noncount*] a piece/loop/ball of

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string ▪ He tied the packages together with *string*. — see also APRON STRING, DRAWSTRING, G-STRING, SHOESTRING

2 [*count*] : a group of objects that are connected with a string, wire, chain, etc. — + *of* ▪ She was wearing a *string of* pearls. ▪ We used four *strings of* Christmas lights to decorate the tree.

3 [*count*] **a** : a series of similar things — + *of* ▪ He owns a *string of* movie theaters. ▪ a long/whole *string of* names/numbers **b** : a series of events which follow each other in time — + *of* ▪ a *string of* robberies ▪ The band had a *string of* hits in the 1990s. **c** *technical* : a group of letters, words, or numbers which is treated as a single unit in a computer program ▪ a character *string*

4 [*count*] : a long, thin piece of tightly stretched wire or other material (such as nylon) that is used to produce sounds in a musical instrument (such as a violin or piano) ▪ guitar/piano *strings* — see also THE STRINGS (below)

5 [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : a group of players on a team that play together because they have similar abilities ▪ the first/second *string* of a football team ▪ He was demoted to the second *string*. — see also FIRST-STRING, SECOND-STRING

6 *strings* [*plural*] : requirements that are connected with something : things that you have to do, give, etc., if you accept something (such as a gift or an offer) ▪ She won't accept the gift if there are *strings*. [=if she is expected to do something in return for it] ▪ They offered her the job ***with no strings attached***. [=with no conditions] ▪ He's generous, but there are always ***strings attached***. [=he always expects something in return for what he gives to people]

7 [*count*] : a long, thin piece of nylon or other material that is stretched tightly across a tennis racket or similar object

have more than one string to your bow *Brit* : to have more than one idea, skill, plan, etc., that you can use if it is needed ▪ That didn't fix the problem, but I have *more than one string to my bow*.

have (someone) on a string *informal* : to be able to make (someone) do anything you want ▪ He *has* his girlfriend *on a string*.

how long is a piece of string *Brit, informal* — used as a reply to a question when the answer is not known ▪ "How long will you be staying?" "*How long is a piece of string*?"

pull strings : to use the influence that you have with important people to get or achieve something ▪ His father had to *pull* (some) *strings* to get him the job.

pull the strings : to control someone or something often in a secret way ▪ It turned out that his brother was the person *pulling the strings* behind the operation.

purse strings see [1]PURSE

the strings *or* ***the string section*** : the instruments of an orchestra (such as the cello, violin, or piano) that have strings or the musicians who play them ▪ The concert was excellent, especially *the strings*. ▪ *The* orchestra's *string section* is excellent.

[2]string *verb* **strings**; **strung** /ˈstrʌŋ/; **string•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to put (things) together on a string, thread, chain, etc. ▪ *string* beads ▪ We *strung* popcorn garlands for the Christmas tree.

2 : to place or hang (things) in a line or series ▪ They *strung* wires from tree to tree. ▪ We *strung* [=*hung*] Christmas lights along the railing. ▪ Scouts *strung* lanterns along the trail.

3 : to tie, hang, or fasten (something) with string ▪ She *strung* the key around her neck.

4 : to attach strings to (something, such as a musical instrument or tennis racket) ▪ You'll have to *string* your guitar/racket before you can play.

string along [*phrasal verb*] **1 *string (someone) along*** : to continue to deceive or trick (someone) for a long time ▪ He was just *stringing* us *along* with false promises. ▪ He really loved her but she was just *stringing* him *along*. [=making him think that she loved him so she could use him] **2 *string along with (someone or something)*** *Brit, informal* : to go with or follow (someone or something) ▪ She *strung along with* them to the museum.

string out [*phrasal verb*] ***string (something) out*** *or* ***string out (something)*** : to make (something) take longer than it should ▪ You're just *stringing* this *out* to avoid having to leave. — see also STRUNG OUT

string together [*phrasal verb*] ***string (something) together*** *or* ***string together (something)*** : to combine (different things) into something that is complete, useful, etc. ▪ See if you can *string* the theories *together* into something that makes sense. ▪ The filmmaker *strung together* interviews with a number of experts on the subject. : to create (something) by putting different things together ▪ She was finding it hard to *string together* a coherent argument.

string up [*phrasal verb*] ***string (someone) up*** *or* ***string up (someone)*** *informal* : to hang (someone) by the neck : to kill (someone) by hanging ▪ They threatened to *string* him *up* in a tree.

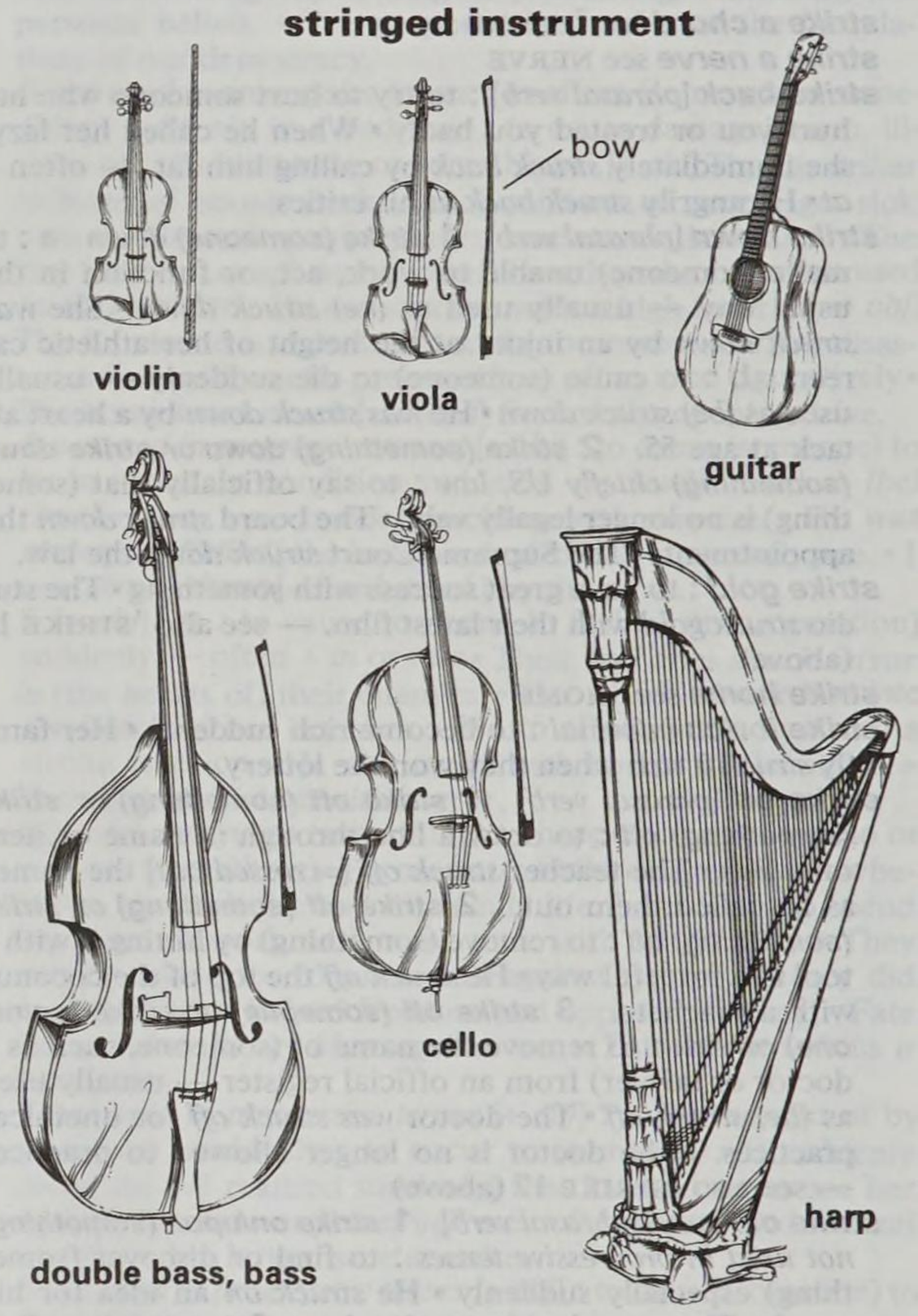
string bean *noun, pl* ~ **beans** [*count*] *chiefly US*

1 : a type of long, thin green bean

2 *informal* : a very tall thin person ▪ Her boyfriend's a real *string bean*.

string cheese *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : cheese that can be pulled apart in narrow strips

stringed instrument /ˈstrɪŋd-/ *noun, pl* ~ **-ment** [*count*] : a musical instrument (such as a guitar, violin, or piano) that has strings and that produces sound when the strings are touched or struck



strin•gent /ˈstrɪnʤənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very strict or severe ▪ *stringent* training ▪ *stringent* budgetary constraints — used to describe a command, rule, etc., that must be obeyed ▪ *stringent* rules/requirements/restrictions/standards — **strin•gen•cy** /ˈstrɪnʤənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] — **strin•gent•ly** *adv* ▪ The rule is *stringently* applied/enforced.

string•er /ˈstrɪŋɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a journalist who is not on the regular staff of a newspaper but who writes stories for that newspaper

stringy /ˈstrɪŋi/ *adj* **string•i•er**; **-est**

1 : containing long, thin pieces that are like string and that are hard to chew ▪ *stringy* vegetables ▪ a tough, *stringy* piece of meat

2 *of hair* : long, thin, and dirty ▪ a *stringy* beard

3 : having long, thin muscles ▪ *stringy* arms ▪ a *stringy* woman — **string•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]strip *noun, pl* **strips**

1 [*count*] : a long, narrow piece of something ▪ *strips* of bacon ▪ a small *strip* of cloth/paper

2 [*count*] : a long, narrow piece of land ▪ a *strip* of land ▪ *strips* of forest/coastline ▪ the half-mile *strip* of road — see also DRAG STRIP, MEDIAN STRIP, RUMBLE STRIP

3 [*count*] *US* : a road that has a lot of shops, restaurants, etc., along it ▪ driving along the *strip* ▪ the Las Vegas *strip*

4 [*count*] : AIRSTRIP

5 [*count*] : COMIC STRIP ▪ *Peanuts* has always been one of my favorite *strips*.

6 [*singular*] *Brit* : the uniform worn by a sports team ▪ the

team's ***away strip*** [=the uniform that the team wears when it is not playing at its home field, stadium, etc.]

7 [*count*] *Brit* : the act of taking your clothes off in a sexually exciting way while someone is watching ▪ She ***did a strip*** [=*striptease*] for her husband.

tear (someone) off a strip *or* ***tear a strip off (someone)*** *Brit, informal* : to talk angrily to (someone who has done something wrong) ▪ His dad *tore him off a strip* for denting the car.

– see also POWER STRIP

²strip /ˈstrɪp/ *verb* **strips**; **stripped**; **strip·ping**

1 a : to remove your clothing [*no obj*] I *stripped* for bed. ▪ He ***stripped to the waist***. [=he took off all the clothes on his upper body] ▪ The prisoners were told to ***strip naked***. [=remove all their clothes] — often + *down* ▪ He *stripped down* to his underwear. [=he took all his clothes off except for his underwear] [+ *obj*] He *stripped* himself *down* to his underwear. **b** [+ *obj*] : to take the clothes off (someone) ▪ The prisoners were *stripped naked*. **c** [*no obj*] : to remove your clothing in a sexually exciting way while someone is watching ▪ She gets paid to dance and *strip* at the club.

2 [+ *obj*] : to remove an outer covering or surface from something ▪ *strip* the bark from a tree = *strip* a tree of its bark ▪ We are going to *strip* [=*remove*] the old wallpaper. ▪ They *stripped* the table and refinished it. ▪ Please ***strip your bed*** [=remove all the sheets] so I can wash the sheets.

3 [+ *obj*] : to remove everything (such as furniture or equipment) from (a room, building, car, etc.) ▪ They *stripped* the room when they left. ▪ The building had been completely *stripped* of its original woodwork.

4 [+ *obj*] : to separate (a machine or piece of equipment) into parts for cleaning or repair ▪ *strip* a rifle — often + *down* ▪ They *stripped down* the engine.

5 [+ *obj*] : to take (something) away from someone in a forceful way — + *of* ▪ They *stripped* the slaves *of* their dignity. — often + *away* ▪ Their rights were *stripped away*. — often used as *(be) stripped* ▪ The pageant winner *was stripped of* her crown/title after the scandal. [=she was forced to give up her crown/title after the scandal]

6 [+ *obj*] : to damage part of a screw or gear so that it does not work properly ▪ Pushing too hard will *strip* the screw.

strip away [*phrasal verb*] ***strip (something) away*** *or* ***strip away (something)*** **1** : to remove (something that covers a surface) : to pull pieces of a covering away from a surface ▪ *strip away* the bark of a tree **2** : to remove (unimportant material) from something ▪ The editor *stripped away* repetitive sections of the essay. — see also ²STRIP 5 (above)

strip cartoon *noun, pl* ~ **-toons** [*count*] *Brit* : COMIC STRIP

strip club *noun, pl* ~ **clubs** [*count*] *informal* : a place where people go to watch performers take their clothes off in a sexually exciting way : a nightclub with performances by strippers — called also (*US*) *strip joint*

stripe /ˈstraɪp/ *noun, pl* **stripes** [*count*]

1 : a long, narrow line of color ▪ light gray *stripes* on a black background ▪ a zebra's *stripes* — see also PINSTRIPE, STARS AND STRIPES

2 : a piece of material worn on the arm of a military uniform to show the rank of the person wearing the uniform ▪ He finally got his sergeant's *stripes*.

3 : a particular type of person or thing ▪ classes for artists ***of all stripes*** [=for all kinds of artists] ▪ activists ***of any/every stripe***

earn your stripes : to do something which shows that you deserve to be accepted and respected by the other people in a field or profession ▪ She has yet to *earn her stripes* as a reporter.

striped /ˈstraɪpt/ *adj* : having stripes or bands of color ▪ a *striped* shirt — see color picture on page C12

stripey *variant spelling of* STRIPY

strip lighting *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : a type of lighting that uses long white tubes ▪ The bright *strip lighting* in the office was not very flattering.

– **strip light** *noun, pl* ~ **lights** [*count*]

strip·ling /ˈstrɪplɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-lings** [*count*] *old-fashioned* + *humorous* : a boy or young man ▪ I've known him since he was a mere *stripling*. [=since he was very young]

strip mall *noun, pl* ~ **malls** [*count*] *US* : a long building that is divided into separate shops which usually have outside entrances and which share a parking lot

strip mine *noun, pl* ~ **mines** [*count*] : a mine that is dug by removing the surface of a large piece of land one section at a time

– **strip–mine** *verb* **-mines**; **-mined**; **-min·ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ a region where coal is *strip-mined*

strip·per /ˈstrɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers**

1 [*count*] : a performer who removes his or her clothing in a sexually exciting way : a dancer who does a striptease ▪ She worked as a *stripper* for a few years.

2 a [*count*] : a tool that you use to remove something (such as paint) from a surface **b** [*count, noncount*] : a liquid chemical that you use to remove something (such as paint) from a surface ▪ a can of paint *stripper*

strip search *noun, pl* ~ **searches** [*count*] : an act of removing someone's clothing to see if that person is hiding illegal drugs, weapons, etc. ▪ The administrators ordered random *strip searches* of all prisoners.

– **strip–search** *verb* **-search·es**; **-searched**; **-search·ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ They were *strip-searched* at the airport.

strip·tease /ˈstrɪpˌti:z/ *noun, pl* **-teas·es** [*count*] : a performance in which someone removes clothing in a sexually exciting way

stripy *or* **strip·ey** /ˈstraɪpi/ *adj* **strip·i·er**; **-est** *Brit, informal* : STRIPED ▪ *stripy* shirts

strive /ˈstraɪv/ *verb* **strives**; **strove** /ˈstroʊv/ *also* **strived**; **striv·en** /ˈstraɪvən/ *or* **strived**; **striv·ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to try very hard to do or achieve something ▪ We must all *strive* to do better. ▪ She always *strives* for perfection. ▪ They *strove* for success. = They *strove* to succeed. ▪ They continue to *strive* toward their goals. ▪ *striving* against injustice [=working hard to fight injustice] ***synonyms*** see ¹ATTEMPT

– **striv·er** /ˈstraɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

strobe light /ˈstroʊb-/ *noun, pl* ~ **lights** [*count*] : a bright light that flashes on and off very quickly

strode *past tense of* ¹STRIDE

¹stroke /ˈstroʊk/ *noun, pl* **strokes**

1 [*count*] *medical* : a serious illness caused when a blood vessel in your brain suddenly breaks or is blocked ▪ He had/suffered a *stroke* last winter. ▪ a *stroke* patient/victim — see also SUNSTROKE

2 [*count*] **a** : an act of hitting a ball or the movement made to hit a ball during a game ▪ She has a strong backhand *stroke*. ▪ a forceful *stroke* — see also GROUND STROKE **b** *golf* : an act of hitting the ball that is counted as part of a player's score ▪ He is ahead by two *strokes*.

3 [*count*] **a** : one of a series of repeated movements of your arms in swimming or rowing that you make to move yourself or the boat through the water ▪ She swims with long, smooth *strokes*. ▪ the *stroke* of an oar **b** : a style of swimming ▪ She knows the four basic *strokes*. — see also BACKSTROKE, BREASTSTROKE

4 [*count*] : one of a series of repeated movements by something that goes up and down or back and forth ▪ The bird soared higher with each *stroke* of its wings. ▪ the *stroke* of a piston

5 [*count*] : an act of hitting someone or something with a stick, whip, etc. ▪ a *stroke* of the whip

6 [*count*] : a gentle movement of your hand over or along something ▪ She gave the cat a *stroke*. [=she stroked the cat]

7 [*count*] : a single act of moving a pen or brush when it is being used to write or paint ▪ He writes with smooth *strokes*. ▪ You can see the *strokes* of the painter's brush throughout the painting. ▪ (*figurative*) He has the power to end this policy ***with a (single) stroke of a/the/his pen***. [=by signing a law, order, etc., which ends it]; *also* : a line or mark made by a pen or brush ▪ A few *strokes* (of paint) form the basic shape of the horse. — see also BRUSHSTROKE, KEYSTROKE

8 a [*count*] : one of the sounds made by a clock or bell to indicate a particular time ▪ the first *stroke* of the clock at midnight **b** [*singular*] : an exact time ▪ They arrived ***at the stroke of*** midnight. [=exactly at midnight]

9 [*count*] : a single decisive action ▪ She solved all our problems with a single, brilliant/bold *stroke*. ▪ We can resolve this at/by/in/with one *stroke*.

10 [*count*] : something good, lucky, etc., that happens or is thought of suddenly — usually singular ▪ Her idea for the design for the interior was a ***stroke of inspiration***. ▪ It was only by a ***stroke of luck*** that we found a parking spot. ▪ It was a ***lucky stroke***. ▪ Deciding to relocate the company was ***a stroke of genius***. [=a brilliant idea]

11 [*count*] : a bright flash of lightning ▪ a *stroke* of lightning

a stroke of work *informal* : any work at all ▪ They haven't done *a stroke of work* all day.

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put (someone) off their stroke *Brit* : to cause someone to hesitate or be confused ▪ The last-minute change of plans *put me off my stroke.*

²stroke *verb* **strokes; stroked; strok•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to move your hand over (someone or something) gently and in one direction ▪ She was *stroking* the cat's fur.
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** : to move (something) gently in one direction ▪ He *stroked* the pen lightly over the paper. **b** : to hit or kick (a ball) with a smooth movement ▪ She *stroked* the ball toward the hole.
3 *chiefly US, informal* : to say nice things to (someone) in order to get approval, agreement, etc. ▪ You're just *stroking* me so I'll go along with you. ▪ She works with celebrities and spends half her time ***stroking their egos.***
– strok•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

stroll /ˈstroʊl/ *verb* **strolls; strolled; stroll•ing** : to walk slowly in usually a pleasant and relaxed way [*no obj*] They *strolled* along/down/across the street looking in the store windows. [+ *obj*] We *strolled* the streets of the village.
– stroll *noun, pl* **strolls** [*count*] ▪ He went for a *stroll* in/through the park.

stroll•er /ˈstroʊlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 *US* : a small carriage with four wheels that a baby or small child can ride in while someone pushes it — called also (*Brit*) *pushchair*
2 : someone who is walking in a slow and relaxed way : someone who is strolling ▪ I met a few *strollers* on the beach.

strong /ˈstrɑːŋ/ *adj* **strong•er** /ˈstrɑːŋgɚ/; **strong•est** /ˈstrɑːŋgəst/
1 : having great physical power and ability : having a lot of strength ▪ a big *strong* kid ▪ an athlete with *strong* muscles/legs ▪ He's ***as strong as an ox.*** — opposite WEAK
2 : not easy to break or damage ▪ The table should be *strong* enough to survive the trip. ▪ The builder added supports to make the walls *stronger.*
3 : not sick or injured : HEALTHY ▪ He'll return to work when he's feeling a little *stronger.*
4 : very noticeable ▪ He speaks with a *strong* accent. ▪ She has *strong* features like her father. ▪ He bears a *strong* resemblance to his father.
5 : having great power or force ▪ a *strong* breeze/wind ▪ a good *strong* kick
6 a : very powerful in action or effect ▪ Morphine is a *strong* drug. ▪ a *strong* detergent ▪ He needs *strong* glasses for reading. **b** : having a powerful and sometimes unpleasant taste or smell ▪ *strong* cheese ▪ The spices are too *strong* for me. ▪ a *strong* perfume ▪ A *strong* smell came from the basement.
7 : containing a large amount of an important ingredient (such as alcohol) ▪ I could use a *strong* drink. ▪ She drank nothing *stronger* than iced tea. ▪ a *strong* cup of coffee
8 : having a lot of power or influence ▪ a *strong* leader/government
9 : likely to persuade or convince people that something is true, real, correct, etc. ▪ He made a *strong* [=*compelling, persuasive*] argument/case for keeping the center open. ▪ *strong* evidence
10 : very confident and able to deal with difficult situations ▪ a *strong* character/personality ▪ I don't think I'm *strong* enough to handle this by myself. ▪ Her spirit remained *strong* throughout her illness.
11 : felt, believed, or expressed in a very definite and powerful way ▪ an especially *strong* conviction/commitment ▪ She is a woman of *strong* and independent opinions. ▪ a *strong* desire/liking/hatred ▪ He has a *strong* sense of responsibility. ▪ I had a *strong* desire/temptation/urge to call him. ▪ He has a *strong* need for control. ▪ The proposal has faced *strong* opposition. ▪ He thanked them for their *strong* support.
12 : powerful and effective in supporting something, opposing something, etc. ▪ She is a *strong* advocate for child welfare. ▪ a *strong* opponent of the proposal
13 : well established and likely to continue ▪ *strong* traditions ▪ *strong* friendships/relationships/ties
14 : likely to succeed or to happen ▪ a *strong* candidate/contender ▪ There is a *strong* [=very good] possibility/chance that he will be promoted.
15 a : great in number ▪ There was a *strong* turnout for the election. [=a large number of people voted in the election] **b** — used to indicate the number of people in a large group ▪ The army was ten thousand *strong.* [=there were 10,000 soldiers in the army]
16 a : having a value that is great or that is increasing ▪ The dollar has been *strong.* **b** : in a good financial condition : doing well ▪ The business remains *strong* despite the setbacks. ▪ The economy is *strong.*
17 : very forceful and sometimes obscene or offensive ▪ The movie contains some ***strong language.*** [=*swearing*]
18 : very bright ▪ She likes *strong* colors. ▪ a *strong* light
a bit strong *Brit, informal* : unfair or too critical ▪ Weren't you *a bit strong* on him?
a strong stomach see ¹STOMACH
come on strong see ¹COME
going strong : very active, healthy, or successful ▪ The company has been *going strong* for nearly a century. ▪ He's 92 years old and still *going strong.*
strong on **1** : very good at (something) ▪ She's *strong on* vocabulary but not grammar. ▪ The author is not *strong on* characterization. **2** : containing a lot of (something) ▪ The explanation was *strong on* detail.
– strong•ly /ˈstrɑːŋli/ *adv* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ I feel very *strongly* about this. ▪ She spoke *strongly* against the idea. ▪ I *strongly* agree/disagree with her. ▪ I *strongly* advise you to see a doctor. ▪ The kitchen smelled *strongly* of baking. ▪ *strongly* flavored ▪ a *strongly* worded letter of complaint

¹strong–arm /ˈstrɑːŋˈɑɚm/ *adj, always used before a noun* : using force or threats to make someone do what is wanted ▪ They accused the government of using *strong-arm* tactics to silence its opponents.

²strong–arm *verb* **-arms; -armed; -arm•ing** [+ *obj*] : to use force or threats to make (someone) do what is wanted ▪ She *strong-armed* us into cooperating.

strong•box /ˈstrɑːŋˌbɑːks/ *noun, pl* **-box•es** [*count*] : a box that is usually made of metal, that can be locked, and that is used to keep money or valuable things : SAFE

strong•hold /ˈstrɑːŋˌhoʊld/ *noun, pl* **-holds** [*count*]
1 : an area where most people have the same beliefs, values, etc. : an area dominated by a particular group ▪ The area/district/state is a Republican *stronghold.*
2 : a protected place where the members of a military group stay and can defend themselves against attacks ▪ The rebels retreated to their mountain *stronghold.*
3 : an area where a particular type of uncommon animal can still be found ▪ the last *stronghold* of the endangered deer

strong•man /ˈstrɑːŋˌmæn/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-ˌmɛn/ [*count*]
1 : a politician or leader who uses violence or threats
2 : a man who performs in a circus and who is very strong

strong–mind•ed /ˈstrɑːŋˈmaɪndəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having very strong and definite beliefs and opinions : not easily influenced ▪ a *strong-minded* woman ▪ He is the most *strong-minded* child I have ever known.
– strong–mind•ed•ly *adv* **– strong–mind•ed•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

strong room *noun, pl* **~ rooms** [*count*] : a special room in a bank where money and other valuable things can be kept safe

strong suit *noun* [*singular*] : something that a person does well — often used in negative statements ▪ Irony is not my *strong suit.* ▪ Swimming has never been his *strong suit.*

strong–willed *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : very determined to do something even if other people say it should not be done ▪ two *strong-willed* children

stron•tium /ˈstrɑːnʃijəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a soft silver-white metal that is used in color TV tubes and red fireworks

strop /ˈstrɑːp/ *noun, pl* **strops**
1 [*count*] : a narrow piece of leather that is used for sharpening a razor
2 [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : a bad mood ▪ He ***gets in a strop*** if he has to wait for someone.

strop•py /ˈstrɑːpi/ *adj* **strop•pi•er; -est** *Brit, informal* : easily annoyed and difficult to deal with ▪ There's no need to get *stroppy* with me.
– strop•pi•ness *noun* [*noncount*]

strove *past tense of* STRIVE

struck *past tense and past participle of* ¹STRIKE

struc•tur•al /ˈstrʌktʃərəl/ *adj, always used before a noun* : relating to the way something is built or organized : relating to the structure of something ▪ The house suffered no *structural* damage. ▪ *structural* defects/weaknesses
– struc•tur•al•ly *adv* ▪ The building is *structurally* sound.

¹struc•ture /ˈstrʌktʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures**
1 [*count*] **a** : the way that something is built, arranged, or organized ▪ They studied the compound's molecular *structure.* ▪ The film had a simple narrative *structure.* ▪ the *structure* of a plant **b** : the way that a group of people are organized ▪ a solid family *structure* ▪ the social *structure* of a

college campus ▪ changes to the company's power *structure*

2 [*count*] : something (such as a house, tower, bridge, etc.) that is built by putting parts together and that usually stands on its own ▪ a brick/steel *structure* ▪ The *structure* was damaged by fire. ▪ a 12-story *structure*

3 [*noncount*] : the quality of something that is carefully planned, organized, and controlled ▪ The novel lacks *structure*. ▪ Children need a lot of *structure* in their lives.

[2]structure *verb* **-tures**; **-tured**; **-tur·ing** [+ *obj*] : to arrange or organize (something) in a particular way ▪ She *structured* the essay chronologically. ▪ The story is *structured* [=*built*] around several main themes.

stru·del /'stru:dl̩/ *noun, pl* **-dels** [*count, noncount*] : a German pastry made of thin dough rolled up with fruit filling and baked ▪ apple *strudel*

[1]strug·gle /'strʌgəl/ *verb* **strug·gles**; **strug·gled**; **strug·gling** [*no obj*]

1 : to try very hard to do, achieve, or deal with something that is difficult or that causes problems ▪ He has been *struggling* with the problem of how to keep good workers from leaving. ▪ They *struggled* for the right to vote. ▪ She is *struggling* with her health. [=she is having problems with her health] ▪ They *struggled* against injustice. ▪ I had to *struggle* against the impulse to laugh. [=I had to make a strong effort to keep myself from laughing] — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ She's *struggling to survive*. ▪ He was *struggling to breathe*. ▪ They have been *struggling to pay* their bills.

2 a : to move with difficulty or with great effort ▪ She *struggled* up the hill through the snow. **b** : to try to move yourself, an object, etc., by making a lot of effort ▪ She *struggled* to lift the package by herself, but it was too heavy. ▪ He *struggled* to get free of the wreckage. ▪ She was *struggling* with the door. [=trying to open the door] **c** : to fight with someone in order to get something ▪ They *struggled* (with each other) for/over the gun. [=they fought with each other as they each tried to get the gun]

3 : to be failing : to be doing something without success ▪ He's been *struggling* in math class for most of the year. ▪ The team has continued to *struggle* in recent weeks. ▪ He was living as a *struggling* artist in the city.

struggle on [*phrasal verb*] : to continue doing something that is difficult or tiring ▪ I suppose all we can do now is *struggle on*.

– **strug·gler** /'strʌglɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[2]struggle *noun, pl* **struggles**

1 [*count*] : a long effort to do, achieve, or deal with something that is difficult or that causes problems ▪ a *struggle* to succeed ▪ a *struggle* against injustice [=an effort to stop injustice] ▪ the *struggle* for civil rights/freedom/survival ▪ She talked about her *struggles* with depression. [=the problems she has had because of her depression; her attempts to find a cure for her depression] ▪ The ***power struggle*** [=the fight for control] between the two owners destroyed the company.

2 [*count*] : a physical fight between usually two people ▪ There was a *struggle* for/over the gun. ▪ There was no sign of a *struggle*.

3 [*singular*] : something that is difficult to do or achieve ▪ The work is a real *struggle* for me. [=the work is very difficult] ▪ It was a *struggle* getting out of bed this morning.

strum /'strʌm/ *verb* **strums**; **strummed**; **strum·ming** [+ *obj*]

1 : to play (a guitar or similar instrument) by moving your fingers across the strings ▪ She *strummed* the guitar/banjo.

2 : to play (music) on a guitar, banjo, etc., by moving your fingers over the strings ▪ He *strummed* a tune on the guitar.

– **strum·mer** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

strum·pet /'strʌmpət/ *noun, pl* **-pets** [*count*] *old-fashioned* + *offensive* : a woman who has sex with men for money or who has sex with many men

strung *past tense and past participle of* [2]STRING

strung out *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : strongly affected by an illegal drug — often + *on* ▪ They were *strung out on* heroin.

2 : spread out with spaces between ▪ stars *strung out* across the galaxy

strung up *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *Brit, informal* : very nervous, excited, or worried ▪ Don't get so *strung up* about everything.

[1]strut /'strʌt/ *verb* **struts**; **strut·ted**; **strut·ting** [*no obj*] : to walk in a confident and proud way ▪ She *strutted* across the stage.

strut your stuff *informal* : to proudly show your abilities ▪ The audition gave aspiring actors a chance to *strut their stuff*.

– **strut·ter** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[2]strut *noun, pl* **struts**

1 [*count*] : a long, thin piece of wood or metal used for support in a building, vehicle, etc.

2 [*singular*] : a proud and confident walk ▪ the *strut* of a supermodel

strych·nine /'strɪkˌnaɪn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a poisonous substance that can be used in very small amounts as a medicine

[1]stub /'stʌb/ *noun, pl* **stubs** [*count*]

1 : a short part left after a larger part has been broken off or used up ▪ a pencil *stub*

2 : a part of a ticket that is kept by the person who uses the ticket ▪ Hold onto your ticket *stub* in case you leave the theater and want to come back in again.

3 : a piece of paper that is attached to a check and has information (such as the amount and the date) printed on it ▪ a check *stub* — see also PAY STUB

[2]stub *verb* **stubs**; **stubbed**; **stub·bing** [+ *obj*] : to put out (a cigarette) by pressing it down against something — usually + *out* ▪ He *stubbed* his cigarette *out* in/on the ashtray.

stub your toe : to hurt your toe by hitting it against something ▪ She *stubbed her toe* against/on the leg of the chair.

stub·ble /'stʌbəl/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : short hairs growing from the face of a man who has not shaved very recently ▪ He ran his hand over his *stubble*. — see picture at BEARD

2 : the short ends of crops left in the ground after the crops have been cut down

– **stub·bled** /'stʌbəld/ *adj* ▪ his *stubbled* chin ▪ We drove past *stubbled* fields. – **stub·bly** /'stʌbəli/ *adj* ▪ a *stubbly* beard

stub·born /'stʌbɚn/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : refusing to change your ideas or to stop doing something ▪ She's wrong, but she's too *stubborn* to admit it. ▪ I admire his *stubborn* refusal to quit. ▪ She ***has a stubborn streak***. [=she is often stubborn] ▪ He's ***(as) stubborn as a mule***. [=he's very/extremely stubborn]

2 : difficult to deal with, remove, etc. ▪ *stubborn* hair ▪ trying to treat a *stubborn* infection ▪ a *stubborn* stain

– **stub·born·ly** *adv* ▪ She *stubbornly* refused to move. ▪ The fever persisted *stubbornly*. – **stub·born·ness** /'stʌbɚnnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

stub·by /'stʌbi/ *adj* **stub·bi·er**; **-est** : short and thick ▪ hands with thick *stubby* fingers ▪ My dog has a short *stubby* tail. ▪ *stubby* legs

stuc·co /'stʌkoʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of plaster used for decoration or to cover the outside walls of houses

– **stuc·coed** /'stʌkoʊd/ *adj* ▪ *stuccoed* buildings/ceilings/walls

[1]stuck /'stʌk/ *adj, not used before a noun*

1 a : difficult or impossible to move from a position ▪ The ring is *stuck* on my finger. ▪ The zipper is *stuck*. ▪ The door keeps ***getting stuck***. ▪ The elevator *got stuck* on the fifth floor. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He's an old man and ***stuck in his ways***. [=completely unwilling to change his ways of doing or thinking about things] ▪ The song is ***stuck in my head***. [=I keep hearing the song over and over again in my head] **b** : in a place or situation that is difficult or impossible to get out of ▪ The car was *stuck* in the mud. ▪ We were *stuck* there for three days because of bad weather. ▪ She was *stuck* in an awful marriage. ▪ I was *stuck* at the office all day. ▪ *stuck* at home with nothing to do ▪ I ***got stuck*** in traffic. **c** : forced to keep or deal with someone or something unpleasant ▪ We're *stuck* with this old sofa that nobody wants. ▪ I was *stuck* washing dishes. = I ***got stuck*** washing dishes. — see also *stick with* at [2]STICK

2 *informal* : unable to think of a solution, an idea, etc. ▪ I'm *stuck*. Can you help me? ▪ I'm ***stuck on*** this math problem. ▪ I ***got stuck on*** the very first problem. ▪ If you're ***stuck for*** ideas, I can help. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) She's never ***stuck for words***. [=*lost for words*]

get stuck in/into *Brit, informal* : to start doing something with a lot of energy ▪ Grab a plate and *get stuck in*.

stuck on *informal* : loving or admiring someone foolishly or too much ▪ He was *stuck on* her for a while in high school. ▪ She is ***stuck on herself***. [=*stuck-up*]

[2]stuck *past tense and past participle of* [2]STICK

stuck–up /'stʌk'ʌp/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : acting unfriendly towards other people because you think you are

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better than they are : CONCEITED ▪ They're just *stuck-up* people with too much money.

[1]stud /ˈstʌd/ *noun, pl* **studs**
1 : a male animal (such as a horse) kept for breeding [*count*] retired racehorses being used as *studs* [*noncount*] retired racehorses ***at stud*** ▪ a horse that has been ***put out to stud***
2 [*count*] *informal* **:** a very attractive and masculine man **:** a man who has sexual relations with many women ▪ She left her husband and ran off with some young *stud*.
– compare [2]STUD

[2]stud *noun, pl* **studs** [*count*]
1 *US* **:** one of the upright pieces of wood that are used to build the frame of a wall
2 : a small metal knob that is used for decoration ▪ a belt decorated with silver *studs*
3 : a small metal object used as a clothing fastener or for decoration ▪ shirt *studs*
4 : a small piece of jewelry that is attached through a hole in part of a person's body (such as an ear) ▪ She was wearing diamond *studs*. — see color picture on page C11
5 : one of the short pieces of metal or rubber on the surface of a snow tire
– compare [1]STUD

[3]stud *verb* **studs; stud·ded; stud·ding** [+ *obj*] **:** to decorate or cover (something) with many small items ▪ Beads *stud* the surface of the gown. — often used figuratively ▪ Bright stars *studded* the sky.

studded *adj* **:** covered or decorated with many small parts or pieces ▪ a *studded* tire ▪ a gown *studded* with jewels — often used figuratively ▪ a sky *studded* with stars ▪ a career *studded* with honors — sometimes used in combination ▪ celebrity-*studded* shows [=shows that have many celebrities]

stu·dent /ˈstuːdn̩t, *Brit* ˈstjuːdn̩t/ *noun, pl* **-dents** [*count*]
1 : a person who attends a school, college, or university ▪ a high school *student* ▪ a group of college *students* ▪ She is a *student* at Georgetown University. ▪ She is a *student* [=*pupil*] at our local elementary school. — often used before another noun ▪ *student* athletes/groups/leaders/loans/trips — see also MATURE STUDENT
2 : a person who studies something — + *of* ▪ She is a *student of* human nature.

student body *noun, pl* **~ -ies** [*count*] **:** the students at a school ▪ The school has a large *student body*. [=a large number of students attend the school]

student council *noun, pl* **~ -cils** [*count*] **:** a group of students who are elected to help plan activities and to organize and manage life at school for other students

student driver *noun, pl* **~ -ers** [*count*] *US* **:** someone who is learning to drive a car — called also (*Brit*) *learner*, (*Brit*) *learner driver*

student government *noun, pl* **~ -ments :** a group of students in a school who are elected to help plan activities and to organize and manage life at school for other students [*count*] She was president of the *student government*. [*noncount*] He is active in *student government*.

student teacher *noun, pl* **~ -ers** [*count*] **:** a student who is learning how to teach and practicing teaching for the first time
– **student teaching** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Where did you do your *student teaching*?

student union (*chiefly US*) *or Brit* **students' union** *noun, pl* **~ unions** [*count*]
1 : a building at a college or university that is used for students' social activities
2 *Brit* **:** an association of students at a college or university

stud·ied /ˈstʌdid/ *adj*
1 : carefully thought out or prepared **:** THOUGHTFUL ▪ She gave a *studied* response.
2 : done deliberately ▪ a *studied* insult ▪ He viewed us with a *studied* indifference.

stu·dio /ˈstuːdiˌoʊ, *Brit* ˈstjuːdiˌəʊ/ *noun, pl* **-dios** [*count*]
1 : the building or room where an artist works
2 : a place where people go to learn, practice, or study an art (such as singing, dancing, or acting)
3 a : a place where movies are made **b :** a company that makes movies ▪ the president of a major Hollywood *studio*
4 : a place where radio or television programs are broadcast
5 : a place where music is recorded
6 : STUDIO APARTMENT ▪ I rented a *studio* in the city.

studio apartment *noun, pl* **~ -ments** [*count*] *US* **:** a small apartment that has a main room, a very small kitchen, and a bathroom — called also *studio*, (*Brit*) *studio flat*

stu·di·ous /ˈstuːdijəs, *Brit* ˈstjuːdiəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : very serious about studying, reading, learning, etc. ▪ a *studious* child ▪ *studious* habits
2 : very careful and serious ▪ He made a *studious* effort to obey the rules. ▪ *studious* avoidance of trouble
– **stu·di·ous·ly** *adv* ▪ They did the homework assignment *studiously*. ▪ She has been *studiously* avoiding/ignoring me.
– **stu·di·ous·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The teacher complimented the student on her *studiousness*.

stud·ly /ˈstʌdli/ *adj* **stud·li·er; -est** *US slang, of a man* **:** very attractive and masculine ▪ a *studly* [=*hunky*] actor

[1]study /ˈstʌdi/ *noun, pl* **stud·ies**
1 : the activity or process of learning about something by reading, memorizing facts, attending school, etc. [*noncount*] Becoming a doctor requires years of *study*. ▪ You can improve your knowledge of the natural world by *study* and observation. ▪ She is engaged in the *study* of law. [=she is studying law] ▪ You can design your own ***course of study***. [=you can choose the subjects you will study] [*plural*] She will return to her *studies* after vacation. ▪ He left the service to pursue his *studies*.
2 a [*count*] **:** an area of learning taught in a school **:** SUBJECT — usually plural ▪ literary/American/women's *studies* — see also SOCIAL STUDIES **b** [*singular*] **:** something that a person studies or gives attention to ▪ Their habits make an interesting *study*. [=it is interesting to study their habits] ▪ She has ***made a study of*** the problem. [=she has studied the problem]
3 [*count*] **a :** an organized experiment in which many things are looked at, measured, recorded, etc., in order to learn more about something ▪ The agency conducted an environmental *study*. ▪ He took part in a *study* of childhood obesity. **b :** a report or publication based on a study ▪ The *study* of the new drug will be published next year.
4 [*count*] **:** a quiet room in someone's home for reading, writing, etc. ▪ She spent the evening reading in her/the *study*.
5 [*singular*] *US* **:** a person who learns or memorizes something ▪ He's a ***fast/quick study***. [=he learns things quickly] ▪ When it comes to computers, I'm a ***slow study***.
6 [*singular*] **:** something or someone that clearly has or shows a particular quality or feature ▪ The evening was a *study* in contrasts. [=some parts of the evening were very different from other parts] ▪ He was a *study* in concentration as he gazed at the computer screen.
7 [*count*] *art* **:** an artistic work that deals with a particular subject and that is done especially to prepare for a larger work
8 [*count*] *music* **:** a musical composition that is created for the practice of a particular technique
under study **:** being thought about and considered so that a decision can be made **:** being studied ▪ The proposal is *under study*.

[2]study *verb* **studies; stud·ied; study·ing**
1 : to read, memorize facts, attend school, etc., in order to learn about a subject [*no obj*] She *studied* hard. ▪ Did you *study* for the test? ▪ She's *studying* to be a teacher. [+ *obj*] He is *studying* music.
2 [+ *obj*] **a :** to give careful attention to (something) ▪ I *studied* the request carefully. ▪ She was *studying* his face for a reaction. ▪ The proposal was *studied* in great detail. **b :** to conduct an organized experiment in order to learn more about (something) ▪ The effects of the drug have never been thoroughly *studied*.

study hall *noun, pl* **~ halls** *US* **:** a time during the school day when a student is expected to go to a particular room in the school to study or to complete work assigned in other classes [*noncount*] I have *study hall* next period. ▪ She got in trouble for talking in/during *study hall*. [*count*] a required *study hall* ▪ My *study hall* starts at 11:04.

[1]stuff /ˈstʌf/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *informal* **a :** materials, supplies, or equipment ▪ She got out the cooking *stuff* to bake some cookies. ▪ computers, word processors, and *stuff* like that ▪ I need a place to store my *stuff*. **b :** a group or pile of things that are not specifically described ▪ Pick that *stuff* up off the floor.
2 *informal* — used to refer to something when you do not need to name exactly what it is ▪ They sold tons of the *stuff*. ▪ Trust me. This *stuff* works. ▪ That *stuff's* expensive. ▪ She wears cool *stuff*. ▪ They're giving away free *stuff* at the door. ▪ I didn't like her early books, but her recent *stuff* is very good. ▪ The *stuff* he says about me is just not true. ▪ I drink wine and beer occasionally, but I never touch ***the hard stuff***.

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[=hard liquor; alcoholic drinks like whiskey, vodka, etc.] — see also HOT STUFF, KID STUFF

3 *informal* — used to speak in a general way about something that is talked about, written about, etc. ▪ There's some fascinating *stuff* in this book. ▪ I can't believe the *stuff* teenagers talk about.

4 *informal* — used to describe the quality of a performance, experience, etc. ▪ The presentation of facts in history can be pretty dull *stuff*. [=can be pretty dull] ▪ This is great *stuff* [=is very enjoyable] for music fans.

5 *informal* : actions or behavior of a particular kind ▪ How do they get away with such *stuff*? ▪ Don't try any funny *stuff*. ▪ There's all this crazy *stuff* going on. ▪ He does *stuff* that bugs his parents.

6 : personality or character ▪ He's a coward but his brother is ***made of sterner/tougher stuff***. [=his brother is a stronger/tougher person] ▪ A person who has ***the right stuff*** [=who has the necessary personal qualities] will do well here.

7 : the material that something is made of ▪ The floor tiles are made of very tough *stuff*. — often used figuratively ▪ He has ***the stuff of greatness***. [=he has the qualities that can make a person great] ▪ Her partying became ***the stuff of legend***. [=became very famous or legendary]

8 *baseball* : the ability to throw pitches that are hard to hit ▪ a pitcher with good *stuff*

and stuff *informal* — used in speech to refer to things that are similar to the thing just mentioned ▪ They asked me about my plans for the future *and stuff*. ▪ The store sells TVs and stereos *and stuff* (like that).

do your stuff *informal* : to do the things that you are able to do well : to do things that you are known for doing ▪ You'll succeed if you just get out there and *do your stuff*.

know your stuff *informal* : to be an expert at something ▪ When it comes to gardening, she really *knows her stuff*. [=she knows a lot about gardening]

show your stuff *informal* : to show what you are able to do : to show your skills ▪ The competition gives young performers a chance to *show their stuff*.

strut your stuff see [1]STRUT

[2]stuff *verb* **stuffs; stuffed; stuff·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to fill (something) so that there is no room for anything else ▪ The boy *stuffed* his pockets with candy. ▪ She *stuffed* the laundry bag full. — often used figuratively ▪ The book is *stuffed* [=*filled*] with information. ▪ The students were ***stuffing their heads*** with facts.

2 : to push (something) quickly and carelessly into a small space — usually + *into* ▪ The boy *stuffed* the candy *into* his pockets. ▪ He tried to *stuff* [=*cram*] all his clothes *into* one suitcase.

3 : to put a seasoned mixture of food into (something that is being cooked) ▪ *stuff* a turkey ▪ *stuff* a pepper

4 : to fill the skin of (a dead animal) so that it looks the way it did when it was alive — often used as *(be) stuffed* ▪ He had the deer's head *stuffed*.

stuff it *informal* — used as an angry and rude way to say that you do not want something or are not interested in something ▪ When they offered me the job I told them they could *stuff it*.

stuff the ballot box see BALLOT BOX

stuff yourself *or* ***stuff your face*** *informal + often disapproving* : to eat a large amount of food ▪ They *stuffed themselves* with pizza.

stuffed *adj*

1 *not used before a noun* : filled with food : not hungry any more ▪ "Would you like another piece of pie?" "No, thanks. I'm *stuffed*."

2 : filled with mucus because of illness ▪ My nose is *stuffed* (up). = I'm (all) ***stuffed up***. ▪ a *stuffed* (up) nose

get stuffed *chiefly Brit, informal* — used as an angry and rude way to tell someone to go away or to leave you alone ▪ When they refused to consider him for the promotion he told them they could *get stuffed*.

stuffed animal *noun, pl* ~ **-mals** [*count*] *US* : a toy in the shape of an animal that usually has fake fur and is filled with soft material — called also (*Brit*) *soft toy*

stuffed shirt *noun, pl* ~ **shirts** [*count*] *informal + disapproving* : a person who behaves in a very formal way and expects to be treated as someone very important

stuff·ing /ˈstʌfɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*noncount*] : soft material that is used to fill a pillow, cushion, etc.

2 : a seasoned mixture of food that is put inside another food and cooked [*noncount*] Would you like more *stuffing*? [*count*] a delicious bread *stuffing*

knock the stuffing out of *informal* : to cause (someone) to lose energy and confidence : to make (someone) feel weak or overwhelmed ▪ When he found out that he didn't get the job, it really *knocked the stuffing out of* him.

stuffy /ˈstʌfi/ *adj* **stuff·i·er; -est**

1 : lacking fresh air ▪ a *stuffy* attic/room ▪ It's very *stuffy* in here.

2 : filled with mucus because of illness : STUFFED ▪ She had a *stuffy* nose. ▪ I had a *stuffy* feeling in my head.

3 *informal + disapproving* : very formal, serious, or old-fashioned ▪ the *stuffiest* members of that exclusive club ▪ a *stuffy* old judge

– **stuff·i·ly** /ˈstʌfəli/ *adv* ▪ *stuffily* respectable people – **stuff·i·ness** /ˈstʌfinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

stul·ti·fy /ˈstʌltəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies; -fied; -fy·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to cause (someone or something) to become dull, slow, etc. ▪ The government has been *stultified* by bureaucracy.

– **stultifying** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *stultifying* boredom

stum·ble /ˈstʌmbəl/ *verb* **stum·bles; stum·bled; stum·bling** [*no obj*]

1 : to hit your foot on something when you are walking or running so that you fall or almost fall : TRIP ▪ I *stumbled* on the uneven pavement. ▪ The horse *stumbled* and almost fell.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to walk in an awkward way ▪ He *stumbled* drunkenly across the room. ▪ He *stumbled* over to the table. ▪ She usually ***stumbles out of bed*** [=gets out of bed] around 7:00 am.

3 a : to speak or act in an awkward way ▪ I heard him *stumble* over the unfamiliar words. ▪ She *stumbled* through an apology. **b** : to begin to have problems after a time of success ▪ The economy has *stumbled* in recent months.

4 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to find or learn about something unexpectedly ▪ I ***stumbled across/on/upon*** [=*found*] this book by chance. ▪ He ***stumbled onto*** [=*found out*] the truth. ▪ We *stumbled onto/across* the ruins of an old fort. ▪ They *stumbled on/upon* [=*discovered*] a bizarre plot.

– **stumble** *noun, pl* **stumbles** [*count*] ▪ After a few *stumbles*, the economy was back on track. – **stum·bler** /ˈstʌmbləɚ/ *noun, pl* **-blers** [*count*]

stum·ble·bum /ˈstʌmbəlˌbʌm/ *noun, pl* **-bums** [*count*] *US, informal* : a clumsy and stupid person ▪ His political opponents have portrayed him as an inept *stumblebum*.

stumbling block *noun, pl* ~ **blocks** [*count*] : something that stops you from doing what you want to do ▪ Lack of funds is a major *stumbling block* to the project. ▪ My plans hit a *stumbling block*.

[1]stump /ˈstʌmp/ *noun, pl* **stumps** [*count*]

1 : a part that remains after something has been broken off, removed, worn down, etc. ▪ the *stump* of a pipe/tooth

2 : the part of a tree that remains in the ground after the tree is cut down ▪ a tree *stump*

3 : the part of an arm or leg that remains after most of it has been cut off

4 *cricket* : one of the three sticks that form a wicket

on the stump : traveling around and giving speeches during a campaign for election to a political office ▪ candidates who give the same speech over and over when they're *on the stump* — see also STUMP SPEECH

[2]stump *verb* **stumps; stumped; stump·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to be too difficult for (someone) to answer ▪ The question completely *stumped* the contestant. [=the contestant did not know the answer to the question] ▪ This problem ***has me stumped***. [=I do not know the solution to this problem]

2 *US* : to go to different places and make speeches during a political campaign [*no obj*] She will be *stumping* in our district this week. [+ *obj*] Several candidates have been *stumping* the state for the past month.

3 [+ *obj*] *cricket* : to cause (a batsman who is away from the hitting area) to be out by touching the wicket with the ball

stump up [*phrasal verb*] ***stump up*** *or* ***stump up (something)*** *also* ***stump (something) up*** *Brit, informal* : to pay (an amount of money) especially when you do not want to ▪ He may be required to *stump up* for the repairs. ▪ If she can't pay, I'll have to *stump up* [=*cough up*] the money.

stump·er /ˈstʌmpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US, informal* : a very difficult question ▪ Some of the questions on the test were real *stumpers*.

S

stump speech *noun, pl* ~ **speeches** [*count*] *US* : a speech that is made many times by a politician who is traveling to different places during a campaign for election

stumpy /'stʌmpi/ *adj* **stump•i•er**; **-est** : short and thick • a dog with a *stumpy* [=*stubby*] tail • *stumpy* legs

stun /'stʌn/ *verb* **stuns**; **stunned**; **stun•ning** [+ *obj*]
1 : to surprise or upset (someone) very much • a theft that *stunned* [=*shocked*] the art world • The angry criticism *stunned* them. • They were *stunned* by the news. = The news *stunned* them. • His old friends were *stunned* at his success. • She sat in *stunned* disbelief/silence. • There was a *stunned* expression on her face.
2 : to cause (someone) to suddenly become very confused, very dizzy, or unconscious • weapons that can *stun* people temporarily

stung *past tense and past participle of* [1]STING

stun gun *noun, pl* ~ **guns** [*count*] : a gun that produces an electric shock which makes someone unconscious or stops someone from moving

stunk *past tense and past participle of* [1]STINK

stun•ner /'stʌnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*] *informal*
1 : a very attractive person • His wife is a real *stunner*.
2 : something that amazes or shocks people • The jury's decision was a *stunner*.

stunning *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : very surprising or shocking • Researchers have made a *stunning* discovery. • *stunning* news • a *stunning* decision
2 : very beautiful or pleasing • Our room had a *stunning* view of the lake. • a *stunning* gown • a *stunning* young woman
– **stun•ning•ly** *adv* • a *stunningly* beautiful woman • a *stunningly* clear/sharp picture • a *stunningly* rude remark

[1]**stunt** /'stʌnt/ *verb* **stunts**; **stunt•ed**; **stunt•ing** [+ *obj*] : to stop (someone or something) from growing or developing • Poor soil can *stunt* a plant's growth. • Too many restrictions have *stunted* the economy.

[2]**stunt** *noun, pl* **stunts** [*count*]
1 : something that is done to get attention or publicity • Some people say that the announcement of his retirement was just a *stunt*. • a promotional/publicity *stunt*
2 : a difficult and often dangerous action • a pilot doing loops and other dangerous *stunts* ; *especially* : a difficult action or scene that is done by actors in a movie • a star actor who does/performs his own *stunts*
pull a stunt *informal* : to do something foolish or dangerous • Don't ever *pull a stunt* like that again!

stunt double *noun, pl* ~ **doubles** [*count*] : a person who takes an actor's place during the filming of stunts and dangerous scenes for a movie or TV show

stunt•man /'stʌnt,mæn/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-,mɛn/ [*count*] : a man who takes an actor's place during the filming of stunts and dangerous scenes for a movie or TV show • a Hollywood *stuntman*

stunt•wom•an /'stʌnt,wʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom•en** /-,wɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who takes an actor's place during the filming of stunts and dangerous scenes for a movie or TV show • a Hollywood *stuntwoman*

stu•pe•fy /'stu:pə,faɪ, *Brit* 'stju:pə,faɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] : to shock or surprise (someone) very much : to cause (someone) to become confused or unable to think clearly — usually used as *(be) stupefied* • I *was stupified* by their decision.
– **stu•pe•fac•tion** /,stu:pə'fækʃən, *Brit* ,stju:pə'fækʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] • They looked at her in *stupefaction*.
– **stupefied** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • They looked at her with *stupefied* expressions on their faces. – **stupefying** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • a *stupefying* display of arrogance • *stupefying* boredom – **stu•pe•fy•ing•ly** /'stu:pə,fajɪŋli, *Brit* 'stju:pə,fajɪŋli/ *adv* • a chore that's *stupefyingly* boring

stu•pen•dous /stʊ'pɛndəs, *Brit* stjʊ'pɛndəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : so large or great that it amazes you • a *stupendous* [=*magnificent*] fireworks display • a person with *stupendous* wealth
– **stu•pen•dous•ly** *adv* • a *stupendously* wealthy person

stu•pid /'stu:pəd, *Brit* 'stju:pəd/ *adj* **stu•pid•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : not intelligent : having or showing a lack of ability to learn and understand things • She angrily described her boss as a *stupid* old man. • He had a *stupid* expression on his face. • I'm not *stupid* enough to fall for that trick.
2 : not sensible or logical : FOOLISH • Why are you being so *stupid*? • It was *stupid* of me to try to hide this from you. • We were *stupid* to wait so long before we made a decision. • I did some pretty *stupid* things when I was young. • a *stupid* movie • a silly, *stupid* song • a *stupid* decision/mistake
3 : not able to think normally because you are drunk, tired, etc. • Two glasses of wine are enough to make me *stupid*. • I was *stupid* with fatigue.
4 *informal* — used to refer to something in an angry or irritated way • The *stupid* car won't start. • Where did I put those *stupid* keys?
– **stu•pid•ly** *adv* • He's been acting *stupidly*. • I *stupidly* thought it was a good idea. • She was staring *stupidly* out the window.

stu•pid•i•ty /stʊ'pɪdəti, *Brit* stjʊ'pɪdəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**
1 [*noncount*] : the state of being foolish or unintelligent : the condition of being stupid • I was shocked by the *stupidity* of their decision/behavior.
2 [*count*] : a stupid idea or action — usually plural • the *stupidities* of war

stu•por /'stu:pɚ, *Brit* 'stju:pɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pors** [*count*] : a condition in which someone is not able to think normally because of being drunk, drugged, tired, etc. • He fell into a drunken *stupor*. • drug-induced *stupors* • in a *stupor* of fatigue

stur•dy /'stɚdi/ *adj* **stur•di•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : strongly made • a *sturdy* ship • *sturdy* furniture
2 : strong and healthy • *sturdy*, muscular legs • a *sturdy* athlete • a dog with a strong *sturdy* build
3 : having or showing mental or emotional strength • *sturdy* common sense • *sturdy* self-reliance
– **stur•di•ly** /'stɚdəli/ *adj* • *sturdily* made furniture – **stur•di•ness** /'stɚdinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the *sturdiness* of the furniture • the bank's financial *sturdiness* [=*strength*]

stur•geon /'stɚʤən/ *noun, pl* **-geons** [*count, noncount*] : a type of large fish that is eaten as food ✧ The eggs of the sturgeon are eaten as caviar.

[1]**stut•ter** /'stʌtɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** : to have a speech problem that causes you to repeat the beginning sound of some words [*no obj*] I used to *stutter* when I was a child. • She *stutters* when she gets excited. [+ *obj*] He *stuttered* [=*stammered*] something that I didn't understand.
– **stut•ter•er** /'stʌtɚɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] • I was a *stutterer* as a child. – **stuttering** *noun* [*noncount*] • He had speech therapy for his *stuttering*.

[2]**stutter** *noun* [*singular*] : a speech problem that causes someone to repeat the beginning sounds of some words • He has a *stutter*. = He speaks with a *stutter*. [=he stutters]

[1]**sty** /'staɪ/ *noun, pl* **sties** *also* **styes** [*count*]
1 : a place where pigs are kept : PIGSTY
2 *informal* : a dirty or messy place : PIGSTY • His room was a *sty*.
– compare [2]STY

[2]**sty** *or* **stye** /'staɪ/ *noun, pl* **sties** *or* **styes** [*count*] *medical* : a painful, swollen red area on the edge of an eyelid — compare [1]STY

[1]**style** /'stajəl/ *noun, pl* **styles**
1 : a particular way in which something is done, created, or performed [*count*] I don't like the flowery *style* of his writing. • She has a unique *style* of singing. • a baseball pitcher with an unusual *style* [*noncount*] She writes with more attention to *style* than to content. • The room was decorated in modern *style*.
2 [*count*] : a particular form or design of something • The car is available in several different *styles*. • a new dress *style* • the Greek *style* of architecture • The range of clothing *styles* has become more varied. • Victorian-*style* drapes
3 [*count*] : a way of behaving or of doing things • His management *style* is abrasive. • Openly criticizing a fellow worker is just ***not my style*** [=I would never openly criticize a fellow worker] • You're a good negotiator. I ***like your style*** [=I like the way you do things]
4 [*noncount*] : a particular way of living • He has been living ***in high style*** [=he has been living the way rich people live] — see also LIFESTYLE
5 [*noncount*] : the quality that makes things attractive, fashionable, etc. • He has a real sense of *style*. • She's a woman ***of style*** [=she's a stylish woman]
6 [*noncount*] : an easy and graceful manner • It was an awkward moment but she handled it with *style*.
7 [*count*] : the way that written words are spelled, capitalized, etc. • Each newspaper had its own *style*. • a *style* guide
cramp your style see [2]CRAMP
in style **1** : popular or fashionable • clothes that are always *in style* [=*in fashion*] **2** : in a way that is impressive or admired because it shows talent, good taste, etc. : in a stylish

way ▪ When she travels she likes to do it *in style*. ▪ He finished the tournament *in style* by winning his last match very quickly and easily.

out of style : not popular or fashionable : not stylish ▪ a fad that has fallen/gone *out of style*

[2]style *verb* **styles; styled; styl·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *formal* : to give (yourself) a name or title even if you do not really deserve it ▪ She *styles* [=*calls*] herself a "spiritual adviser." — often + *as* ▪ He *styles* himself *as* an expert in international politics. — see also SELF-STYLED

2 : to give a particular shape to (someone's hair) ▪ She cuts and *styles* hair. ▪ She's having her hair *styled* tomorrow.

3 : to design (something) for a particular purpose ▪ clothing *styled* for teenagers ▪ a book *styled* for a general audience

[1]styling *noun* [*noncount*] : the way in which something is designed ▪ a car with sleek new *styling* ▪ clothing with classic *styling*

[2]styling *adj, always used before a noun* : used for creating a hair style ▪ *styling* products/salons

styl·ish /ˈstaɪlɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : following the popular style : FASHIONABLE ▪ She wears *stylish* clothes. = She's a *stylish* dresser. ▪ a *stylish* apartment/house

– **styl·ish·ly** *adv* ▪ a *stylishly* dressed person – **styl·ish·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

styl·ist /ˈstaɪlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

1 : a person whose job is to make something (such as a person's hair) look attractive ▪ a hair *stylist* ▪ a fashion/food *stylist*

2 : a person known for writing, singing, etc., in a particular style ▪ She is a fine literary/prose/song *stylist*.

sty·lis·tic /staɪˈlɪstɪk/ *adj* : of or relating to style ▪ There are a number of *stylistic* changes in the new car. ▪ *stylistic* differences among various writers

– **sty·lis·ti·cal·ly** /staɪˈlɪstɪkli/ *adv* ▪ *stylistically* different writers ▪ *Stylistically*, the movie resembles a documentary.

styl·ized *also Brit* **styl·ised** /ˈstajəˌlaɪzd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : made to look like a style or pattern rather than the way it would really look in nature ▪ *stylized* floral/flower motifs ▪ fabric with highly *stylized* animal prints

sty·lus /ˈstaɪləs/ *noun, pl* **sty·li** /ˈstaɪˌlaɪ/ *also* **sty·lus·es** /ˈstaɪləsəs/ [*count*]

1 : a very small, pointed piece of metal that touches a record and produces sound when the record is played : NEEDLE

2 : a tool used long ago for writing on clay or wax tablets

3 : a small tool that is used to write or touch buttons on a computer

sty·mie /ˈstaɪmi/ *verb* **-mies; -mied; -mie·ing** [+ *obj*] : to stop (someone) from doing something or to stop (something) from happening ▪ The bad weather has *stymied* [=*thwarted*] the police in their investigations. ▪ Progress on the project has been *stymied* by lack of money.

Sty·ro·foam /ˈstaɪrəˌfoʊm/ *trademark* — used for a type of light and usually white plastic

suave /ˈswɑːv/ *adj* **suav·er; -est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~] : behaving in a relaxed, confident, and pleasant way in social situations ▪ a *suave* and sophisticated businessman

– **suave·ly** *adv* – **suave·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] – **sua·vi·ty** /ˈswɑːvəti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sub /ˈsʌb/ *noun, pl* **subs** [*count*] *informal*

1 : someone who does the job of another person when that person is not able to do it : SUBSTITUTE ▪ The team's *subs* need to be versatile. ▪ (*US*) We had a *sub* [=*substitute teacher*] in English class all week.

2 *Brit* : SUBEDITOR

– compare [3]SUB

[2]sub *verb* **subs; subbed; sub·bing**

1 : to take the place of another person : to act as a substitute [*no obj*] Smith *subbed* for Jones at halftime. ▪ *subbing* in a Broadway play ▪ Mr. Johnson will be *subbing* [=working as a substitute teacher] at the high school. [+ *obj*] (*chiefly Brit*) ▪ Smith *subbed* Jones at halftime. — usually used as *(be/get) subbed* ▪ Jones *was subbed* (by Smith) at halftime.

2 [+ *obj*] : SUBCONTRACT ▪ The company *subs* (out) some of its jobs.

[3]sub *noun, pl* **subs** [*count*] *informal*

1 : SUBMARINE ▪ a nuclear *sub*

2 *US* : SUBMARINE SANDWICH ▪ I had a *sub* for lunch.

– compare [1]SUB

sub- *prefix*

1 : under : beneath : below ▪ *sub*soil ▪ *sub*freezing

2 a : at a lower rank or secondary level ▪ *sub*station **b** : division or smaller part of ▪ *sub*committee ▪ *sub*topic

sub·al·tern /səˈbɑːltən, *Brit* ˈsʌbəltən/ *noun, pl* **-terns** [*count*] : a junior officer in the British army

sub–aq·ua /ˌsʌbˈækwə/ *adj, always used before a noun, Brit* : relating to activities done under water : UNDERWATER ▪ *sub-aqua* diving ▪ joined a *sub-aqua* club

sub·atom·ic /ˌsʌbəˈtɑːmɪk/ *adj*

1 : smaller than an atom ▪ *subatomic* particles

2 : of or relating to the inside of an atom ▪ studied *subatomic* physics

sub·com·mit·tee /ˈsʌbkəˌmɪti/ *noun, pl* **-tees** [*count*] : a part of a committee that is organized for a certain purpose ▪ The Senate has formed a *subcommittee* to set up an investigation.

sub·com·pact /ˈsʌbˈkɑːmˌpækt/ *noun, pl* **-pacts** [*count*] *US* : a very small car

[1]sub·con·scious /ˌsʌbˈkɑːnʃəs/ *adj* : existing in the part of the mind that a person is not aware of : existing in the mind but not consciously known or felt ▪ *subconscious* desires/motives ▪ the *subconscious* mind

– **sub·con·scious·ly** *adv* ▪ Things can influence us *subconsciously*. ▪ Perhaps I *subconsciously* wanted it to happen.

[2]subconscious *noun* [*noncount*] : the part of a person's mind that has ideas, feelings, etc., that the person is not aware of ▪ A person's behavior can be influenced by urges that exist only in the *subconscious*. ▪ Those feelings had been hidden in her *subconscious*. — compare UNCONSCIOUS

sub·con·ti·nent /ˌsʌbˈkɑːntənənt/ *noun, pl* **-nents** [*count*] : a large area of land that is a part of a continent — used especially to refer to the area that includes India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh ▪ the Indian *subcontinent*

– **sub·con·ti·nen·tal** /ˌsʌbˌkɑːntəˈnɛntl/ *adj*

[1]sub·con·tract /ˌsʌbˈkɑːnˌtrækt/ *verb* **-tracts; -tract·ed; -tract·ing** : to hire another person or company to do part of a job that you have been hired to do [+ *obj*] Parts of the project were *subcontracted* (out) to specialists. = Specialists were *subcontracted* for parts of the project. [*no obj*] The large firm *subcontracted* with a smaller company.

– **sub·con·trac·tor** /ˌsʌbˈkɑːnˌtræktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] ▪ There are several *subcontractors* working at the new building site. ▪ He has good relationships with all the *subcontractors* he hires.

[2]subcontract *noun, pl* **-tracts** [*count*] : a legal agreement by which you hire another person or company to do part of a job you have been hired to do

sub·cul·ture /ˈsʌbˌkʌlʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** [*count*] : a group that has beliefs and behaviors that are different from the main groups within a culture or society ▪ a *subculture* of local painters/writers ▪ a *subculture* of poverty and crime

– **sub·cul·tur·al** /ˌsʌbˈkʌlʧərəl/ *adj* ▪ *subcultural* groups ▪ *subcultural* differences

sub·cu·ta·ne·ous /ˌsʌbkjuˈteɪnijəs/ *adj, medical* : under the skin ▪ *subcutaneous* tissues ▪ a *subcutaneous* injection

– **sub·cu·ta·ne·ous·ly** *adv*

sub·di·vide /ˌsʌbdəˈvaɪd/ *verb* **-vides; -vid·ed; -vid·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to divide (something) into several or many smaller parts ▪ The house is being *subdivided* into several apartments. ▪ The people who attend the conference can be *subdivided* into three distinct groups.

2 *US* : to divide (a piece of land) into smaller areas on which houses will be built ▪ He plans to *subdivide* his property. ▪ The land will be *subdivided* into building lots.

sub·di·vi·sion /ˈsʌbdəˌvɪʒən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 [*count*] : one of the parts into which something is divided ▪ a political *subdivision* of the state

2 [*noncount*] : the act or process of dividing something into smaller parts ▪ The plan calls for (the) *subdivision* of the property into several building lots.

3 [*count*] *US* : an area of land that has been divided into smaller areas on which houses are built ▪ She lives in a new *subdivision* [=*development*] out in the suburbs.

sub·due /səbˈduː, *Brit* səbˈdjuː/ *verb* **-dues; -dued; -du·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to get control of (a violent or dangerous person or group) by using force, punishment, etc. ▪ The troops were finally able to *subdue* the rebel forces after many days of fighting. ▪ He was injured while trying to *subdue* a violent drunk.

2 : to get control of (something, such as a strong emotion) ▪ She struggled to *subdue* her fears.

sub·dued /səbˈduːd, *Brit* səbˈdjuːd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not strong, loud, intense, etc. ▪ She spoke in a *subdued*

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voice. ▪ a *subdued* manner ▪ The color/lighting in the lobby is *subdued*.

sub•ed•i•tor /ˌsʌbˈɛdətɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] *Brit* : a person whose job is to prepare a book, newspaper, etc., for printing by making sure the words are correct : COPY EDITOR

– **sub•ed•it** /ˌsʌbˈɛdət/ *verb* **- its; -it•ed; -it•ing** [+ *obj*]

sub•freez•ing /ˌsʌbˈfri:zɪŋ/ *adj, chiefly US* : colder than the temperature at which water freezes : colder than 32°F or 0°C ▪ *subfreezing* temperatures/weather

sub•head /ˈsʌbˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] : SUBHEADING

sub•head•ing /ˈsʌbˌhɛdɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*]

1 : an additional headline or title that comes immediately after the main headline or title ▪ The newspaper headline read "House burns down on Elm Street" with the *subheading* "Arson suspected."

2 : a title given to one of the parts or divisions of a piece of writing ▪ You can find the chart in the "Financial Matters" chapter under the *subheading* "Mortgages and Loans."

sub•hu•man /ˌsʌbˈhju:mən/ *adj*

1 : not having or showing the level of kindness, intelligence, etc., that is expected of normal human beings ▪ The prisoners suffered *subhuman* treatment. ▪ *subhuman* murderers

2 : not suitable for human beings ▪ *subhuman* living conditions — compare INHUMAN, NONHUMAN

[1]sub•ject /ˈsʌbʤɪkt/ *noun, pl* **-jects** [*count*]

1 : the person or thing that is being discussed or described : TOPIC ▪ The new museum is the *subject* of an article in today's paper. ▪ Death is a difficult *subject* that few people like to talk about. ▪ I need to break the news to her, but I'm not sure how to bring up the *subject*. ▪ If you're interested in linguistics, I know an excellent book on the/that *subject*. ▪ an excellent book ***on the subject of*** linguistics ▪ While we're *on the subject of* [=talking about] work, have you met the new boss? ▪ Every time I talk to her, we seem to ***get on/onto the subject of*** work. [=we start talking about work] ▪ These meetings would be much shorter if we could keep him from ***getting off the subject***. ▪ I didn't want to talk about work, so I ***changed the subject***. [=started a new topic of conversation] ▪ When he started getting upset, I ***dropped the subject***. [=stopped talking about that topic] ▪ The morality of capital punishment is a frequent ***subject of/for debate***.

2 : an area of knowledge that is studied in school ▪ Chemistry was my favorite *subject* in high school. ▪ The classes cover a variety of ***subject areas***, including mathematics and English.

3 : a person or thing that is being dealt with in a particular way — + *of* ▪ He was the *subject of* a criminal investigation. [=he was investigated to find out if he had committed a crime] ▪ She was the *subject of* a lawsuit.

4 : someone or something that is shown in a photograph, painting, etc. ▪ Love between a mother and child is the *subject* of many of her paintings. ▪ The photographer's principal *subjects* were poor immigrant workers. ▪ What kind of exposure should I use for a dark *subject* on a light background?

5 : a person or animal that is used in an experiment, study, etc. ▪ Each *subject* was asked to fill out a questionnaire. ▪ The hospital is recruiting ***test subjects*** for the study.

6 *grammar* : a noun, noun phrase, or pronoun that performs the action of a verb in a sentence ▪ In English, the *subject* goes before the verb and the object comes after. ▪ "He" is the *subject* (of the verb "kissed") in the sentence "He kissed me." — compare OBJECT

7 : a person who lives in a country that is ruled by a king or queen : a citizen of a monarchy ▪ British *subjects*

[2]sub•ject /ˈsʌbʤɪkt/ *adj* : under the control of a ruler ▪ *subject* peoples — often + *to* ▪ They were *subject to* the emperor.

subject to **1** : affected by or possibly affected by (something) ▪ Clothing purchases over $200 are *subject to* tax. [=tax must be paid on clothing purchases over $200] ▪ Anyone caught trespassing is *subject to* a $500 fine. [=anyone caught trespassing will have to pay a $500 fine] ▪ The firm is *subject to* state law. ▪ The schedule is tentative and ***subject to change***. [=the schedule may be changed at a later date] **2** : likely to do, have, or suffer from (something) : PRONE ▪ My cousin is *subject to* panic attacks. ▪ I'd rather not live in an area that is *subject to* flooding. [=an area where floods occur] **3** : dependent on something else to happen or be true ▪ The sale of the property is *subject to* approval by the city council. [=the property cannot be sold unless the city council approves the sale] ▪ All rooms are just $100 a night, *subject to* availability.

[3]sub•ject /səbˈʤɛkt/ *verb* **-jects; -ject•ed; -ject•ing**

subject to [*phrasal verb*] ***subject (someone or something) to (something)*** **1** : to cause or force (someone or something) to experience (something harmful, unpleasant, etc.) ▪ They are suspected of *subjecting* their children *to* abuse. [=of abusing their children] ▪ The test involved *subjecting* the sample *to* intense heat. — often used as *(be) subjected to* ▪ The prisoners *were subjected to* torture. ▪ During the hurricane, many buildings *were subjected to* [=many buildings experienced] 100 mile-per-hour winds. ▪ No one should have to *be subjected to* my uncle's bad jokes. ▪ His argument *was subjected to* careful analysis. [=was carefully analyzed] **2** : to bring (someone or something) under (your control or rule) ▪ He *subjected* her *to* his will. [=he forced her to do what he wanted her to do] ▪ Alexander the Great *subjected* much of Europe and Asia *to* his rule.

– **sub•jec•tion** /səbˈʤɛkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* ▪ the prisoners' *subjection* to torture ▪ The tyrant kept the people ***in subjection***.

sub•jec•tive /səbˈʤɛktɪv/ *adj*

1 *philosophy* : relating to the way a person experiences things in his or her own mind ▪ *subjective* reality ▪ Dreaming is a *subjective* experience. ▪ a person's *subjective* perception of the world

2 [*more ~; most ~*] : based on feelings or opinions rather than facts ▪ a *subjective* judgment/decision ▪ Personal taste in clothing is very *subjective*. ▪ In reviewing applicants, we consider both objective criteria, such as test scores, and *subjective* criteria, such as leadership ability. ▪ Law can be maddeningly *subjective*. So much is left up to your own interpretation. — opposite OBJECTIVE

3 *grammar* : relating to nouns, noun phrases, or pronouns that are the subjects of verbs ▪ The pronoun "we" is in the *subjective* [=*nominative*] case in the sentence "We saw her." — compare OBJECTIVE

– **sub•jec•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ Contest entries are *subjectively* evaluated. – **sub•jec•tiv•i•ty** /səbˌʤɛkˈtɪvəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *subjectivity* of opinions and judgments

subject matter *noun* [*noncount*] : the information or ideas that are discussed or dealt with in a book, movie, etc. : what something is about ▪ I found the film's *subject matter* to be quite disturbing. ▪ The magazine's editors care more about style than about *subject matter*. [=*content*] ▪ She disapproves of the artist's choice of *subject matter*.

sub•ju•gate /ˈsʌbʤʊˌgeɪt/ *verb* **-gates; -gat•ed; -gat•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to defeat and gain control of (someone or something) by the use of force : to conquer and gain the obedience of (a group of people, a country, etc.) ▪ The emperor's armies *subjugated* the surrounding lands. ▪ a people *subjugated* by invaders — often used figuratively ▪ a legal system that *subjugates* [=*oppresses*] women

– **sub•ju•ga•tion** /ˌsʌbʤʊˈgeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sub•junc•tive /səbˈʤʌŋktɪv/ *adj, grammar* : of or relating to the verb form that is used to express suggestions, wishes, uncertainty, possibility, etc. ▪ In "I wish it were Friday," the verb "were" is in the *subjunctive* mood. ▪ a *subjunctive* verb form — compare INDICATIVE

[2]subjunctive *noun, pl* **-tives** *grammar*

1 ***the subjunctive*** : the form that a verb or sentence has when it is expressing a suggestion, wish, uncertainty, possibility, etc. ▪ "I wish it were not so" is in the *subjunctive*.

2 [*count*] : a subjunctive verb or sentence ▪ *Subjunctives* can be used to express doubt.

[1]sub•lease /ˈsʌbˌli:s/ *noun, pl* **-leas•es** [*count*] *US* : a legal agreement by which someone who is renting an apartment, house, etc., is allowed to rent it to someone else for a period of time

[2]sublease /ˈsʌbˈli:s/ *verb* **-leas•es; -leased; -leas•ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : [1]SUBLET ▪ She *subleased* her apartment to a student for the summer. ▪ The agency *subleases* office space from a law firm.

[1]sub•let /ˈsʌbˈlɛt/ *verb* **-lets; -let; -let•ting**

1 : to allow someone to use (an apartment, house, etc., that you are renting) for a period of time in return for payment [+ *obj*] She *sublet* her apartment to a student for the summer. [*no obj*] He asked his landlord if he could *sublet*.

2 : to use (an apartment, house, etc., that is rented by someone) in return for payment [+ *obj*] The agency *sublets* office space from a law firm in the building. ▪ I need someone to *sublet* my apartment for the summer. [*no obj*] She agreed to *sublet*.

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[2]sublet /ˈsʌbˌlɛt/ *noun, pl* **-lets** [*count*] : an apartment, house, etc., that you sublet from someone ▪ I'm looking for a *sublet* since I'm only going to be here for the summer.

sub•li•mate /ˈsʌbləˌmeɪt/ *verb* **-mates; -mat•ed; -mat•ing** [+ *obj*] *psychology* : to express a desire or feeling by changing it into a form that is socially acceptable ▪ She *sublimated* her erotic feelings into a series of paintings. ▪ I *sublimated* my grief at the death of my mother by throwing myself into my work.
– **sub•li•ma•tion** /ˌsʌbləˈmeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sub•lime /səˈblaɪm/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : very beautiful or good : causing strong feelings of admiration or wonder ▪ Her paintings are *sublime*. ▪ He composed some of the most *sublime* symphonies in existence. ▪ the *sublime* beauty of the canyon
2 : complete or extreme : UTTER ▪ *sublime* ignorance/stupidity
the sublime : something that is very beautiful or good ▪ writings on *the sublime* ▪ They have brought ordinary food to the level of *the sublime*. [=they have made ordinary food extraordinary] ▪ The movies shown at the festival ranged ***from the sublime to the ridiculous***.
– **sub•lime•ly** *adv* ▪ a *sublimely* stunning landscape – **sub•lim•i•ty** /səˈblɪməti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I've never heard anyone who could match the *sublimity* of her playing.

sub•lim•i•nal /səˈblɪmənl/ *adj* : relating to things that influence your mind in a way that you do not notice ▪ The studio denied the existence of ***subliminal messages*** in the movie. ▪ I am skeptical that ***subliminal advertising*** actually works.
– **sub•lim•i•nal•ly** *adv*

sub•ma•chine gun /ˌsʌbməˈʃiːn-/ *noun, pl* ~ **guns** [*count*] : a small, light machine gun

[1]sub•ma•rine /ˈsʌbməˌriːn/ *noun, pl* **-rines** [*count*]
1 : a ship that can operate underwater ▪ nuclear *submarines*
2 *US* : SUBMARINE SANDWICH

[2]submarine *adj, always used before a noun, technical* : located below the surface of the water : UNDERWATER, UNDERSEA ▪ a *submarine* canyon

sub•ma•ri•ner /ˌsʌbməˈriːnɚ, *Brit* ˌsʌbˈmærənə/ *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*] : someone who is a member of a submarine crew

submarine sandwich *noun, pl* ~ **-wiches** [*count*] *US* : a sandwich that is made by splitting a long roll and filling it with meat, cheese, etc. — called also *grinder, hero, hoagie, po'boy, sub, submarine*

sub•menu /ˈsʌbˌmɛnˌjuː/ *noun, pl* **-men•us** [*count*] *computers* : a menu in a computer program that you reach by going through another menu first ▪ Selecting "Options" from the main menu brings up a *submenu*.

sub•merge /səbˈmɚdʒ/ *verb* **-merg•es; -merged; -merging**
1 [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) go under the surface of water or some other liquid : to cover (someone or something) with a liquid ▪ After boiling the broccoli, *submerge* it in ice water to stop the cooking process. ▪ The town was *submerged* by the flood.
2 [*no obj*] : to go underwater ▪ We watched as the divers prepared to *submerge*.
3 [+ *obj*] : to make (yourself) fully involved in an activity or interest ▪ After his sister died, he *submerged* [=*immersed*] himself in his work. ▪ She's a marvelous actress who *submerges* herself totally in her roles.
4 [+ *obj*] : to keep (emotions, opinions, etc.) from being openly shown or expressed ▪ It's a job where you'll have to *submerge* [=*suppress*] your ego and do what you're told. ▪ The passion is there in the music, though it's often *submerged*.
– **submerged** *adj* ▪ Some seals can stay *submerged* for an hour. ▪ tales of a *submerged* city in the Mediterranean Sea

[1]sub•mers•ible /səbˈmɚsəbəl/ *adj* : able to be used underwater ▪ a *submersible* pump

[2]submersible *noun, pl* **-ibles** [*count*] : a small vehicle that can operate underwater and that is used especially for research

sub•mis•sion /səbˈmɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**
1 a : an act of giving a document, proposal, piece of writing, etc., to someone so that it can be considered or approved : an act of submitting something [*noncount*] I'm preparing the results of my study for *submission* to a medical journal. ▪ the electronic *submission* of tax returns [*count*] The deadline for *submissions* is January 31st. **b** [*count*] : something that is submitted ▪ We cannot accept *submissions* longer than 2,000 words. ▪ Over 5,000 *submissions* were received.
2 [*noncount*] : the state of being obedient : the act of accepting the authority or control of someone else ▪ a religion that preaches *submission* to God's will ▪ The prisoners were beaten ***into submission***.

sub•mis•sive /səbˈmɪsɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : willing to obey someone else ▪ a *submissive* person ▪ *submissive* behavior
– **sub•mis•sive•ly** *adv* ▪ He behaved *submissively*. – **sub•mis•sive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

sub•mit /səbˈmɪt/ *verb* **-mits; -mit•ted; -mit•ting**
1 [+ *obj*] : to give (a document, proposal, piece of writing, etc.) to someone so that it can be considered or approved ▪ Candidates interested in the position should *submit* their résumés to the Office of Human Resources. ▪ *Submit* your application no later than January 31st. ▪ Requests must be *submitted* in writing. ▪ Photographs *submitted* for publication will not be returned.
2 [*no obj*] : to stop trying to fight or resist something : to agree to do or accept something that you have been resisting or opposing ▪ He vowed that he would never *submit*. [=*give in*] — often + *to* ▪ He refused to *submit to* their demands. ▪ We will not *submit to* you without a fight. ▪ Public outcry caused him to *submit to* an investigation of his finances.
3 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to offer (something) as an opinion or suggestion — often + *that* ▪ I *submit that* his guilt has not been proven.

sub•nor•mal /ˌsʌbˈnoɚməl/ *adj, technical*
1 : lower or smaller than normal ▪ *subnormal* body temperature ▪ *subnormal* levels of vitamin C ▪ *subnormal* intelligence
2 : having less of something than is normal ▪ people who are *subnormal* in insulin production ▪ mentally *subnormal* people

sub•op•ti•mal /ˌsʌbˈɑːptəməl/ *adj, formal* : less than the best or most desirable ▪ working under *suboptimal* conditions

[1]sub•or•di•nate /səˈboɚdənət/ *adj*
1 : in a position of less power or authority than someone else ▪ a *subordinate* officer/commander — often + *to* ▪ The priests are *subordinate to* the bishops.
2 : less important than someone or something else ▪ a *subordinate* concern — often + *to* ▪ In some cultures, the welfare of the individual is *subordinate to* the welfare of the group.

[2]subordinate *noun, pl* **-nates** [*count*] : someone who has less power or authority than someone else : someone who is subordinate to someone else ▪ She leaves the day-to-day running of the firm to her *subordinates*.

[3]sub•or•di•nate /səˈboɚdəˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates; -nat•ed; -nat•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to think of or treat (someone or something) as less important than someone or something else — usually + *to* ▪ The company is guilty of *subordinating* safety *to* profit. ▪ His personal life has been *subordinated to* his career.
– **sub•or•di•na•tion** /səˌboɚdəˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

subordinate clause *noun, pl* ~ **clauses** [*count*] *grammar* : a clause that does not form a simple sentence by itself and that is connected to the main clause of a sentence ▪ In the sentence "I went home because I felt ill," "because I felt ill" is a *subordinate clause*. — called also *dependent clause*; compare COORDINATE CLAUSE, MAIN CLAUSE

subordinating conjunction *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] *grammar* : a conjunction that joins a main clause and a clause which does not form a complete sentence by itself

sub•orn /səˈboɚn/ *verb* **-orns; -orned; -orn•ing** [+ *obj*] *law*
1 : to persuade (someone) to do something illegal (such as to lie in a court of law) ▪ He's accused of *suborning* a witness.
2 : to get (false testimony) from a witness ▪ The lawyer *suborned* (false) testimony. ▪ *suborn* perjury

sub•par /ˈsʌbˌpɑɚ/ *adj, US* : below a usual or normal level ▪ a *subpar* performance

sub•plot /ˈsʌbˌplɑːt/ *noun, pl* **-plots** [*count*] : a plot that is related to but less important than the main plot of a story

[1]sub•poe•na /səˈpiːnə/ *noun, pl* **-nas** [*count*] *law* : a written order that commands someone to appear in court to give evidence — compare SUMMONS

[2]subpoena *verb* **-nas; -naed; -na•ing** [+ *obj*] *law* : to order someone to appear in court to give evidence : to issue a subpoena to (someone) or for (something) ▪ He was *subpoenaed* to testify in a hearing. ▪ The prosecutor *subpoenaed* the defendant's financial records.

sub•rou•tine /ˈsʌbˌruːˌtiːn/ *noun, pl* **-tines** [*count*] *computers* : a set of computer instructions that performs a particu-

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lar task, that is part of a larger computer program, and that can be used repeatedly

sub•scribe /səb'skraɪb/ *verb* **-scribes; -scribed; -scrib•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to pay money to get a publication or service regularly ▪ *Subscribe* today and get your first issue free! ▪ You'll receive a user name and password when you *subscribe*. — often + *to* ▪ I *subscribe to* several newspapers/magazines. ▪ He's thinking of *subscribing to* satellite TV.

2 : to agree to buy shares in a company — usually + *for* ▪ She *subscribed for* 100 shares.

3 *Brit* **:** to belong to or support something (such as an organization) by paying money regularly — usually + *to* ▪ *subscribe to* a charity

subscribe to [*phrasal verb*] ***subscribe to (something)*** **:** to agree with or support (an opinion, theory, etc.) ▪ I *subscribe to* the idea that voting is my civic duty. ▪ She *subscribes to* the theory that some dinosaurs were warm-blooded and others were cold-blooded.

– sub•scrib•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ cable TV *subscribers* ▪ The magazine has about a million *subscribers*.

sub•scrip•tion /səb'skrɪpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : an agreement that you make with a company to get a publication or service regularly and that you usually pay for in advance [*count*] a magazine/newspaper *subscription* = a *subscription* to a magazine/newspaper ▪ Annual/monthly *subscriptions* cost $20. ▪ She bought a *subscription*. = She took out a *subscription*. ▪ online *subscription* services ▪ I'm going to ***renew/cancel my subscription***. [*noncount*] You won't find this magazine at newsstands. It's sold only by *subscription*.

2 [*count, noncount*] *Brit* **:** a fee that you pay regularly to belong to or support an organization

sub•sec•tion /'sʌbˌsɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] **:** a part of a section especially of a legal document ▪ as provided/stated in *Subsection* (b)

sub•se•quent /'sʌbsəkwənt/ *adj, formal* **:** happening or coming after something else ▪ The rate of population growth reached a peak in 1999 and declined in *subsequent* years. ▪ Her work had a great influence on *subsequent* generations. ▪ *Subsequent* studies confirmed their findings. ▪ his arrest and *subsequent* conviction — often + *to* ▪ events *subsequent to* [=*after*] the war

– sub•se•quent•ly /'sʌbsəˌkwɛntli/ *adv, formal* ▪ She graduated from college and *subsequently* [=*afterward*] moved to New York. ▪ *Subsequently*, the drug was found to cause cancer.

sub•ser•vi•ent /səb'sɚvijənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : very willing or too willing to obey someone else ▪ She left her first husband because he wanted a *subservient* [=*submissive*] wife. ▪ She refused to take/accept/play a *subservient* role in their marriage. — often + *to* ▪ She refused to be *subservient to* her husband.

2 *formal* **:** less important than something or someone else — usually + *to* ▪ He believes that rights of individuals should be *subservient to* the rights of society as a whole.

– sub•ser•vi•ence /səb'sɚvijəns/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sub•set /'sʌbˌsɛt/ *noun, pl* **-sets** [*count*] *technical* **:** a group of things, people, etc., that is part of a larger group ▪ The set {1,2,3} is a *subset* of the set {1,2,3,4,5}. ▪ Only a small *subset* of the patients in the study experienced these side effects.

sub•side /səb'saɪd/ *verb* **-sides; -sid•ed; -sid•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to become less strong or intense ▪ The pain/swelling will *subside* in a couple of hours. ▪ After his anger had *subsided*, he was able to look at things rationally. ▪ We'll have to wait until the wind/storm/rain *subsides*.

2 : to move down to a lower level ▪ The road will remain closed until the water/flood/river *subsides*. ▪ a place where the ground has *subsided* [=*sunk, settled*]

sub•si•dence /səb'saɪdn̩s/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* **:** movement of the ground to a lower level ▪ *Subsidence* can cause a building's collapse.

[1]sub•sid•iary /səb'sɪdiˌeri, *Brit* səb'sɪdiəri/ *adj*

1 : not as important as something else ▪ a *subsidiary* issue ▪ *subsidiary* streams ▪ *subsidiary* details

2 : owned or controlled by another company ▪ a *subsidiary* corporation

[2]subsidiary *noun, pl* **-iar•ies** [*count*] **:** a company that is owned or controlled by another company ▪ one of the company's foreign *subsidiaries*

sub•si•dize *also Brit* **sub•si•dise** /'sʌbsəˌdaɪz/ *verb* **-diz•es; -dized; -diz•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to help someone or something pay for the costs of (something) ▪ The state *subsidizes* housing for low-income families. ▪ She feels that private businesses should not be *subsidized* by taxpayers. ▪ The company *subsidizes* health insurance for its employees. ▪ *subsidized* agriculture/housing

– sub•si•di•za•tion *also Brit* **sub•si•di•sa•tion** /ˌsʌbsədə'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌsʌbsəˌdaɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the government's *subsidization* of agriculture

sub•si•dy /'sʌbsədi/ *noun, pl* **-dies** [*count*] **:** money that is paid usually by a government to keep the price of a product or service low or to help a business or organization to continue to function ▪ The city is increasing *subsidies* for public transit. ▪ housing/farm *subsidies*

sub•sist /səb'sɪst/ *verb* **-sists; -sist•ed; -sist•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* **:** to exist or continue to exist ▪ The author's right to royalties shall *subsist* for the term of the copyright.

subsist on [*phrasal verb*] ***subsist on (something)*** **:** to use (something) as a way to stay alive **:** to live on (something) ▪ poor people *subsisting on* just one or two dollars a day ▪ The villagers *subsist* almost entirely *on* rice and fish. ▪ (*humorous*) My brother *subsists on* [=eats a lot of] pizza.

sub•sis•tence /səb'sɪstəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the amount of food, money, etc., that is needed to stay alive ▪ They depended on hunting and fishing for *subsistence*. ▪ Farming is their means of *subsistence*. ▪ ***subsistence farming/agriculture*** [=farming that provides enough food to live on but not enough food to sell to other people] ▪ More than a quarter of the population lives below (the) ***subsistence level*** [=a level of income that provides only enough money for basic needs]

sub•soil /'sʌbˌsojəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the layer of soil that is under the top layer — compare TOPSOIL

sub•son•ic /ˌsʌb'sɑ:nɪk/ *adj* **:** slower than the speed of sound ▪ *subsonic* aircraft ▪ *subsonic* speeds

sub•spe•cies /'sʌbˌspi:ʃiz/ *noun, pl* **subspecies** [*count*] **:** a group of related plants or animals that is smaller than a species **:** a division of a species ▪ There are two *subspecies* of bison in North America.

sub•stance /'sʌbstəns/ *noun, pl* **-stanc•es**

1 [*count*] **a :** a material of a particular kind ▪ chemical/toxic/hazardous/dangerous *substances* ▪ The pancreas secretes a *substance* called insulin. ▪ The floor was covered with a white, powdery *substance* that turned out to be flour. **b :** a drug that is considered harmful and whose use is controlled by law or made illegal ▪ heroin and other illegal *substances* ▪ He had a history of ***substance abuse***. ▪ Codeine is a ***controlled substance*** [=a drug that you need permission from a doctor to use]

2 [*noncount*] **a :** the quality of being meaningful, useful, or important ▪ matters of *substance* ▪ When has he ever said anything of *substance*? ▪ The book lacks *substance*. **b :** the quality of being true or believable ▪ These rumors have no *substance*. = These rumors are ***without substance***. [=these rumors are not true] ▪ The results of the study ***give substance*** to their theory.

3 [*noncount*] **:** the most basic or necessary part or quality of something **:** ESSENCE ▪ the *substance* of my argument ▪ These two books differ in both style and *substance*. [=*content*] ▪ He stated, ***in substance*** [=*in essence, essentially*], that it is not his fault and he will not pay for damages.

a man/woman/person of substance *literary* **:** a person who is rich and powerful ▪ She married *a man of substance*.

sum and substance see [1]SUM

sub•stan•dard /ˌsʌb'stændɚd/ *adj* **:** below what is considered standard, normal, or acceptable ▪ a *substandard* performance ▪ *substandard* housing — compare NONSTANDARD

sub•stan•tial /səb'stænʃəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : large in amount, size, or number ▪ A *substantial* number of people commute to work each day. ▪ This will save us a *substantial* [=*considerable*] amount of money/time. ▪ Activities like that pose a *substantial* risk of injury. ▪ She purchased her tickets at a *substantial* discount.

2 : strongly made **:** STURDY ▪ a *substantial* house ▪ Only the buildings that were constructed of more *substantial* materials survived the earthquake.

3 *of food* **:** enough to satisfy hunger ▪ I was hoping that they would serve us something more *substantial* than wine and cheese. ▪ a *substantial* [=*filling*] meal

sub•stan•tial•ly /səb'stænʃəli/ *adv*

1 : very much **:** a lot ▪ It's *substantially* [=*considerably*] less expensive to buy a used car than a new car. ▪ A new car costs *substantially* more than a used car. ▪ Costs have increased *substantially* [=*significantly*] in recent years.

2 a : in a general or basic way ▪ The methods are *substantially* [=*essentially*] the same. **b** : almost completely : MOSTLY ▪ There are still a few details to wrap up, but the project is *substantially* complete.

sub•stan•ti•ate /səb'stænʃi,eɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to prove the truth of (something) ▪ He offered no evidence to *substantiate* [=*support*] his claim.
– **sub•stan•ti•a•tion** /səb,stænʃi'eɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sub•stan•tive /'sʌbstəntɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal*
1 : important, real, or meaningful ▪ *substantive* issues/matters ▪ These changes are more symbolic than *substantive*. ▪ No *substantive* changes were made to the document.
2 : supported by facts or logic ▪ *substantive* arguments ▪ There is no *substantive* reason to change the law.
– **sub•stan•tive•ly** *adv*

[2]substantive *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] *grammar* : NOUN

sub•sta•tion /'sʌb,steɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]
1 : a place where the strength of electricity is changed as the electricity passes through on its way from the power plant to homes and businesses
2 : a police station that serves a particular area

[1]sub•sti•tute /'sʌbstə,tu:t, *Brit* 'sʌbstə,tju:t/ *noun, pl* **-tutes** [*count*]
1 : a person or thing that takes the place of someone or something else ▪ a fat/sugar/meat *substitute* — often + *for* ▪ Carob is used as a *substitute for* chocolate. ▪ When learning a language, there is no *substitute for* living among native speakers. ▪ Watching the movie is a poor *substitute for* reading the book.
2 *sports* : a player who takes the place of another player during a game ▪ Gonzales came on as a *substitute* [=*replacement*] during the second half.
3 *US* : SUBSTITUTE TEACHER
– **substitute** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *substitute* mother/father ▪ *substitute* players

[2]substitute *verb* **-tutes**; **-tut•ed**; **-tut•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to put or use (someone or something) in place of someone or something else ▪ If cream is unavailable, you can *substitute* milk. [=you can use milk instead of cream] — often + *for* ▪ You can sometimes *substitute* applesauce *for* vegetable oil in cake recipes. ▪ The coach *substituted* Jones *for* Smith in the last few minutes of the game.
2 [*no obj*] : to do the job of someone else or serve the function of something else ▪ One of our teachers is sick, so we need someone to *substitute*. — often + *for* ▪ She'll be *substituting for* the regular teacher today. ▪ Applesauce can *substitute for* vegetable oil in this recipe.
3 [+ *obj*] : to replace (one person or thing) with another ▪ They *substituted* real candles with electric ones. — often used as *(be) substituted* ▪ Real candles *were substituted* by/with electric ones. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) Smith *was substituted* by Jones in the last few minutes of the game.

substitute teacher *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a teacher who teaches a class when the usual teacher is not available — called also (*US*) *sub*, (*US*) *substitute*, (*Brit*) *supply teacher*

sub•sti•tu•tion /,sʌbstə'tu:ʃən, *Brit* ,sʌbstə'tju:ʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 : the act of substituting or replacing one person or thing with another [*count*] The coach made three *substitutions* in the second half of the game. ▪ I'd prefer rice with my steak instead of potatoes, but the menu says "no *substitutions*." [*noncount*] *Substitution* of applesauce for oil is one way of reducing the fat in recipes.
2 [*count*] : someone or something that is or can be substituted for another ▪ The cookbook has a long list of *substitutions* for ingredients that may be hard to find.

sub•stra•tum /'sʌb,streɪtəm/ *noun, pl* **-stra•ta** /-,streɪtə/ [*count*] : a layer of something (such as soil or rock) that is under another layer ▪ drilled into the bedrock *substratum* — often used figuratively ▪ the city's social *substrata*

sub•struc•ture /'sʌb,strʌkʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** [*count*] : a supporting part or structure that is below something ▪ The bridge's *substructure* was damaged. — often used figuratively ▪ political/economic *substructures* — compare SUPERSTRUCTURE

sub•ter•fuge /'sʌbtɚ,fju:ʤ/ *noun, pl* **-fug•es** *formal* : the use of tricks especially to hide, avoid, or get something [*noncount*] They obtained the documents by/through *subterfuge*. [*count*] a clever *subterfuge*

sub•ter•ra•nean /,sʌbtə'reɪnijən/ *adj, formal*
1 : located or living under the surface of the ground ▪ *subterranean* caverns/termites
2 : existing or working in secret ▪ the *subterranean* [=*underground*] world of organized crime

sub•ti•tle /'sʌb,taɪtl̩/ *noun, pl* **-ti•tles** [*count*]
1 : words that appear on the screen during a movie, video, or television show and that are translations of what the actors are saying — usually plural ▪ The film is in Chinese with English *subtitles*.
2 : a title that comes after the main title of a book and that often gives more information about the contents of the book
– **subtitle** *verb* **-titles**; **-ti•tled**; **-ti•tling** [+ *obj*] ▪ It takes a lot of work to *subtitle* a film. – **subtitled** *adj* ▪ a *subtitled* movie

sub•tle /'sʌtl̩/ *adj* **sub•tler**; **sub•tlest** [*or more ~; most ~*]
1 : hard to notice or see : not obvious ▪ a *subtle* difference in meaning between the words ▪ *subtle* changes/variations ▪ the *subtlest* details ▪ Racial discrimination still exists, only now it's *subtler* than it once was. ▪ *subtle* flavors
2 : clever and indirect : not showing your real purpose ▪ When it comes to giving criticism, sometimes it's best to take a *subtle* approach. ▪ He didn't seem to understand my *subtle* hints. ▪ It was her *subtle* way of telling me to mind my own business.
3 : having or showing skill at recognizing and understanding things that are not obvious : PERCEPTIVE ▪ She has a *subtle* mind. ▪ a *subtle* analysis
– **sub•tly** /'sʌtl̩i/ *adv* ▪ *subtly* different shades of red

sub•tle•ty /'sʌtl̩ti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**
1 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being subtle ▪ The pianist performed with *subtlety* and passion. ▪ The movie lacks *subtlety*.
2 [*count*] : a small detail that is usually important but not obvious — usually plural ▪ the *subtleties* of social interaction

sub•top•ic /'sʌb,tɑ:pɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] : a topic that is one of the parts or divisions of the main topic of a piece of writing ▪ Each chapter is broken down into *subtopics*.

sub•to•tal /'sʌb,toʊtl̩/ *noun, pl* **-tals** [*count*] : the sum of a set of numbers that is then added to another number or set of numbers ▪ Your *subtotal* is $14, and with tax, that will be $14.70.

sub•tract /səb'trækt/ *verb* **-tracts**; **-tract•ed**; **-tract•ing** : to take (a number or amount) from another number or amount [+ *obj*] — usually + *from* ▪ If we *subtract* 5 *from* 9, we get 4. ▪ *Subtract* the expenses *from* your income. [*no obj*] The children are learning how to add and *subtract*. [=to perform subtraction] — opposite ADD

sub•trac•tion /səb'trækʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *mathematics* : the act or process of subtracting one number from another ▪ The children are learning addition and *subtraction*.

sub•trop•i•cal /,sʌb'trɑ:pɪkəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : relating to or living in an area that is close to tropical parts of the world ▪ a *subtropical* [=*semitropical*] region ▪ *subtropical* vegetation ▪ a *subtropical* bird

sub•trop•ics /,sʌb'trɑ:pɪks/ *noun*
the subtropics : parts of the world that are close to the tropics : subtropical regions

sub•urb /'sʌ,bɚb/ *noun, pl* **-urbs** [*count*] : a town or other area where people live in houses near a larger city ▪ She left the city and moved to ***the suburbs***. [=one of the suburbs near that city] — often + *of* ▪ the *suburbs of* Chicago ▪ I grew up in a *suburb of* Denver.

sub•ur•ban /sə'bɚbən/ *adj* : living in or relating to a suburb or to suburbs in general ▪ a *suburban* mother of two ▪ typical *suburban* houses ▪ *suburban* Denver [=the suburbs near Denver]

sub•ur•ban•ite /sə'bɚbə,naɪt/ *noun, pl* **-ites** [*count*] : a person who lives in a suburb

sub•ur•bia /sə'bɚbijə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : suburbs in general ▪ a problem that is common in *suburbia* ▪ the percentage of the country's population living in *suburbia*; *also* : people who live in suburbs ▪ The film is an interesting critique of *suburbia*. ▪ the values of *suburbia*

sub•ven•tion /səb'vɛnʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : an amount of money that is given to a person or group by a government or organization ▪ government *subventions* [=*subsidies*]

sub•ver•sive /səb'vɚsɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : secretly trying to ruin or destroy a government, political system, etc. ▪ *subversive* groups/activities ▪ The government blamed a *subversive* organization for the riots.
2 : criticizing something in a clever and indirect way in order to make it weaker or less effective ▪ I enjoy her *subversive* sense of humor. ▪ the author's *subversive* attitude toward pop

S

culture ▪ ideas that are *subversive* of society/authority
– **subversive** *noun, pl* **-sives** [*count*] ▪ The government claims that the riots were incited by *subversives*. – **sub·ver·sive·ly** *adv* – **sub·ver·sive·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

sub·vert /səb'vərt/ *verb* **-verts**; **-vert·ed**; **-vert·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*
1 : to secretly try to ruin or destroy a government, political system, etc. ▪ They conspired to *subvert* the government.
2 : to make (something) weaker or less effective ▪ *subvert* [=*undermine*] the rule of law ▪ trying to *subvert* the electoral process
– **sub·ver·sion** /səb'vəʒən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ They were charged with *subversion*. ▪ a *subversion* of the rule of law – **sub·vert·er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ *subverters* of democracy

sub·way /'sʌb,weɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways** [*count*]
1 *chiefly US* : a system of underground trains in a city ▪ I took/rode the *subway* to midtown. ▪ No one on the *subway* seemed to mind how crowded it was. ▪ I've been on both the New York *subway* and the Underground in London. — often used before another noun ▪ a *subway* car/station ▪ the *subway* platform
2 *Brit* : a road or passage for walking under a road, set of railroad tracks, etc. : UNDERPASS

sub·woof·er /'sʌb'wʊfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *technical* : a speaker (sense 5) that produces very low sounds — compare TWEETER, WOOFER

sub·ze·ro /ˌsʌb'zirou/ *adj* : below zero degrees : extremely cold ▪ *subzero* temperatures/weather

suc·ceed /sək'si:d/ *verb* **-ceeds**; **-ceed·ed**; **-ceed·ing**
1 [*no obj*] **a** : to do what you are trying to do : to achieve the correct or desired result ▪ You can *succeed* where others failed. ▪ She hopes to *succeed* [=to do well] at her job. — often + *in* ▪ He will never *succeed in* this business. [=he will never be successful in this business] ▪ Our team *succeeded in* stopping their offensive momentum. ▪ She finally *succeeded in* persuading me to go. ▪ I tried to apologize but ***only succeeded in*** making her angrier. [=all I did was make her angrier when I tried to apologize] **b** : to happen in the planned or desired way ▪ The plan just might *succeed*. ▪ Their attempt seemed unlikely to *succeed*.
2 a [+ *obj*] : to come after (something) in a series ▪ The new model will *succeed* [=*replace*] the current one next spring. **b** : to get a particular job, position, or title after the person who had it before you has retired, died, etc. [+ *obj*] Both of them have ambitions to *succeed* the prime minister. ▪ She will *succeed* him as chair of the committee. ▪ The Queen died and was *succeeded* by James I. [*no obj*] James I ***succeeded to the throne*** upon the Queen's death in 1603.
nothing succeeds like success — used to say that one success often results in another success

succeeding *adj, always used before a noun* : coming after something : coming or happening at a later time ▪ now and for *succeeding* decades ▪ The trait is apparent in *succeeding* generations.

suc·cess /sək'sɛs/ *noun, pl* **-cess·es**
1 [*noncount*] **a** : the fact of getting or achieving wealth, respect, or fame ▪ *Success* came easily to him. ▪ With *success* comes responsibility. ▪ ***the secret of my success*** [=why I am successful] **b** : the correct or desired result of an attempt ▪ Did you ***have any/much success*** in finding the dog? [=did you find the dog?] ▪ The project ***met with little success*** [=was not successful] ▪ He tried to repair the engine but ***without success*** [=he was not able to repair the engine]
2 [*count*] : someone or something that is successful : a person or thing that succeeds ▪ The play was an immediate *success*. [=it was immediately popular] ▪ one of her many *successes* [=one of many things she has done successfully] ▪ She is country music's most recent *success*. ▪ The growth of the tourism industry is one of the city's great *successes*.

suc·cess·ful /sək'sɛsfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having the correct or desired result : ending in success ▪ a *successful* attempt ▪ The treatment was *successful*. ▪ a *successful* movie [=a movie that makes a large profit] ▪ Our search was *successful*. [=we found what we were searching for]
2 : having gotten or achieved wealth, respect, or fame ▪ a *successful* businesswoman
– **suc·cess·ful·ly** *adv* ▪ We have *successfully* finished the project. ▪ The infection was treated *successfully*.

suc·ces·sion /sək'sɛʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**
1 [*noncount*] : the act of getting a title or right after the person who had that title or right before you has died or is no longer able or allowed to have it ▪ His *succession* to the throne occurred in 1603. [=he became king in 1603]; *also* : the process by which this happens ▪ royal *succession* ▪ As third in ***the line/order of succession***, she would only become queen if her brothers both died or became ineligible.
2 [*count*] : a series of people or things that come one after the other — usually singular; usually + *of* ▪ The exhibit has attracted a *succession of* visitors. ▪ We hired a *succession of* temporary workers.
in succession : following one after the other ▪ The guests arrived *in succession*. ▪ He won the championship twice *in succession*. [=*in a row*] ▪ She listed the names ***in quick/rapid succession***

suc·ces·sive /sək'sɛsɪv/ *adj, always used before a noun* : following one after the other in a series : following each other without interruption ▪ It snowed for three *successive* [=*consecutive*] days. ▪ the third *successive* day ▪ a trait found in *successive* generations ▪ their fourth *successive* [=*consecutive*] victory
– **suc·ces·sive·ly** *adv* ▪ He has owned a series of *successively* larger boats. [=a series of boats in which each boat is larger than the one before it]

suc·ces·sor /sək'sɛsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sors** [*count*] : a person who has a job, position, or title after someone else : someone who succeeds another person ▪ The CEO's *successor* used to be the vice president here. ▪ the *successor* to the throne — opposite PREDECESSOR

success story *noun, pl* ~ **stories** [*count*] : a successful person or thing: such as **a** : someone or something that has achieved a goal ▪ I am one of the diet clinic's *success stories*. [=the diet clinic was able to help me] **b** : someone or something that has achieved wealth, respect, or fame ▪ That company is one of this area's biggest *success stories*.

suc·cinct /sək'sɪŋkt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : using few words to state or express an idea ▪ He gave a *succinct* overview of the expansion project. ▪ a *succinct* description
synonyms see CONCISE
– **suc·cinct·ly** *adv* ▪ Tell me as *succinctly* as you can what happened.

suc·cor (*US*) *or Brit* **suc·cour** /'sʌkɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *literary* : something that you do or give to help someone who is suffering or in a difficult situation ▪ We see it as our duty to give *succor* to those in need.
– **succor** (*US*) *or Brit* **succour** *verb* **-cors**; **-cored**; **-cor·ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ It is our duty to *succor* those in need.

suc·co·tash /'sʌkəˌtæʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a dish consisting of corn and lima beans that are cooked together

[1]suc·cu·lent /'sʌkjələnt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : full of juice ▪ a *succulent* steak ▪ *succulent* [=*juicy*] oranges
2 *of plants* : having thick, heavy leaves or stems that store water ▪ Cacti are *succulent* plants.
– **suc·cu·lence** /'sʌkjələns/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *succulence* of these oranges

[2]succulent *noun, pl* **-lents** [*count*] : a plant that stores water in its leaves or stems : a succulent plant ▪ cacti and other *succulents*

suc·cumb /sə'kʌm/ *verb* **-cumbs**; **-cumbed**; **-cumb·ing** [*no obj*] *somewhat formal*
1 : to stop trying to resist something ▪ They will pressure you, and you must try not to *succumb*. — often + *to* ▪ Try not to *succumb to* the pressure. ▪ It's easy to *succumb* [=*give in*] to the temptation to oversimplify this kind of problem.
2 : to die ▪ The patient eventually *succumbed*. — usually + *to* ▪ He *succumbed to* his injuries. [=he died because of his injuries] ▪ She fought a good fight but finally *succumbed to* cancer.

[1]such /'sʌtʃ/ *adj*
1 *always used before a noun* — used to say that something is great in degree, quality, or number ▪ I've been *such* a fool! [=I've been very foolish] ▪ How could you believe *such* nonsense? ▪ I've never seen *such* a (large) crowd here before. ▪ Where are you off to in *such* a rush? ▪ The building had deteriorated ***to such a degree*** [=*so much*] that they had to tear it down. ▪ I was surprised that the town had changed ***to such an extent*** [=*so much*]
2 *not used before a noun* — used to say that something has a quality that results in something specified ▪ The evidence is ***such as to*** leave no doubt of his guilt. = The evidence is ***such that*** there can be no doubt of his guilt. ▪ Her excitement was *such that* she could hardly contain herself. [=she was so excited that she could hardly contain herself]
3 *always used before a noun* : of the kind specified ▪ The gun

had his fingerprints on it. *Such* evidence [=evidence of that kind] leaves little doubt of his guilt. ▪ She has published her first sci-fi novel and hopes to write more *such* novels. ▪ No *such* agreement was made. ▪ I know it was an accident, but *such* people [=people like that] should not be allowed to drive. ▪ "Can I talk to Mary?" "I'm sorry. There is no *such* person here." [=there is no one named Mary here] ▪ In *such* a situation (as this), it is important to remain calm. ▪ The magazine publishes articles about *such* varied subjects as astronomy, politics, and gardening. ▪ It will be documented in *such* a way/manner as to prevent misunderstanding. = It will be documented in *such* a way/manner that there can be no misunderstanding. [=it will be documented in a way that prevents misunderstanding] ▪ I've never heard of ***such a thing***! ▪ "You will apologize at once!" "I'll do ***no such thing***!" [=I will not apologize] ▪ There is ***no such thing as*** having too many friends. [=you cannot have too many friends] ▪ She said she was too busy ***or some such*** nonsense. [=or something similar]

²such *pronoun, somewhat formal*

1 : that kind or type of person or thing ▪ She has a plan, if it may be called *such*. [=if it deserves to be called a plan; if it is good/practical enough to be referred to as a plan] ▪ He was not only a politician but also an inventor and well-known ***as such***. [=well-known as an inventor] ▪ It is a serious problem and should be treated *as such*. — see also AS SUCH (below)

2 : something previously stated or specified ▪ If *such* is the decision, nothing further should be done. ▪ We were outnumbered and surrounded. *Such* being the case [=since that was the case], we had to surrender. ▪ If you retained a receipt, please enclose a copy of *such*. [=please enclose a copy of the receipt]

and such **:** and things of that kind ▪ Pens, pencils, markers, *and such* are in this drawer.

as such **1 :** of the usual or expected kind : in the usual sense ▪ I have no boss *as such* [=there is no one who is actually my boss], but I do have to answer to my clients. **2 :** by, of, or in itself — used to indicate that something is being considered by itself and not along with other things ▪ There's nothing wrong with gambling *as such* [=*per se*], but it's best to do it in moderation. — see also ²SUCH 1 (above)

such is life **:** life is like that and cannot be changed ▪ We've had our share of problems, but *such is life*.

³such *adv*

1 *somewhat informal* — used to make a description more forceful ▪ The team has *such* tall players. [=the team's players are very tall] ▪ She wears *such* stylish clothes. [=her clothes are very stylish] ▪ She hasn't been in *such* good spirits lately. ▪ We had *such* a good time [=a very good time] at the party! ▪ It is *such* a long trip. ▪ It was *such* an awkward moment. ▪ Today was *such* a nice/beautiful day! ▪ I don't think that's *such* a good/great idea. [=I don't think that's a good idea]

2 : to the degree that is specified or understood ▪ *Such* violent movies (as these) are not suitable for children. ▪ We've never had *such* a cold winter (as this). ▪ I have never seen *such* a large cat! ▪ I had *such* a bad headache that I couldn't think straight.

ever such see EVER

such as **1** — used to introduce an example or series of examples ▪ You will need some form of identification, *such as* [=*like*] a driver's license. ▪ "I have my reasons for not wanting to go." "*Such as*?" [=give me an example] **2 :** of the specified kind ▪ In cases *such as* [=*like*] this (one), it's best to be cautious. ▪ Questions *such as* the one you've asked are difficult to answer.

such as it is — used to say that something is not very good in quality or condition ▪ The meal, *such as it was*, was served quickly. [=the meal, which was not very good, was served quickly] ▪ Welcome to my humble home—*such as it is*.

¹such and such *adj, always used before a noun* **:** not named or specified ▪ people from *such and such* areas ▪ If you were born in ***such and such a*** year . . .

²such and such *pronoun* **:** something that is not specified ▪ If you earn *such and such* per year, then . . .

¹such·like /ˈsʌtʃˌlaɪk/ *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly Brit* **:** sharing qualities or characteristics : SIMILAR ▪ rakes, shovels, and *suchlike* things

²suchlike *pronoun*

and suchlike *chiefly Brit* **:** and things of that kind ▪ Pens, pencils, markers, *and suchlike* are in this drawer.

¹suck /ˈsʌk/ *verb* **sucks; sucked; suck·ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] **:** to pull (liquid, air, etc.) into your mouth especially while your lips are forming a small hole ▪ *sucking* milk through a straw **b :** to pull on (something in your mouth) with the muscles of your lips and mouth [+ *obj*] a toddler *sucking* his thumb ▪ She just *sucked* her teeth and stared. [*no obj*] She *sucked* on an orange slice. **c :** to let (something, such as candy or medicine) stay in your mouth as it melts [+ *obj*] I *sucked* a cough drop. [*no obj*] *sucking* on a lollipop

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] **a :** to pull (something) with the force of moving water, air, etc. ▪ The tide almost *sucked* us out to sea. ▪ The boat was *sucked* under the water in the storm. **b :** to remove (something) from an area or substance by pulling it with the force of moving water, air, etc. ▪ These plants *suck* moisture from the soil. ▪ The fan *sucks* smoke from the air. ▪ a vacuum cleaner that ***sucks up*** water as well as dirt — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She just seems to *suck* the joy out of the room. ▪ This heat has *sucked* every ounce of energy out of me.

3 [+ *obj*] **:** to make (part of your body) flatter or tighter by pulling your muscles inward — + *in* ▪ He was *sucking in* his gut. [=pulling in his stomach to make himself seem thinner] ▪ It looked like she had *sucked* her cheeks *in* for the picture.

4 [+ *obj*] **:** to cause (someone) to become involved or interested in something — + *in* or *into* ▪ Their lifestyle seemed exciting, and I admit it really *sucked* me *in*. — often used as *(be/get) sucked in/into* ▪ Hundreds of people *got sucked into* the scheme and many lost their entire life savings.

5 *not used in progressive tenses* [*no obj*] *informal + sometimes impolite* **a :** to be very bad or unpleasant ▪ You lost your job? That *sucks*. ▪ People who went to the party said it *sucked*. **b :** to do something very badly ▪ He sang a few songs, and man, he *sucks*. [=he sings badly] — often + *at* ▪ I *suck at* golf. [=I play golf badly]

suck it and see *Brit, informal* **:** to try something in order to find out if it is good, effective, etc. ▪ We don't know if it will work. We'll have to just *suck it and see*. [=try it and see] ▪ a *suck-it-and-see* approach/situation

suck (someone or something) dry see ¹DRY

suck up [*phrasal verb*] **1** *informal + disapproving* **:** to try to get the approval of someone in authority by saying and doing helpful and friendly things that are not sincere ▪ There he goes, *sucking up* again. — usually + *to* ▪ She's always *sucking up to* [=*kissing up to*] the boss. — see also SUCK-UP

2 *suck it up* *US, informal* **:** to do or deal with something unpleasant by making a special effort ▪ I know you don't want to see him, but you'll just have to *suck it up* and be polite. ▪ I had to *suck it up* and play with an injured finger. — see also ¹SUCK 2b (above)

²suck *noun, pl* **sucks** [*count*] **:** an act of sucking ▪ He took a *suck* on his pipe.

¹suck·er /ˈsʌkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 *informal* **:** a person who is easily tricked or deceived ▪ He's just a con artist looking for another *sucker*. ▪ There's a *sucker* born every minute. [=there are many people who are easily tricked or deceived]

2 *informal* **:** a person who is very strongly attracted to a particular type of thing or person — + *for* ▪ She's a *sucker for* mystery novels. [=she likes mystery novels very much] ▪ He's a *sucker for* women with dark hair.

3 *chiefly US, informal* **:** an annoying person or thing ▪ That kid is a mean little *sucker*. ▪ I got the other window open, but I just can't seem to get this *sucker* [=this window] to budge.

4 : a person who sucks something specified — usually used in combination ▪ She's a thumb-*sucker*.

5 : a part of an animal's body that is used for sucking or for attaching to things ▪ the *suckers* on an octopus's arms

6 : a new branch that grows from the base of a plant ▪ Cut off any *suckers* growing at the base of the bush.

7 *US, informal* **:** LOLLIPOP

8 *Brit* **:** SUCTION CUP

²sucker *verb* **-ers; -ered; -er·ing**

sucker into [*phrasal verb*] ***sucker (someone) into (something)*** *US, informal* **:** to deceive or trick (someone) in order to make that person do (something) ▪ I was *suckered into* volunteering at the cookout. ▪ She *suckered* me *into* paying for her meal. ▪ How did I get *suckered into* (doing) this?

sucker punch *verb* **~ punches; ~ punched; ~ punching** [+ *obj*] *US* **:** to hit (a person) suddenly and usually without any obvious reason ▪ One of them *sucker punched* me. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a series of bad storms that have *sucker punched* the island

– sucker punch *noun, pl* **~ punches** [*count*] ▪ He hit me with a *sucker punch*.

S

suck•le /ˈsʌkəl/ *verb* **suck•les**; **suck•led**; **suck•ling** [+ *obj*] : to give (a baby or young animal) milk from a breast or from an udder ▪ a mother *suckling* [=*breast-feeding*] her baby ▪ a cat *suckling* her kittens

suck•ling pig /ˈsʌklɪŋ-/ *noun, pl* ~ **pigs** [*count, noncount*] : a young pig that is roasted and served at a meal

suck–up /ˈsʌkˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *US, informal + disapproving* : a person who tries to get the approval of someone in authority by saying and doing helpful and friendly things that are not sincere ▪ I don't think you can give your professor a gift without being considered a *suck-up*. — see also *suck up* at [1]SUCK

su•crose /ˈsuːˌkroʊs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a type of sugar that is found in most plants ✧ Sucrose is the kind of sugar commonly used for cooking and baking.

[1]**suc•tion** /ˈsʌkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or process of removing the air, water, etc., from a space in order to pull something into that space or in order to cause something to stick to a surface ▪ The vacuum cleaner picks up dirt by *suction*. ▪ The octopus grasps things using *suction*.; *also* : the force with which the air, water, etc., in a space is removed ▪ a vacuum cleaner with enough *suction* to pick up the heaviest particles of dirt ▪ strong *suction*

[2]**suction** *verb* **-tions**; **-tioned**; **-tion•ing** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to remove (something) by pulling it with the force of moving water, air, etc. : to remove (something) by using suction ▪ The surgeon will *suction* blood out of the area.

suction cup *noun, pl* ~ **cups** [*count*] : a round, shallow cup made of a flexible material (such as rubber) that you attach to a surface by pressing the cup against the surface until the air between the cup and surface is removed ▪ The device is held to the wall with two *suction cups*.

sud•den /ˈsʌdn̩/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : happening, coming, or done very quickly in a way that is usually not expected ▪ a *sudden* change/rise in temperature ▪ *Sudden* fame/success can be difficult to deal with. ▪ She had a *sudden* urge to be outside. ▪ His death was very *sudden*. ▪ a *sudden* turn in the road ▪ I was surprised by her *sudden* decision to quit. ▪ The director's *sudden* departure leaves the organization's future uncertain.

all of a sudden : SUDDENLY ▪ I was walking down the street when, *all of a sudden*, it started raining. ▪ *All of a sudden*, I saw what he was looking at.

– **sud•den•ness** /ˈsʌdn̩nəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *suddenness* of the attack ▪ I was surprised by the *suddenness* of her decision.

sudden death *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *sports* : a period of extra play that is added when teams or players are tied at the end of normal play and that ends as soon as one team or player scores a point or gains the lead ▪ We won 27–24 in *sudden death*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *sudden-death* play-off in golf

2 *medical* : quick and unexpected death from any cause other than violence ▪ a serious heart condition that can result in *sudden death*

sudden infant death syndrome *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : the death of a healthy baby that happens for no known reason while the baby is sleeping — called also *crib death*, (*Brit*) *cot death*, *SIDS*

sud•den•ly /ˈsʌdn̩li/ *adv* : very quickly in usually an unexpected way : in a sudden way ▪ *Suddenly* the lights went out. ▪ I was *suddenly* very nervous. ▪ There were no instances of the disease here until it *suddenly* appeared last year. ▪ She *suddenly* decided to quit her job. ▪ He died *suddenly* of a heart attack.

suds /ˈsʌdz/ *noun*

1 [*plural*] : bubbles that form on top of water that contains soap — called also *soapsuds*

2 [*noncount*] *US, informal* : BEER ▪ a bottle of *suds*

– **sudsy** /ˈsʌdzi/ *adj* **suds•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *sudsy* water

sue /ˈsuː, *Brit* ˈsjuː/ *verb* **sues**; **sued**; **su•ing** : to use a legal process by which you try to get a court of law to force a person, company, or organization that has treated you unfairly or hurt you in some way to give you something or to do something : to bring a lawsuit against someone or something [*no obj*] Some people *sue* over the most minor things. ▪ People injured in accidents caused by the defective tire have threatened to *sue*. — often + *for* ▪ They're ***suing for damages***. [=suing to get money for the unfair treatment, damage, etc., that they have suffered] ▪ His wife is ***suing for divorce***. [=his wife has begun a legal process in order to get a divorce] [+ *obj*] They've threatened to *sue* the company. ▪ He is *suing* the doctor who performed the unnecessary surgery. — often + *for* ▪ They're *suing* the company *for damages*. ▪ She's *suing* her husband *for divorce*.

sue for peace *formal* : to officially ask for an end to fighting ▪ a decisive battle after which the rebels *sued for peace*

suede /ˈsweɪd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : soft leather that has been rubbed on one side to make a surface that looks and feels like velvet ▪ The gloves are *suede*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *suede* jacket

su•et /ˈsuːwət/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of hard fat that is found in cows and sheep ▪ beef *suet*

suf•fer /ˈsʌfɚ/ *verb* **-fers**; **-fered**; **-fer•ing**

1 : to experience pain, illness, or injury [*no obj*] Before the surgery it was clear that she was really *suffering*. [=was in pain] ▪ He died instantly and did not *suffer*. — often + *from* ▪ She *suffers from* arthritis. ▪ This patient is clearly *suffering from* shock. [+ *obj*] He *suffered* a heart attack and died instantly. ▪ She *suffered* an injury during the game.

2 : to experience something unpleasant (such as defeat, loss, or damage) [*no obj*] We *suffered* a great deal during the war. ▪ I hate to see a child *suffer*. ▪ She *suffered* through another one of their long visits. [+ *obj*] The team ***suffered a defeat*** in the play-offs. ▪ He broke the law, so he has to ***suffer the consequences***. [=he has to be punished for what he has done]

3 [*no obj*] : to become worse because of being badly affected by something ▪ Their relationship *suffered* because of her work. ▪ He was working so hard that his health began to *suffer*. [=he began to have health problems] ▪ His parents told him he could play football as long as his grades didn't *suffer* (as a result).

suffer fools gladly : to be kind to and patient with people who annoy or bother you — usually used in negative statements ▪ My mother was a woman who did not *suffer fools gladly*.

suf•fer•ance /ˈsʌfərəns/ *noun*

on sufferance *Brit, formal* ✧ If you are allowed to do something *on sufferance*, you are allowed to do it by someone who does not want you to do it. ▪ She was allowed in only *on sufferance*.

suf•fer•er /ˈsʌfərɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who has a particular illness or condition ▪ asthma *sufferers*

suf•fer•ing /ˈsʌfərɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*noncount*] : pain that is caused by injury, illness, loss, etc. : physical, mental, or emotional pain ▪ ways to alleviate human *suffering* ▪ They hope these new drugs will help to bring an end to the *suffering* of arthritis patients. ▪ His lawsuit seeks damages for ***pain and suffering***.

2 ***sufferings*** [*plural*] : feelings of pain ▪ the *sufferings* of the dying

suf•fice /səˈfaɪs/ *verb* **-fic•es**; **-ficed**; **-fic•ing** [*no obj*] : to be or provide as much as is needed : to be sufficient ▪ No, you don't need to write a letter. A phone call will *suffice*. ▪ Her example alone should *suffice* to show that anything is possible.

suffice (it) to say — used to say that you could give more information about something but that the statement that follows is enough ▪ First, the car wouldn't start, and then I got stuck in traffic—*suffice it to say*, there was no way I could get here on time. ▪ *Suffice to say*, she has a lot on her hands with four children.

suf•fi•cient /səˈfɪʃənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *somewhat formal* : having or providing as much as is needed : ENOUGH ▪ A brisk walk is *sufficient* to raise your heart rate. ▪ A 15 percent tip is *sufficient*. [=*adequate*] ▪ There must be *sufficient* funds in your bank account to cover the check. ▪ *sufficient* savings ▪ Her explanation was not *sufficient* to satisfy the police. — see also SELF-SUFFICIENT

– **suf•fi•cien•cy** /səˈfɪʃənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies** [*count, noncount*] ▪ challenging the *sufficiency* of the evidence/proof

– **suf•fi•cient•ly** *adv* ▪ He was *sufficiently* bothered by the noise to complain to the manager. ▪ Her health has improved *sufficiently* to allow her to return to work. ▪ Make sure that the temperature is *sufficiently* cool.

suf•fix /ˈsʌfɪks/ *noun, pl* **-fix•es** [*count*] : a letter or a group of letters that is added to the end of a word to change its meaning or to form a different word ▪ The adjective "smokeless" is formed by adding the *suffix* "-less" to the noun "smoke." ▪ The adverb "sadly" is formed by adding the *suffix* "-ly" to the adjective "sad." — compare AFFIX, PREFIX

suf•fo•cate /ˈsʌfəˌkeɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing**

1 a [*no obj*] : to die because you are unable to breathe ▪

Don't put that pillow over her face—she could *suffocate*. ▪ The poor dog could *suffocate* in the car on a hot day like this. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ I'm *suffocating* in this job. [=I can't express myself, act freely, etc., in this job] **b** [+ *obj*] : to kill (someone) by making breathing impossible ▪ She was afraid that thick pillows and blankets could *suffocate* [=*smother*] the baby. ▪ The victims were found *suffocated*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Anger and resentment slowly *suffocated* their marriage. ▪ Critics say that the new tax will *suffocate* local businesses.

2 [*no obj*] : to be uncomfortable because there is not enough fresh air — usually used as *(be) suffocating* ▪ We *were suffocating* in the stuffy boardroom.

– **suf·fo·ca·tion** /ˌsʌfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The victims died of *suffocation*.

suffocating *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : very unpleasant or uncomfortable because there is not enough fresh air ▪ *suffocating* heat ▪ a *suffocating* room

2 — used to describe something that makes it difficult to act freely ▪ a *suffocating* bureaucracy/relationship

3 — used to describe something that makes you very uncomfortable ▪ a *suffocating* silence

– **suffocatingly** *adj* ▪ a *suffocatingly* hot day ▪ a *suffocatingly* close relationship

suf·frage /ˈsʌfrɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the right to vote in an election ▪ women who fought for *suffrage* ▪ ***universal suffrage*** [=the right of all adult citizens to vote in an election]

suf·frag·ette /ˌsʌfrɪˈʤɛt/ *noun, pl* **-ettes** [*count*] : a woman who worked to get voting rights for women in the past when women were not allowed to vote

suf·frag·ist /ˈsʌfrɪʤɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a person in the past who worked to get voting rights for people who did not have them

suf·fuse /səˈfjuːz/ *verb* **-fus·es**; **-fused**; **-fus·ing** [+ *obj*] *literary* : to spread over or fill (something) ▪ Morning light *suffused* the room. — usually used as *(be) suffused* ▪ The room *was suffused* with morning light.

Su·fi /ˈsuːfi/ *noun, pl* **-fis** [*count*] : a member of a Muslim group of people who try to experience God directly especially by praying and meditating

– **Su·fism** /ˈsuːˌfɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sug·ar /ˈʃʊgɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ars**

1 a [*noncount*] : a sweet substance usually in the form of white or brown crystals or white powder that comes from plants and is used to make foods sweeter ▪ Would you pass the *sugar*, please? ▪ Do you take *sugar* in your coffee? ▪ a lump/cube/packet of *sugar* — see also BROWN SUGAR, CANE SUGAR, CONFECTIONERS' SUGAR, MAPLE SUGAR, POWDERED SUGAR **b** [*count*] : the amount of sugar in one spoonful, lump, packet, etc. ▪ Coffee with two *sugars* and milk, please.

2 [*count*] *technical* : any one of various substances that are found in plants and that your body uses or stores for energy — usually plural ▪ Everyone's body metabolizes *sugars* differently. ▪ Simple *sugars* are easier to digest than complex *sugars*.

3 [*noncount*] *informal* : the amount of sugar present in a person's blood at a particular time ▪ Her *sugar* (level) is very high. — called also *blood sugar*

4 *chiefly US, informal* — used to address someone you like or love ▪ "Hey, *sugar* [=*honey*], how are you doing?"

[2]sugar *verb* **sugars**; **sug·ared**; **sug·ar·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to put sugar on or in (something) ▪ The clean fruit is then dried and *sugared*. ▪ She *sugared* her coffee.

2 [*no obj*] *US* : to make maple syrup or maple sugar by boiling sap from maple trees ▪ They've been *sugaring* since they were children.

sugar the pill see [1]PILL

– **sugared** *adj* ▪ heavily *sugared* coffee/tea [=coffee/tea with a lot of sugar added to it] ▪ *sugared* almonds

sugar beet *noun, pl* ~ **beets** [*count*] : a white beet that is grown for the sugar in its root

sug·ar·cane /ˈʃʊgɚˌkeɪn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a tall grass that is grown in warm places as a source of sugar

sug·ar·coat /ˈʃʊgɚˌkoʊt/ *verb* **-coats**; **-coat·ed**; **-coating** [+ *obj*] : to talk about or describe (something) in a way that makes it seem more pleasant or acceptable than it is ▪ textbooks that *sugarcoat* history ▪ She has very strong opinions, and she doesn't try to *sugarcoat* them.

sugar–coated *adj*

1 : covered in sugar ▪ *sugar-coated* cereal

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : made to seem more pleasant or acceptable than it is ▪ a *sugar-coated* version of history

sugar cube *noun, pl* ~ **cubes** [*count*] : a small cube of sugar that is put in coffee or tea to make it sweet — called also (*Brit*) *sugar lump*

sugar daddy *noun, pl* ~ **-dies** [*count*] *informal* : a rich, older man who gives money, gifts, etc., to someone (such as a young woman) in exchange for sex, friendship, etc. ▪ She's on the lookout for a new *sugar daddy*. — sometimes used figuratively in U.S. English ▪ politicians getting money from their corporate *sugar daddies*

sugar–free *adj* : not containing sugar : containing an artificial sweetening substance instead of sugar ▪ *sugar-free* gum

sug·ar·less /ˈʃʊgɚləs/ *adj* : SUGAR-FREE ▪ *sugarless* gum

sugar maple *noun, pl* ~ **-ples** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a kind of maple tree that grows in eastern North America and that has sweet sap that is used to make maple syrup and maple sugar

sugar pill *noun, pl* ~ **pills** [*count*] : a pill that is given to a patient like a drug but that has no medicine in it : PLACEBO ▪ Half the patients were given the medication and the other half received a *sugar pill*.

sug·ar·plum /ˈʃʊgɚˌplʌm/ *noun, pl* **-plums** [*count*] *US, old-fashioned* : a small, sweet candy that is usually shaped like a ball

sugar snap pea *noun, pl* ~ **peas** [*count*] : a type of pea whose thick outer part and seeds can be eaten — called also *snap pea*

sug·ary /ˈʃʊgəri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : tasting like sugar or containing a lot of sugar ▪ *sugary* breakfast cereals

2 *disapproving* : showing or expressing a pleasant emotion in a way that seems excessive and false : too sweet ▪ a *sugary* ballad ▪ *sugary* cheerfulness/sentiment

sug·gest /səˈʤɛst/ *verb* **-gests**; **-gest·ed**; **-gest·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to mention (something) as a possible thing to be done, used, thought about, etc. ▪ I *suggest* (that) you call the store. ▪ We *suggested* to the committee that they review the case again. ▪ It was *suggested* that we leave early. ▪ He *suggested* several different ways of dealing with the problem. ▪ She *suggested* a stroll after dinner. = She *suggested* that we go for a stroll after dinner.

2 : to say that (someone or something) is good or deserves to be chosen : RECOMMEND ▪ Who would you *suggest* for the job? ▪ They *suggested* a restaurant we might want to try. ▪ I *suggest* caution in a situation like this.

3 : to show that (something) is likely or true : to indicate (something) usually without showing it in a direct or certain way ▪ The evidence *suggests* arson as the cause of the fire. ▪ There is nothing to *suggest* that the two events are connected. ▪ As the name *suggests*, a yarn winder is a device used to wind balls of yarn.

4 : to say (something) in an indirect way ▪ Are you *suggesting* [=*implying*] (that) he deliberately cheated? ▪ I think he's *suggesting* that we shouldn't have helped them.

suggest itself *somewhat formal, of an idea, plan, etc.* : to be thought of : to seem or become obvious ▪ No good solution *suggested itself*. [=I was unable to think of a good solution]

sug·gest·ible /səˈʤɛstəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : likely to believe that what someone says is true or may be true : easily influenced ▪ The patient/child was highly *suggestible*.

sug·ges·tion /səˈʤɛstʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] **a** : an idea about what someone should do or how someone should behave ▪ Do you have any *suggestions*? ▪ Please send comments and *suggestions* to our post office box. ▪ I have a *suggestion*: call the store and ask them about it. ▪ I'd like to offer/make a *suggestion*. ▪ I am always ***open to suggestions***. [=ready to hear new ideas] **b** : something that is said in an indirect way ▪ I'm shocked at the *suggestion* that he deliberately cheated. = The very *suggestion* that he deliberately cheated is shocking (to me). ▪ I reject his *suggestion* that we shouldn't have helped them.

2 a : an action, quality, appearance, etc., that seems to indicate the presence or existence of something [*count*] — usually singular ▪ There was a *suggestion* of boredom in his tone of voice. [*noncount*] They were careful to avoid any *suggestion* of impropriety. [=avoid doing anything that could be seen as improper] ▪ There was some *suggestion* of swelling around his ankle. [=his ankle appeared to be slightly swollen] **b** [*count*] : a very small amount of something — usually singular ▪ a flavor of chocolate with a (slight) *suggestion* [=*hint*] of pepper

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3 [*noncount*] : the process by which you make people think or feel something by saying, expressing, or showing something that is related only indirectly ▪ trying to influence people's thoughts by using *suggestion* ▪ The director relies on the ***power of suggestion*** rather than explicitly showing the murder.

at/on someone's suggestion : because someone said that you should ▪ *On his suggestion*, I applied for the job. [=I applied for the job because he suggested that I should] ▪ She went to Germany *at my suggestion*.

sug·ges·tive /səˈʤɛstɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 a : bringing thoughts, memories, or feelings into the mind — + *of* ▪ music *suggestive* [=*evocative*] *of* a past era **b** : showing or seeming to show something — + *of* ▪ symptoms *suggestive of* AIDS

2 : causing or tending to cause sexual feelings or excitement ▪ a *suggestive* [=*revealing*] nightgown ▪ *suggestive* [=*provocative*] song lyrics

– sug·ges·tive·ly *adv* ▪ The dancers moved *suggestively*.

sui·cid·al /ˌsuːwəˈsaɪdl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : wanting to kill yourself ▪ psychiatrists working with *suicidal* patients ▪ Her friends are worried that she might be *suicidal*. [=that she might want to kill herself] : showing a desire to kill yourself ▪ She had *suicidal* thoughts/tendencies.

2 : extremely dangerous : likely to cause your death ▪ The mission is *suicidal*. ▪ a *suicidal* rescue attempt : likely to cause great harm to yourself ▪ He knows that supporting a tax increase would be politically *suicidal*.

[1]sui·cide /ˈsuːwəˌsaɪd/ *noun, pl* **-cides**

1 a : the act of killing yourself because you do not want to continue living [*noncount*] She had thoughts of *suicide*. ▪ He ***committed suicide***. [=he killed himself] ▪ He ***attempted suicide***. [=he tried to kill himself] [*count*] Authorities have officially ruled the death a *suicide*. ▪ There were two *suicides* last year at the university. — see also ASSISTED SUICIDE, PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE **b** [*count*] : a person who commits suicide ▪ Her father was a *suicide*. [=her father killed himself]

2 [*noncount*] : an action that ruins or destroys your career, social position, etc. ▪ Accepting that kind of support is political *suicide*. [=it will cause the end of your career in politics] ▪ It would be *suicide* for the company to try to expand too quickly. [=the company would fail if it tried to expand too quickly]

[2]suicide *adj, always used before a noun* : of or relating to suicide ▪ a *suicide* attempt ▪ Did he leave a ***suicide note***? [=a note/letter explaining why he killed himself] — used especially to describe something that is done by a person who plans and expects to be killed while doing it ▪ a ***suicide mission/bombing*** ▪ a ***suicide bomber*** [=a person who commits suicide by exploding a bomb in order to kill other people]

suicide pact *noun, pl* **~ pacts** [*count*] : an agreement between two or more people to kill themselves at the same time ▪ The two friends died in what appeared to be a *suicide pact*.

sui ge·ner·is /ˌsu ˌaɪˈʤɛnərəs/ *adj, formal* : in a class or group of its own : not like anything else ▪ As a scholar, she is *sui generis*. [=*unique*]

[1]suit /ˈsuːt/ *noun, pl* **suits**

1 [*count*] : a set of clothes that usually consists of a jacket and a skirt or pair of pants that are made out of the same material ▪ a tweed/wool *suit* ▪ He wore his gray *suit* to the job interview. — see color picture on page C15; see also BUSINESS SUIT, LEISURE SUIT, LOUNGE SUIT, PANTSUIT, SAILOR SUIT, SHELL SUIT, THREE-PIECE SUIT, TROUSER SUIT, TWO-PIECE SUIT, ZOOT SUIT

2 [*count*] : a set of clothes or protective covering that is worn for a special purpose or under particular conditions ▪ a gym *suit* ▪ a *suit* of armor — see also BATHING SUIT, BODYSUIT, CATSUIT, JUMPSUIT, SNOWSUIT, SPACE SUIT, SWEAT SUIT, SWIMSUIT, UNION SUIT, WET SUIT

3 : a process by which a court of law makes a decision to settle a disagreement or problem between people or organizations : LAWSUIT [*count*] a civil/criminal *suit* ▪ divorce/custody/paternity *suits* ▪ He ***filed/brought a suit*** [=started legal proceedings] against her. [*noncount*] He ***filed/brought suit*** [=started legal proceedings] against her.

4 [*count*] : all the cards that have the same symbol in a pack of playing cards ▪ The trump *suit* is hearts/clubs/diamonds/spades.

5 [*count*] *informal + disapproving* : a person who has an important job in an office and who wears a suit : a business executive ▪ She described her boss as "an ***empty suit***." [=a stupid and ineffective businessman] — usually plural ▪ Get back to work. The *suits* just walked in.

birthday suit see BIRTHDAY

follow suit see [1]FOLLOW

– see also LONG SUIT, STRONG SUIT

[2]suit *verb* **suits; suit·ed; suit·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to provide what is required or wanted by or for (someone or something) ▪ This program should *suit* [=*satisfy*] your needs. ▪ The restaurant offers meals to *suit* [=*please*] all tastes. ▪ I can schedule the meeting for tomorrow. Does that *suit* you? [=is that convenient for you?] ▪ That *suits* me fine. ▪ He only helps out when it *suits* him. [=when he wants to; when it is convenient for him to help out] **b** : to be proper or suitable for (someone or something) ▪ This kind of behavior hardly *suits* a person of your age. ▪ She gave a serious speech that *suited* the occasion. ▪ The formal furniture really *suited* the style of the house. ▪ The job *suits* her very well. ▪ (*Brit*) This kind of work ***suits me down to the ground***. [=suits me perfectly; I like/enjoy this kind of work very much]

2 : to be attractive on (someone) — not used in passive constructions ▪ Your new hairstyle *suits* [=*becomes*] you. ▪ That dress doesn't really *suit* her.

suit someone's book *Brit, informal* : to be suitable or satisfactory to someone ▪ The changes should *suit your book*.

suit up [*phrasal verb*] *US* : to put on a uniform or special clothing ▪ The players are *suiting up* for the game. ▪ The divers *suited up*.

suit yourself *informal* : to do what you want to do — used especially to tell people that they can do what they want even though you do not think it is what they should do ▪ "I don't want to go." "*Suit yourself*. [=do what you want] We'll go without you."

suit·able /ˈsuːtəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having the qualities that are right, needed, or appropriate for something ▪ The dress was a *suitable* choice. ▪ We upgraded the computer to make it *suitable* to our needs. — often + *for* ▪ Is this shirt *suitable for* work? ▪ Her experience makes her more *suitable for* the job. ▪ What is a *suitable* time/place *for* us to meet? ▪ The movie is not *suitable for* children. [=children should not watch it] — opposite UNSUITABLE

– suit·abil·i·ty /ˌsuːtəˈbɪlətɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ No one questioned her *suitability* for the job. **– suit·ably** /ˈsuːtəblɪ/ *adv* ▪ They were *suitably* dressed for the occasion. ▪ The old house was a *suitably* spooky place for a Halloween party.

suit·case /ˈsuːtˌkeɪs/ *noun, pl* **-cas·es** [*count*] : a large case that you use to carry your clothing and belongings when you are traveling ▪ She packed her *suitcases* the night before she left.

suite /ˈswiːt/ *noun, pl* **suites** [*count*]

1 a : a group of rooms that is used for one purpose ▪ a *suite* of offices on the fifth floor ▪ The executive *suite* is on the top floor. **b** : a group of rooms in a hotel that is used by one person, couple, family, etc. ▪ She checked into a *suite*. ▪ We stayed in the hotel's honeymoon/bridal *suite*. — see also EN SUITE

2 : a piece of music that is made up of many short pieces that are taken from a larger work (such as a ballet) ▪ The orchestra will be performing a *suite*. ▪ the Nutcracker *Suite*

3 *chiefly Brit* : a set of matching pieces of furniture for a room ▪ a bedroom/bathroom *suite* ▪ We bought a three-piece *suite* [=a couch and two chairs] for the living room.

4 : a set of computer programs that are designed to work together ▪ a *suite* of business software

suit·ed /ˈsuːtəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having the qualities that are right, needed, or appropriate for something — + *for* or *to* ▪ The land is well *suited for* farming. ▪ We will hire the person who is best/most *suited to* the job. ▪ The plant is *suited to* (living in) tropical climates.

suit·ing /ˈsuːtɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : cloth that is used in making suits

suit·or /ˈsuːtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ors** [*count*]

1 *old-fashioned* : a man who wants to marry a particular woman ▪ He was her most persistent *suitor*, and she eventually agreed to marry him.

2 *technical* : a company that wants to take over another company ▪ An unwanted *suitor* is buying up the company's stock.

sul·fate (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **sul·phate** /ˈsʌlˌfeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-fates** [*count, noncount*] *chemistry* : a salt that is formed when sulfuric acid reacts with another chemical element ▪ copper *sulfate*

S

sul•fide (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **sul•phide** /'sʌl,faɪd/ *noun, pl* **-fides** [*count, noncount*] *chemistry* : a compound that contains sulfur and one or more other chemical elements

sul•fur (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **sul•phur** /'sʌlfɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chemistry* : a yellow chemical element that has a strong, unpleasant odor when it is burned and that is used in making paper, gunpowder, medicine, etc.

> ***usage*** In U.S. English, the spelling *sulfur* is chiefly used in technical writing, while both *sulfur* and *sulphur* are common in general writing.

sulfur dioxide (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **sulphur dioxide** *noun* [*noncount*] *chemistry* : a gas that has a strong smell, that is used in many industries, and that contributes to air pollution

sul•fu•ric acid (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **sul•phu•ric acid** /sʌl'fjɚɪk-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chemistry* : a very strong type of acid

sul•fu•rous (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **sul•phu•rous** /'sʌlfərəs/ *adj, chemistry* : of, relating to, or containing sulfur • *sulfurous* compounds/gas • a *sulfurous* odor

[1]sulk /'sʌlk/ *verb* **sulks**; **sulked**; **sulk•ing** [*no obj*] : to be angry or upset about something and to refuse to discuss it with other people • He went to *sulk* in his room. • She has been *sulking* all day.

[2]sulk *noun, pl* **sulks** [*count*] : a period of time when someone is angry or upset and refuses to speak • tantrums and *sulks* • He was ***in a sulk***. [=he was sulking] • She has a case of ***the sulks***. [=she's sulking]

sulky /'sʌlki/ *adj* **sulk•i•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 : angry or upset about something and refusing to discuss it with others • She is very *sulky* today. • She's in a *sulky* mood.
2 : often quiet and angry or upset • a *sulky* [=*moody*] child
– **sulk•i•ly** /'sʌlkəli/ *adv* • He sat *sulkily* in the chair. – **sulk•i•ness** /'sʌlkinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sul•len /'sʌlən/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 — used to describe an angry or unhappy person who does not want to talk, smile, etc. • *sullen* teenagers • He's in a *sullen* mood. • She sat in *sullen* silence. • His face was *sullen*. = He had a *sullen* expression on his face.
2 *literary* : gray and dark • a *sullen* [=*gloomy*] sky/morning
– **sul•len•ly** *adv* • He stared *sullenly* out the window. – **sul•len•ness** /'sʌlənnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sul•ly /'sʌli/ *verb* **sul•lies**; **sul•lied**; **sul•ly•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to damage or ruin the good quality of (something) • The scandal *sullied* [=*tarnished*] her reputation.

sulphate, sulphide, sulphur, sulphur dioxide, sulphuric acid, sulphurous *chiefly Brit spellings of* SULFATE, SULFIDE, SULFUR, SULFUR DIOXIDE, SULFURIC ACID, SULFUROUS

sul•tan /'sʌltn̩/ *noun, pl* **-tans** [*count*] : a king or ruler of a Muslim state or country

sul•ta•na /ˌsʌl'tænə, *Brit* ˌsʌl'tɑːnə/ *noun, pl* **-nas** [*count*]
1 : the wife, mother, sister, or daughter of a sultan
2 *chiefly Brit* : GOLDEN RAISIN

sul•tan•ate /'sʌltəˌneɪt/ *noun, pl* **-ates** [*count*]
1 : a state or country that is ruled by a sultan
2 : the position of a sultan or the period of time when a sultan rules • His *sultanate* ended in 1923.

sul•try /'sʌltri/ *adj* **sul•tri•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 : very hot and humid • a *sultry* day • *sultry* air/weather
2 : attractive in a way that suggests or causes feelings of sexual desire • She looked at him with a *sultry* glance. • a *sultry* woman/dress • an actress with a *sultry* voice
– **sul•tri•ness** /'sʌltrinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the *sultriness* of her voice

[1]sum /'sʌm/ *noun, pl* **sums**
1 [*count*] : an amount of money • They spent large/considerable *sums* (of money) repairing the house. • We donated a small *sum* (of money) to the charity. • The sellers were asking for a modest *sum*. • I paid the *sum* of $500. — see also LUMP SUM
2 [*count*] **a** : the result of adding two or more numbers together • The *sum* of 5 and 7 is 12. **b** : a simple problem in mathematics — usually plural • schoolchildren doing *sums*
3 [*singular*] : the whole amount of something • Working odd summer jobs has been ***the sum of*** my experience so far. [=has been all the experience I've had so far] — see also SUM TOTAL
in sum **1** : as a brief statement of the most important information in a piece of writing or speech • *In sum* [=*in summary*], we need a better public health-care system. **2** : in a few words • The movie was, *in sum* [=*in short*], entertaining as well as educational.
sum and substance : the general or basic meaning of something said or written • What is the *sum and substance* [=*gist*] of the argument?
sum of its parts ✧ Something that is ***greater/better/more than the sum of its parts*** is better or more effective as a team, combination, etc., than you would expect it to be when you look at the different parts that form it. • The team lacks standout players, but it has proved to be *greater than the sum of its parts*.
– see also ZERO-SUM GAME

[2]sum *verb* **sums**; **summed**; **sum•ming**
sum up [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***sum up or sum up (something) or sum (something) up*** : to tell (information) again using fewer words : to give a summary of (statements, facts, etc.) : SUMMARIZE • I would like to take a moment to *sum up* the facts that I presented earlier. • She *sums up* the main arguments of the essay in the final paragraph. • The judge *summed up* the evidence in his speech to the jury. • ***To sum up***, we need a better public health-care system. **2** ***sum up (someone or something) or sum (someone or something) up*** **a** : to describe or show the most important parts or qualities of (someone or something) in a brief or simple way • The article nicely *sums up* her career. • That picture *sums* him *up* perfectly. [=that picture perfectly shows what kind of person he is] **b** : to describe (someone or something) using few words • The solution to the landfill problem can be *summed up* in one word: recycling. • The word "lazy" *sums* him *up* pretty well. • "So, you don't want to go because you think it will be boring?" "That just about ***sums it up***." — see also SUMMING-UP

su•mac /'ʃuˌmæk, 'suːˌmæk/ *noun, pl* **-macs** [*count, noncount*] : a type of tree, bush, or vine that has many small leaves and produces red or white berries — see also POISON SUMAC

sum•ma cum lau•de /ˌsʌməˌkʌm'lɑːdə/ *adv, formal* : with highest honor — used in the U.S. to indicate that a student has graduated from a college or university at the highest of three special levels of achievement • She graduated *summa cum laude*. — compare CUM LAUDE, MAGNA CUM LAUDE

sum•ma•rize (*US*) *also Brit* **sum•ma•rise** /'sʌməˌraɪz/ *verb* **-riz•es**; **-rized**; **-riz•ing** : to tell (information) again using fewer words [+ *obj*] I would like to take a moment to *summarize* the facts that I presented earlier. • She *summarizes* the essay's main arguments in the final paragraph. = She *summarizes* the essay in the final paragraph. [*no obj*] He *summarized* by saying we needed better planning and implementation. • ***To summarize***, we need better schools.
– **sum•ma•ri•za•tion** *also Brit* **sum•ma•ri•sa•tion** /ˌsʌmərə'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌsʌməˌraɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] • A *summarization* [=*summary*] of the study's results can be found at the end of the report.

[1]sum•ma•ry /'sʌməri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : a brief statement that gives the most important information about something • He concluded the report with a brief *summary*. • a chapter/plot *summary* • They gave a *summary* of their progress in building the bridge.
in summary : as a brief statement of the most important information in a piece of writing or speech • *In summary* [=*in conclusion, in sum*], we need a better public health-care system.

[2]summary *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : using few words to give the most important information about something • a *summary* account of the accident • a *summary* report
2 *formal* : done quickly in a way that does not follow the normal process • a *summary* dismissal/execution/judgment • a *summary* court proceeding
– **sum•mar•i•ly** /sə'mɛrəli/ *adv, formal* • He was *summarily* dismissed/executed.

sum•ma•tion /sə'meɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]
1 *formal* : a brief description of the most important information about something • A *summation* can be found at the end of the report. • We gave a *summation* of our discovery.
2 *US, law* : a final speech made by a lawyer in a court of law to give a summary of the main arguments in a case • The defense attorneys and prosecutors are set to make their final *summations* today.

[1]sum•mer /'sʌmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-mers** : the warmest season of the year that is after spring and before autumn [*count*] What are your plans for this *summer*? • the *summer* of 2005 • We

visited them two *summers* ago. [*noncount*] in early/late *summer* ▪ the first day of *summer* — often used before another noun ▪ the *summer* months ▪ a hot *summer* day ▪ the company's *summer* catalog ▪ *summer* clothes ▪ a *summer* job ▪ *summer* vacation ▪ The children have fond memories of *summer* camp. — see also INDIAN SUMMER

[2]summer *verb* **-mers; -mered; -mer•ing** [*no obj*] : to spend the summer in a particular place ▪ We *summer* (at our house) in Virginia.

sum•mer•house /'sʌməˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous•es** [*count*]
1 *chiefly Brit* : a covered structure in a garden or park that is used as a resting place in summer
2 *summer house* : a house that someone lives in during the summer ▪ They have a *summer house* on the lake. — called also *summer home*

summer school *noun, pl* ~ **schools** [*count, noncount*] : special classes that are taught at a school during the summer

summer squash *noun* [*count, noncount*] *US* : a long, usually yellow vegetable that is a type of squash and that has soft skin which can be eaten — see color picture on page C4; compare WINTER SQUASH

sum•mer•time /'sʌməˌtaɪm/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the season of summer ▪ We go there to pick strawberries in the *summertime*.
2 *Summer Time* *Brit* : BRITISH SUMMER TIME

sum•mery /'sʌməri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : suitable for or typical of summer ▪ a *summery* dress ▪ *summery* afternoons

sum•ming–up /ˌsʌmɪŋ'ʌp/ *noun, pl* **sum•mings–up** /ˌsʌmɪŋz'ʌp/ [*count*]
1 : the act of telling information again using fewer words ▪ a *summing-up* of the results
2 *law* : a final speech made by a lawyer or judge in a court of law to give a summary of the arguments and evidence in a case — see also *sum up* at [2]SUM

sum•mit /'sʌmət/ *noun, pl* **-mits** [*count*]
1 a : the highest point of a mountain : the top of a mountain ▪ The mountain range has *summits* over 10,000 feet high. ▪ the *summit* [=*peak*] of Mount Everest ▪ The climbers failed to reach the *summit*. **b** : the highest level ▪ He reached the *summit* [=*peak*] of his career three years ago.
2 : a meeting or series of meetings between the leaders of two or more governments ▪ Leaders of several nations attended the economic *summit*. ▪ A *summit* on global warming was held that year. ▪ a *summit* meeting/conference

sum•mon /'sʌmən/ *verb* **-mons; -moned; -mon•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*
1 a : to order (someone) to come to a place ▪ The queen *summoned* him back to the palace. **b** : to order (someone) to appear in a court of law — often used as *(be) summoned* ▪ She *was summoned* to (appear in) court. ▪ She *was summoned* (to appear) before a judge.
2 : to ask for (someone or something) to come : to send or call for (someone or something) ▪ She *summoned* a doctor. ▪ The boy *summoned* help.
3 : to get (the courage, energy, strength, etc., that you need to do something) by making a special effort ▪ She couldn't *summon* [=*muster*] the strength/energy to finish the race. — often + *up* ▪ He finally *summoned up* the courage to ask her out on a date.
4 : to ask or order a group of people to come together for (a meeting) ▪ The president *summoned* [=*convened*] a meeting/conference.
summon up [*phrasal verb*] ***summon up (something)*** : to bring (a memory, feeling, image, etc.) into the mind ▪ Visiting his old house *summoned up* memories of his childhood. — see also SUMMON 3 (above)

[1]sum•mons /'sʌmənz/ *noun, pl* **-mons•es**
1 *law* : an official order to appear in a court of law [*count*] The judge issued a *summons*. ▪ He was served with a *summons* (to appear in court). [*noncount*] a writ/service of *summons* — compare SUBPOENA
2 [*count*] : an official order to appear at a particular place ▪ He received a royal *summons*.

[2]summons *verb* **-monses; -monsed; -mons•ing** [+ *obj*] *law* : to order (someone) to appear in a court of law : SUMMON — usually used as *(be) summonsed* ▪ She *was summonsed* to (appear in) court as a witness.

su•mo /'su:moʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a Japanese form of wrestling that is performed by very large men ▪ *sumo* wrestlers

sump /'sʌmp/ *noun, pl* **sumps** [*count*]
1 : a low part or area where liquid collects when it drains from something ▪ *sump* pits/trenches
2 *chiefly Brit* : OIL PAN

sump pump *noun, pl* ~ **pumps** [*count*] *US* : a pump that removes water from underneath a house or building

sump•tu•ous /'sʌmpʃəwəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very expensive, rich, or impressive ▪ a *sumptuous* banquet/dinner/feast ▪ *sumptuous* [=*luxurious*] hotels
– **sump•tu•ous•ly** *adv* ▪ a *sumptuously* furnished house
– **sump•tu•ous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *sumptuousness* of the dessert

sum total *noun*
the sum total : the whole amount : the entire total of something — usually + *of* ▪ *The sum total of* the payments will be $28,000. ▪ That's *the sum total of* what I know about cars. [=that's all I know about cars]

[1]sun /'sʌn/ *noun, pl* **suns**
1 a *the sun also the Sun* : the star that the Earth moves around and that gives the Earth heat and light ▪ The rain has stopped and *the sun* is shining. ▪ *The sun* rises in the east and sets in the west. ▪ *the* rising/setting *sun* ▪ the warmth of *the sun's* rays **b** [*count*] : any star that has planets which move around it ▪ They dream of traveling to distant *suns*.
2 [*noncount*] : the heat or light produced by the sun : sunshine or sunlight ▪ The plant needs full *sun*. [=it should not be in the shade] ▪ Try to keep out of the *sun*. ▪ The cat lay basking in the *sun*. ▪ I couldn't see because ***the sun was in my eyes***. [=the bright light of the sun was shining directly in my eyes] ▪ We went to the beach to ***get/catch some sun***. [=to spend time in the sunlight]
in the sun ✧ If someone or something has a ***day/moment/time, etc., in the sun***, that person or thing is popular or gets a lot of attention during a period of time. ▪ Organic foods are having their *moment in the sun*. ▪ The singer is still waiting for his *day in the sun*.
make hay (while the sun shines) see HAY
place in the sun : a very good, successful, or desirable position ▪ After years of struggling as an unknown actor, he has finally found his/a *place in the sun*.
under the sun : in the world — used to emphasize the large number of things that are being mentioned ▪ There is nothing *under the sun* [=nothing at all] that we cannot do. ▪ We talked about everything *under the sun*. ▪ She called me every name *under the sun*.

[2]sun *verb* **suns; sunned; sun•ning** : to sit or lie in the light of the sun especially in order to make your skin darker [*no obj*] He is *sunning* [=*sunbathing*] by the pool. [+ *obj*] People *sunned* themselves on the hillside.

Sun. *abbr* Sunday

sun–baked *adj*
1 : made very hard and dry by the heat of the sun ▪ bricks made out of *sun-baked* mud
2 : receiving a lot of heat and light from the sun ▪ sandy, *sun-baked* beaches

sun•bathe /'sʌnˌbeɪð/ *verb* **-bathes; -bathed; -bath•ing** [*no obj*] : to sit or lie in the light of the sun especially in order to make your skin darker ▪ She *sunbathes* every afternoon. ▪ People were *sunbathing* on the beach.
– **sun•bath•er** /'sʌnˌbeɪðɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

sun•beam /'sʌnˌbi:m/ *noun, pl* **-beams** [*count*] : a ray of sunlight

sun•bed /'sʌnˌbɛd/ *noun, pl* **-beds** [*count*]
1 *chiefly Brit* : TANNING BED
2 *Brit* : CHAISE LONGUE

Sun•belt /'sʌnˌbɛlt/ *noun*
the Sunbelt : the southern and southwestern states of the U.S. ▪ She moved to *the Sunbelt*.

sun•block /'sʌnˌblɑ:k/ *noun, pl* **-blocks** [*count, noncount*] : a lotion that you put on your skin to prevent sunburn by completely blocking out the sun's rays — compare SUNSCREEN

sun•burn /'sʌnˌbɚn/ *noun, pl* **-burns** : a condition in which your skin becomes sore and red from too much sunlight [*count*] He has a bad *sunburn*. [*noncount*] Use sunscreen to prevent *sunburn*.
– **sunburn** *verb* **-burns; -burned** /-ˌbɚnd/ *or* **-burnt** /-ˌbɚnt/; **-burn•ing** [*no obj*] *chiefly US* ▪ Her skin *sunburns* [=*burns*] easily. = She *sunburns* easily.

sunburned *also* **sunburnt** *adj*
1 : sore and red from too much sunlight : having a sunburn ▪ Her skin is badly *sunburned*. ▪ a *sunburned* nose
2 *Brit* : having attractive skin that has been turned darker by being in the sun ▪ a handsome, *sunburned* [=*tanned*] surfer

sun cream *noun, pl* ~ **creams** [*count, noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : a cream or lotion that you put on your skin to prevent sunburn

sun•dae /'sʌnˌdeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-daes** [*count*] : a dessert of ice cream that is topped with a sweet sauce, nuts, whipped cream, etc. ▪ a hot-fudge *sundae*



sundae

Sun•day /'sʌnˌdeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-days** : the day of the week between Saturday and Monday [*count*] She visited me last *Sunday*. ▪ What are you doing this/next *Sunday*? = What are you doing this coming *Sunday*? ▪ We go to church on *Sundays*. [=every Sunday] ▪ My birthday falls on a *Sunday* this year. ▪ (*Brit*) Next week I'll arrive on the Monday and leave on the *Sunday*. [*noncount*] Next week I'll arrive on Monday and leave on *Sunday*. ▪ I will leave on *Sunday* morning. ▪ the *Sunday* newspaper ▪ a *Sunday* brunch — abbr. *Sun.*

a month of Sundays see MONTH

– Sundays *adv* ▪ He works *Sundays*. [=he works every Sunday]

Sunday best *noun* [*noncount*] : your best clothing that you wear to church or on special occasions ▪ All the people at the concert were wearing their *Sunday best*.

Sunday school *noun* [*count, noncount*] : a school especially for children that is held on Sunday for religious education

sun•deck /'sʌnˌdɛk/ *noun, pl* **-decks** [*count*] : a deck on a ship or an outside area on a building where people can sit in the sun

sun•der /'sʌndɚ/ *verb* **-ders**; **-dered**; **-der•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal + literary* : to split apart (an organization, two people, etc.) especially in a violent way ▪ a family *sundered* by scandal — see also ASUNDER

sun•di•al /'sʌnˌdajəl/ *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] : a device that is used to show the time of day by the position of the sun and that consists of a plate with markings like a clock and an object with a straight edge that casts a shadow onto the plate

sun•down /'sʌnˌdaʊn/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : the time when the sun goes below the horizon : SUNSET ▪ Passover ends tomorrow at *sundown*.

sun–drenched *adj, always used before a noun* : receiving a lot of heat and light from the sun ▪ *sun-drenched* beaches/islands

sun•dress /'sʌnˌdrɛs/ *noun, pl* **-dress•es** [*count*] : a dress that is worn in warm weather and that does not cover the arms, shoulders, or neck

sun–dried *adj, always used before a noun* : dried by the heat of the sun ▪ *sun-dried* tomatoes

sun•dries /'sʌndriz/ *noun* [*plural*] *formal* : various small things that are not mentioned specifically ▪ pins, needles, and other *sundries*

sun•dry /'sʌndri/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : made up of different things ▪ *sundry* [=*various*] items ▪ for *sundry* reasons

all and sundry *formal* : every person ▪ It was clear to *all and sundry* [=*everyone, everybody*] that something was wrong.

sun•fish /'sʌnˌfɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **-fish** [*count*] : a large fish with a round body that lives in the sea — see color picture on page C8

sun•flow•er /'sʌnˌflawɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a tall plant that has very large yellow flowers and that produces seeds which can be eaten ▪ a row of *sunflowers* ▪ *sunflower* seeds/oil — see color picture on page C6

sung *past tense and past participle of* SING

sun•glass•es /'sʌnˌglæsəz, *Brit* 'sʌnˌglɑːsəz/ *noun* [*plural*] : glasses with dark lenses that protect the eyes from the sun ▪ a pair of *sunglasses* — called also (*informal*) *shades*

sun god *noun, pl* ~ **gods** [*count*] : a god that represents the sun in various religions

sun hat *noun, pl* ~ **hats** [*count*] : a hat that you wear to protect your head and neck from the sun

sunk *past tense and past participle of* [1]SINK

sunk•en /'sʌŋkən/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : completely covered with water : lying at the bottom of a sea, lake, etc. ▪ a *sunken* ship ▪ *sunken* treasure

2 : curving inward because of illness, age, etc. ▪ *sunken* [=*hollow*] cheeks ▪ Her eyes were *sunken* and lifeless.

3 *always used before a noun* : lying or built at a lower level than the surrounding area ▪ a *sunken* garden ▪ a *sunken* living room ▪ a *sunken* tub

sun–kissed *adj*

1 : SUNNY ▪ the *sun-kissed* beaches/shores of the Caribbean

2 *of a person's skin* : having an attractive color because of having been in the sun ▪ *sun-kissed* skin/faces ▪ a *sun-kissed* glow

sun•lamp /'sʌnˌlæmp/ *noun, pl* **-lamps** [*count*] : a special lamp that produces light similar to sunlight and that is used to make your skin darker or to treat illness

sun•less /'sʌnləs/ *adj* : having little light from the sun : not sunny ▪ a *sunless* room/day

sun•light /'sʌnˌlaɪt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the light of the sun : SUNSHINE ▪ the early morning *sunlight* ▪ *Sunlight* streamed through the windows. ▪ Avoid exposure to (bright/direct) *sunlight*.

sun•lit /'sʌnˌlɪt/ *adj* : lighted by the sun ▪ a *sunlit* room

sun lounge *noun, pl* ~ **lounges** [*count*] *Brit* : SUNROOM

sun lounger *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : a long chair that is used for sitting or lying outdoors

Sun•ni /'sʊni/ *noun, pl* **-nis** *or* **-ni**

1 [*noncount*] : one of the two main branches of Islam — compare SHIA

2 [*count*] : a Muslim who is a member of the Sunni branch of Islam — compare SHIITE

– Sunni *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ the *Sunni* faith/tradition ▪ *Sunni* Muslims/Arabs

sun•ny /'sʌni/ *adj* **sun•ni•er**; **-est**

1 : having plenty of bright sunlight ▪ a *sunny* room/day ▪ *sunny* weather ▪ the *sunniest* parts of the country ▪ We found a *sunny* place/spot to have lunch. ▪ If it's *sunny* later, we can go to the park.

2 : cheerful and happy ▪ a *sunny* smile/disposition

sun•ny–side up /ˌsʌniˌsaɪd'ʌp/ *adj, chiefly US, of an egg* : fried on one side only ▪ "I'd like my eggs *sunny-side up*."

sun protection factor *noun* [*noncount*] : SPF

sun•rise /'sʌnˌraɪz/ *noun, pl* **-rises**

1 [*noncount*] : the time when the sun appears above the horizon in the morning : dawn or daybreak ▪ We were up before/at *sunrise*. ▪ We worked ***from sunrise to sunset***

2 : the colors that are in the sky when the sun slowly appears above the horizon [*count*] a beautiful *sunrise* ▪ We watched the *sunrise* from the beach. [*noncount*] the pink light of *sunrise*

sun•roof /'sʌnˌruːf/ *noun, pl* **-roofs** [*count*] : a part of the roof of a car or truck that can be opened to let air and light in — see picture at CAR; compare MOONROOF

sun•room /'sʌnˌruːm/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] *US* : a room in a house that has a lot of windows and glass to let sunlight in — called also (*Brit*) *sun lounge*

sun•screen /'sʌnˌskriːn/ *noun, pl* **-screens** [*count, noncount*] : a lotion that you put on your skin to prevent sunburn by blocking out some of the sun's rays — compare SUNBLOCK

sun•set /'sʌnˌsɛt/ *noun, pl* **-sets**

1 [*noncount*] : the time when the sun goes below the horizon in the evening ▪ We arrived just before *sunset*. [=(*chiefly US*) *sundown*] ▪ Prayers begin at *sunset*. ▪ We worked ***from sunrise to sunset***

2 : the colors that are in the sky when the sun slowly goes below the horizon [*count*] a beautiful *sunset* [*noncount*] the golden light of *sunset*

sun•shade /'sʌnˌʃeɪd/ *noun, pl* **-shades** [*count*] : something (such as a parasol or awning) that blocks sunlight

sun•shine /'sʌnˌʃaɪn/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the sun's light or rays : warmth and light from the sun ▪ Today's forecast calls for *sunshine*. ▪ Let's go out and enjoy the *sunshine*!

2 *informal* : a feeling of happiness ▪ She was the kind of person who brought *sunshine* into people's lives. ▪ She was a ***ray of sunshine*** for her patients. [=she made her patients feel happier and more cheerful]

3 *Brit, informal* — used as a form of address that can be either friendly or rude ▪ "Hey, *sunshine*. What are you doing?"

sun•shiny /'sʌnˌʃaɪni/ *adj, US*

1 : bright with the sun's rays ▪ a *sunshiny* [=*sunny*] day

2 : full of happiness ▪ *sunshiny* songs ▪ the children's *sunshiny* [=*happy*] faces

sun•spot /'sʌnˌspɑːt/ *noun, pl* **-spots** [*count*] *astronomy* : a dark spot that sometimes appears on the surface of the sun

S

sun•stroke /'sʌnˌstroʊk/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a serious condition that happens when someone has been in the sun too long and that causes a person to stop sweating, have a very high body temperature, and become exhausted or unconscious — compare HEATSTROKE

sun•tan /'sʌnˌtæn/ *noun, pl* **-tans** [*count*] : a browning of the skin that is caused by the sun's rays ▪ She has a nice *suntan*. [=*tan*] ▪ *suntan* lotion
– **sun•tanned** /'sʌnˌtænd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *suntanned* bodies/faces – **sun•tan•ning** /'sʌnˌtænɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sun•up /'sʌnˌʌp/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : SUNRISE ▪ We will meet at *sunup*.

sun worshipper *noun, pl* ~ **-pers** [*count*] *informal* : someone who enjoys lying in the sun to get a suntan

[1]sup /'sʌp/ *verb* **sups**; **supped**; **sup•ping** [*no obj*] *old-fashioned* + *literary* : to eat dinner : DINE ▪ journalists *supping* with politicians ▪ They *supped* on local delicacies. — compare [2]SUP

[2]sup *verb* **sups**; **supped**; **supping** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to drink (a liquid) especially in small amounts ▪ He *supped* [=*sipped*] a glass of wine while waiting for his meal. — compare [1]SUP

[1]su•per /'su:pɚ/ *adj, informal* : extremely good ▪ She's a *super* cook. ▪ We had a *super* time. ▪ The party was *super*. ▪ "Yes, I'd love to come." "*Super*! I'll see you later."

[2]super *adv, US, informal* : very or extremely ▪ She's *super* nice/rich/smart. ▪ a *super* fast car

[3]super *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] *US, informal* : SUPERINTENDENT 3

super- *prefix*
1 : bigger, better, or more important than others of the same kind ▪ *super*human
2 : superior in position or rank ▪ a military *super*power

su•per•abun•dance /ˌsu:pɚrə'bʌndəns/ *noun* [*singular*] *formal* : a great or excessive amount *of* something ▪ a *superabundance of* wealth
– **su•per•abun•dant** /ˌsu:pɚrə'bʌndənt/ *adj* ▪ a *superabundant* supply

su•per•an•nu•at•ed /ˌsu:pɚ'ænjəˌweɪtəd/ *adj, formal* : old and therefore no longer very effective or useful ▪ a *superannuated* opera star ▪ *superannuated* [=*outdated*] software

su•per•an•nu•a•tion /ˌsu:pɚˌænjə'weɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : a type of pension that both the employee and the employer pay for ▪ an improved *superannuation* scheme

su•perb /sʊ'pɚb/ *adj* : extremely good : excellent or brilliant in a very noticeable way ▪ a *superb* example ▪ wines of *superb* quality ▪ They've done a *superb* job. ▪ The performance was absolutely *superb*.
– **su•perb•ly** *adv* ▪ a *superbly* gifted writer ▪ The defense played *superbly*.

Super Bowl *service mark* — used for the annual championship game of the National Football League

su•per•charged /'su:pɚˌʧɑɚʤd/ *adj*
1 : supplied with air or fuel at a higher pressure than normal to increase power ▪ a *supercharged* engine
2 *informal* : filled with energy, tension, or emotion ▪ a *supercharged* atmosphere

su•per•cil•ious /ˌsu:pɚ'sɪlijəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* + *disapproving* : having or showing the proud and unpleasant attitude of people who think that they are better or more important than other people ▪ a *supercilious* professor ▪ a *supercilious* tone/attitude ▪ *supercilious* behavior
– **su•per•cil•ious•ly** *adv* ▪ He glanced at her and smiled *superciliously*. – **su•per•cil•ious•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

su•per•com•put•er /'su:pɚkəmˌpju:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a large and very fast computer

su•per•con•duc•tiv•i•ty /ˌsu:pɚˌkɑ:nˌdʌk'tɪvəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : the ability of something (such as a metal) to allow electricity to flow through it easily especially at very low temperatures

su•per•con•duc•tor /ˌsu:pɚkən'dʌktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] *technical* : a material or object that allows electricity to flow through it easily at very low temperatures

su•per•ego /ˌsu:pɚ'i:goʊ/ *noun, pl* **-egos** [*count*] *psychology* : a part of a person's mind that relates to attitudes about what is right and wrong and to feelings of guilt — compare EGO, ID

su•per•fi•cial /ˌsu:pɚ'fɪʃəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : concerned only with what is obvious or apparent : not thorough or complete ▪ a *superficial* analysis of the results/data ▪ They had a *superficial* knowledge/understanding of the topic. ▪ These *superficial* changes/solutions don't address the underlying problem.
2 a : affecting only the outer part or surface of something : not deep or serious ▪ *superficial* wounds/cuts ▪ The storm only caused *superficial* damage to the building. **b** : lying close to the surface ▪ *superficial* veins
3 — used to describe a quality, characteristic, etc., that can be seen in the outward appearance or manner of something or someone but that is not deep or genuine ▪ Despite a *superficial* resemblance, the paintings are by two different artists. ▪ These similarities/differences are only *superficial*. ▪ Don't be deceived by his *superficial* charm. ▪ ***On a superficial level***, his theory works, but the facts don't support it.
4 *disapproving* : not caring about or involving important matters or deep emotions ▪ He thinks she's vain and *superficial*. [=*shallow*] ▪ I'm not interested in *superficial* relationships.
– **su•per•fi•ci•al•i•ty** /ˌsu:pɚˌfɪʃi'æləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *superficiality* of pop culture – **su•per•fi•cial•ly** /ˌsu:pɚ'fɪʃəli/ *adv* ▪ *Superficially*, at least, the two paintings are similar.

su•per•fine /ˌsu:pɚ'faɪn/ *adj, chiefly US* : extremely fine: such as **a** : extremely thin ▪ *superfine* wire **b** : made up of extremely small pieces ▪ *superfine* sugar **c** : of very high quality ▪ *superfine* wool

su•per•flu•i•ty /ˌsu:pɚ'flu:wəti/ *noun* [*singular*] *formal* : more of something than is needed ▪ a *superfluity* of volunteers

su•per•flu•ous /sʊ'pɚfluwəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : beyond what is needed : not necessary ▪ a *superfluous* word/detail ▪ Further discussion seemed *superfluous*.
– **su•per•flu•ous•ly** *adv*

su•per•glue /'su:pɚˌglu:/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a very strong glue

su•per•grass /'su:pɚˌgræs, *Brit* 'su:pəˌgrɑ:s/ *noun, pl* **-grass•es** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a criminal who gives information to the police about a large number of other criminals

su•per•he•ro /'su:pɚˌhiroʊ/ *noun, pl* **-roes** [*count*]
1 : a fictional character who has amazing powers (such as the ability to fly) ▪ comic-book *superheroes*
2 : a very heroic person ▪ The people who do this dangerous work are real-life *superheroes* who deserve our gratitude.

su•per•high•way /ˌsu:pɚ'haɪˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways** [*count*] *US* : a large and wide highway used for traveling at high speeds over long distances

su•per•hu•man /ˌsu:pɚ'hju:mən/ *adj* : greater than normal human power, size, or ability ▪ The character in the film acquires *superhuman* powers. ▪ *superhuman* strength/courage ▪ tales of *superhuman* feats ▪ It will take a *superhuman* effort for them to win the championship.

su•per•im•pose /ˌsu:pɚɪm'poʊz/ *verb* **-pos•es**; **-posed**; **-pos•ing** [+ *obj*] : to place or lay (something) over something else ▪ A triangle *superimposed* on an inverted triangle forms a six-pointed star. ▪ *superimposed* images — often used figuratively ▪ a Shakespearean play *superimposed* upon a modern setting ▪ We should not try to *superimpose* our values on other cultures. [=should not try to make other cultures accept/adopt our values]
– **su•per•im•po•si•tion** /ˌsu:pɚˌɪmpə'zɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *superimposition* of two images

su•per•in•tend /ˌsu:pɚɪn'tɛnd/ *verb* **-tends**; **-tend•ed**; **-tend•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to direct or manage (something, such as a project or activity) ▪ A licensed contractor will *superintend* [=*supervise*] the work.
– **su•per•in•ten•dence** /ˌsu:pɚɪn'tɛndəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Decisions will be made under the *superintendence* [=*supervision*] of the board of directors.

su•per•in•ten•dent /ˌsu:pɚɪn'tɛndənt/ *noun, pl* **-dents** [*count*]
1 : a person who directs or manages a place, department, organization, etc. ▪ (*US*) Our district *superintendent* (of schools) is retiring soon. ▪ a park *superintendent*
2 : a high rank in a police department or a person who has this rank
3 *US* : a person who is in charge of cleaning, maintaining, and repairing a building — called also (*informal*) *super*

[1]su•pe•ri•or /sʊ'pirijɚ/ *adj*
1 a : of high quality : high or higher in quality ▪ *superior* products/results ▪ a *superior* wine = a wine of *superior* quality ▪ This new model offers *superior* performance. — often + *to* ▪ The new model is (vastly/far) *superior to* the old one. **b**

: great or greater in amount, number, or degree ▪ her *superior* strength/intelligence ▪ The small army was overwhelmed by *superior* numbers.

2 *disapproving* **a** : better than other people ▪ He only helps us because it makes him feel *superior*. — often + *to* ▪ He thinks he's *superior to* everyone else. **b** : having or showing the attitude of people who think that they are better or more important than other people : ARROGANT ▪ a *superior* manner/tone

3 *always used before a noun* : high or higher in rank ▪ Report to your *superior* officer. ▪ The verdict was reversed by a *superior* court. — compare SUBORDINATE

²superior *noun, pl* **-ors** [*count*] : a person of higher rank or status than another ▪ His *superior* gave him an excellent evaluation. ▪ You should report any problems to your ***immediate superior***. — compare SUBORDINATE; see also MOTHER SUPERIOR

su•pe•ri•or•i•ty /suˌpiriˈorəti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the quality or state of being high or higher in quality — often + *of* or *over* ▪ The *superiority of* our product is obvious. ▪ one product's *superiority over* another

2 : the belief that you are better than other people ▪ His success has given him a false sense of *superiority*. ▪ an irritating ***air of superiority*** [=an arrogant way of behaving]

3 : the quality or state of being larger, stronger, etc., than others ▪ the country's technological/economic *superiority* ▪ To win this war, we must achieve ***air superiority***. [=we must have a larger/better air force than our enemies]

¹su•per•la•tive /suˈpərlətɪv/ *adj*

1 *grammar* : of or relating to the form of an adjective or adverb that is used to indicate the greatest degree of a particular quality ▪ The *superlative* form of "nice" is "nicest"; the *superlative* form of "bad" is "worst"; the *superlative* form of "interesting" is "most interesting." — compare COMPARATIVE

2 *somewhat formal* : of very high quality ▪ *superlative* [=*excellent*] work ▪ a *superlative* performance

– **su•per•la•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ He's *superlatively* qualified. ▪ They performed *superlatively* (well).

²superlative *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] *grammar* : the form of an adjective or adverb that is used to indicate the greatest degree of a particular quality : the superlative form of an adjective or adverb ▪ "Simplest" is the *superlative* of "simple." — compare COMPARATIVE

su•per•man /ˈsuːpəˌmæn/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-ˌmɛn/ [*count*] : a man who is very strong, successful, etc. — compare SUPERWOMAN

su•per•mar•ket /ˈsuːpəˌmɑəkət/ *noun, pl* **-kets** [*count*] : a store where customers can buy a variety of foods and usually household items ▪ I made a quick trip to the *supermarket*. [=(*chiefly US*) *grocery store*] ▪ a *supermarket* chain ▪ *supermarket* coupons — compare SUPERSTORE

su•per•mod•el /ˈsuːpəˌmɑːdl̩/ *noun, pl* **-els** [*count*] : a very famous and successful fashion model

su•per•mom /ˈsuːpəˌmɑːm/ *noun, pl* **-moms** [*count*] *US, informal* : a woman who raises a child and takes care of a home while also having a full-time job

su•per•nat•u•ral /ˌsuːpəˈnætʃərəl/ *adj* : unable to be explained by science or the laws of nature : of, relating to, or seeming to come from magic, a god, etc. ▪ *supernatural* powers/phenomena/beings

the supernatural : things that cannot be explained by science and seem to involve ghosts, spirits, magic, etc. ▪ their belief in *the supernatural*

su•per•no•va /ˌsuːpəˈnoʊvə/ *noun, pl* **-vas** *or* **-vae** /-ˈnoʊvi/ [*count*] *astronomy* : the explosion of a star that causes the star to become extremely bright

su•per•pow•er /ˈsuːpəˌpawəɹ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : an extremely powerful nation ▪ economic/military *superpowers*

su•per•script /ˈsuːpəˌskrɪpt/ *noun, pl* **-scripts** [*count*] : a symbol (such as a number or letter) written above and immediately to the left or right of another character

– **superscript** *adj* ▪ *superscript* characters/letters

su•per•sede /ˌsuːpəˈsiːd/ *verb* **-sedes**; **-sed•ed**; **-sed•ing** [+ *obj*] : to take the place of (someone or something that is old, no longer useful, etc.) : to replace (someone or something) ▪ This edition *supersedes* the previous one. ▪ Former stars were being *superseded* by younger actors.

su•per•size /ˈsuːpəˌsaɪz/ *verb* **-siz•es**; **-sized**; **-siz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a serving of food in a fast food restaurant) very large ▪ "I'll have the combo meal." "Would you like to *supersize* it?"

– **supersize** *or* **supersized** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *supersize* meal/drink ▪ *supersized* houses/cars

su•per•son•ic /ˌsuːpəˈsɑːnɪk/ *adj* : faster than the speed of sound ▪ a *supersonic* airplane

– **su•per•son•i•cal•ly** /ˌsuːpəˈsɑːnɪkli/ *adv*

su•per•star /ˈsuːpəˌstɑəɹ/ *noun, pl* **-stars** [*count*] : an extremely famous and successful performer, athlete, etc. ▪ a Hollywood *superstar* ▪ a football *superstar*

su•per•sti•tion /ˌsuːpəˈstɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : a belief or way of behaving that is based on fear of the unknown and faith in magic or luck : a belief that certain events or things will bring good or bad luck [*count*] It is a common *superstition* that a black cat crossing your path is bad luck. [*noncount*] tales of *superstition*, witchcraft, and magic

su•per•sti•tious /ˌsuːpəˈstɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : of, relating to, or influenced by superstition ▪ *superstitious* practices/beliefs ▪ He's very *superstitious* and won't pitch without his lucky mitt.

– **su•per•sti•tious•ly** *adv*

su•per•store /ˈsuːpəˌstoəɹ/ *noun, pl* **-stores** [*count*] : a very large store that sells a wide variety of goods ▪ an electronics *superstore* [=*megastore*] — compare SUPERMARKET

su•per•struc•ture /ˈsuːpəˌstrʌkʧəɹ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** [*count*] : the part of a structure (such as a ship or bridge) that is above the lowest part — compare SUBSTRUCTURE

su•per•tank•er /ˈsuːpəˌtæŋkəɹ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a very large ship that has tanks for carrying large amounts of liquid ▪ an oil *supertanker*

su•per•vene /ˌsuːpəˈviːn/ *verb* **-venes**; **-vened**; **-ven•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to happen unexpectedly in a way that interrupts, stops, or greatly changes an existing situation ▪ a *supervening* event ▪ They had a quiet, happy life until the war *supervened*.

su•per•vise /ˈsuːpəˌvaɪz/ *verb* **-vis•es**; **-vised**; **-vis•ing** [+ *obj*] : to be in charge of (someone or something) : to watch and direct (someone or something) ▪ The builder *supervised* the construction of the house. ▪ She *supervises* a staff of 30 workers. ▪ a *supervised* study period

su•per•vi•sion /ˌsuːpəˈvɪʒən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the action or process of watching and directing what someone does or how something is done : the action or process of supervising someone or something ▪ Young children need constant *supervision*. ▪ Parental *supervision* is recommended. ▪ She's responsible for the *supervision* of a large staff. ▪ The medication should be taken ***under*** a doctor's ***supervision***. = The medication should be taken ***under the supervision of*** a doctor.

su•per•vi•sor /ˈsuːpəˌvaɪzəɹ/ *noun, pl* **-sors** [*count*] : a person who supervises someone or something ▪ The *supervisor* fired him after he showed up at work drunk. ▪ If you have a problem, go to your *supervisor*. ▪ an office/plant *supervisor*

– **su•per•vi•so•ry** /ˌsuːpəˈvaɪzəri/ *adj* ▪ He took on a *supervisory* role in the company. ▪ *supervisory* personnel ▪ candidates with *supervisory* experience

su•per•wom•an /ˈsuːpəˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom•en** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who is very strong, successful, etc.; *especially* : a woman who has both a successful career and a family — compare SUPERMAN

su•pine /ˈsuːˌpaɪn/ *adj, formal*

1 : lying on your back with your face upward ▪ a *supine* position ▪ He was lying *supine* on the couch. — compare PRONE

2 *disapproving* : willing to be controlled by others : weak or passive ▪ a *supine* attitude ▪ a *supine* legislature that is afraid to take action

sup•per /ˈsʌpəɹ/ *noun, pl* **-pers**

1 : the evening meal — used especially to refer to an informal meal that you eat at home [*count*] I always enjoyed our Sunday night *suppers*. [*noncount*] It's almost time for *supper*. ▪ We had *supper* together. ▪ We took a walk after *supper*. ▪ I had too much wine at *supper*. ▪ He didn't come home for *supper*.

2 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a social event especially for raising money that takes place in the evening and includes a meal ▪ a church *supper*

3 [*count, noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : a light meal or snack that is eaten late in the evening

sup•per•time /ˈsʌpəˌtaɪm/ *noun, pl* **-times** : the usual time for supper [*noncount*] The doorbell rang right at *suppertime*. [*count*] When is your *suppertime*?

sup•plant /səˈplænt/ *verb* **-plants**; **-plant•ed**; **-plant•ing** [+ *obj*] : to take the place of (someone or something that is old or no longer used or accepted) ▪ DVDs have *supplanted* videos. — often used as *(be) supplanted* ▪ Videos have *been*

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supplanted by DVDs. ▪ Older workers are *being supplanted* by recent college graduates.

sup•ple /'sʌpəl/ *adj* **sup•pler** /'sʌpələ/; **-plest** /-pələst/ [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 *of a body or body part* : able to bend or twist easily ▪ a *supple* body ▪ her long, *supple* limbs ▪ Stretching helped to keep him *supple*. [=*limber*]
2 : soft and able to bend or fold easily ▪ *supple* leather/skin — opposite STIFF
– **sup•ple•ness** /'sʌpəlnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]sup•ple•ment /'sʌpləmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*]
1 : something that is added to something else in order to make it complete ▪ dietary/vitamin *supplements*
2 : an extra part that is added to a book or newspaper ▪ an advertising/literary *supplement* ▪ the *supplement* to the encyclopedia
3 *Brit* : an amount of money that must be paid in addition to the regular price ▪ First-class accommodation is available for a *supplement*.

[2]sup•ple•ment /'sʌplə,mɛnt/ *verb* **-ments**; **-ment•ed**; **-ment•ing** [+ *obj*] : to add something to (something) in order to make it complete ▪ He sells his paintings to *supplement* his income. = He *supplements* his income by selling his paintings. ▪ She began *supplementing* her diet with vitamins.
– **sup•ple•men•ta•tion** /,sʌplə,mɛn'teɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sup•ple•men•tal /,sʌplə'mɛntl/ *adj, chiefly US* : added to something else to make it complete ▪ She receives a *supplemental* income every month from the government. ▪ *supplemental* information

sup•ple•men•ta•ry /,sʌplə'mɛntəri/ *adj* : SUPPLEMENTAL ▪ a list of *supplementary* material/readings for the class

sup•pli•ant /'sʌplijənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count*] *formal* : SUPPLICANT
– **suppliant** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *suppliant* tone

sup•pli•cant /'sʌplɪkənt/ *noun, pl* **-cants** [*count*] *formal* : a person who asks for something in a respectful way from a powerful person or God ▪ a humble *supplicant*

sup•pli•ca•tion /,sʌplə'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal* : an act of asking for something in a respectful way [*count*] their prayers and *supplications* to God [*noncount*] They knelt ***in supplication*** before the king.

sup•pli•er /sə'plajə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or company that supplies goods or services ▪ food/drug/paper *suppliers* ▪ They are the biggest *supplier* of books in the area.

[1]sup•ply /sə'plaɪ/ *noun, pl* **-plies**
1 : the amount of something that is available to be used [*count*] the nation's food/oil *supply* ▪ adequate/sufficient *supplies* of fresh water ▪ He bought a month's *supply* of cigarettes. [*noncount*] Doctors are ***in short supply***. [=there are not enough doctors] — see also MONEY SUPPLY
2 ***supplies*** [*plural*] : things (such as food, equipment, fuel, etc.) that are needed for a particular purpose and that will be used by a particular person or group ▪ They took a month's worth of *supplies* on the camping trip. ▪ The town is in need of basic medical *supplies*. ▪ a store that sells art/office/cleaning *supplies*
3 [*noncount*] : the process or system by which something is provided to a person, place, etc. ▪ The state is trying to disrupt the *supply* of illegal drugs. ▪ The storm interrupted the town's electricity *supply*.
4 [*noncount*] : the quantities of goods or services that are offered for sale at a particular time or at one price ▪ When demand increases, will *supply* increase, too? — see also SUPPLY AND DEMAND

[2]supply *verb* **-plies**; **-plied**; **-ply•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) available to be used : to provide someone or something with (something that is needed or wanted) ▪ The company *supplied* the necessary money. ▪ You'll have to *supply* your own food. — often + *to* ▪ He *supplied* the information *to* us. — often + *with* ▪ The company *supplied* us *with* the necessary money. ▪ He kept us *supplied with* the latest news.

supply and demand *noun* [*noncount*] : the amount of goods and services that are available for people to buy compared to the amount of goods and services that people want to buy ▪ If the company produces less of a product than the public wants, the ***law of supply and demand*** says that the company can charge more for the product.

supply line *noun, pl* **~ lines** [*count*] : the route that is used to deliver food, equipment, etc., to soldiers during a war ▪ enemy *supply lines*

supply–side economics *noun* [*noncount*] *economics* : a theory that reducing taxes especially for rich people will lead to an improved economy

supply teacher *noun, pl* **~ -ers** [*count*] *Brit* : SUBSTITUTE TEACHER

[1]sup•port /sə'poɚt/ *verb* **-ports**; **-port•ed**; **-port•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to agree with or approve of (someone or something) ▪ I completely *support* your decision to stay. ▪ She no longer *supports* the war. ▪ The senator says that he *supports* the proposed legislation. ▪ Which presidential candidate do you *support*? ▪ The study is *supported* by the American Medical Association. **b** : to show that you approve of (someone or something) by doing something ▪ The country's citizens were asked to *support* the war effort. ▪ Her friends *supported* her by signing her petition.
2 a : to give help or assistance to (someone or something) ▪ The charity *supports* needy families. ▪ Bombers were called in to *support* the ground troops. **b** : to provide what is needed by (someone or something) ▪ The planet's atmosphere cannot *support* human life. ▪ This computer does not *support* that software. [=you cannot use that software on this computer] **c** : to provide the money that is needed by or for (someone or something) ▪ He works two jobs to *support* his family. ▪ She has two children to *support*. ▪ We *support* the charity by making annual donations. ▪ The foundation *supports* cancer research. ▪ The theater is *supported* by donations. ▪ She sold illegal drugs to *support* her own drug habit.
3 : to hold (something or someone) up : to stop (something or someone) from falling down ▪ Thick cables help *support* the bridge. ▪ The roof is *supported* by thick wooden pillars throughout the house. ▪ She *supported* herself on my arm as we walked together. ▪ He *supports* himself with a cane.
4 : to provide evidence for (something) : to help show that (something) is true ▪ His alibi is *supported* by his neighbors. ▪ The results of the study *support* her theory. ▪ Their claims are not *supported* by the evidence.
5 *chiefly Brit* : to be a fan of (a sports team) ▪ She *supports* both teams.

[2]support *noun, pl* **-ports**
1 [*noncount*] : the act of showing that you believe that someone or something is good or acceptable : approval of someone or something ▪ The proposal has had little public *support*. [=few people have supported the proposal] ▪ The team gets a lot of *support* from its fans. ▪ The candidate is gaining *support* among young voters. [=many more young voters say they will vote for the candidate] — often + *for* ▪ There isn't much *support for* the proposal. ▪ You can show your *support for* our cause by wearing one of these red ribbons.
2 [*noncount*] **a** : the act of helping someone by giving love, encouragement, etc. ▪ I'd like to thank my parents for all of their love and *support* over the years. ▪ He depended on his wife for emotional *support*. ▪ We all came along to give her ***moral support***. [=to give her encouragement] **b** : help that is given in the form of money or other valuable things ▪ He applied for financial *support* from the state. ▪ They had no ***means of support*** [=source of income] after they lost their farm. — see also CHILD SUPPORT **c** : the act of helping someone by giving information or services ▪ She was having trouble connecting to the Internet, so she called ***technical/tech support*** [=a department or person that helps people with computer problems] for assistance. ▪ the company's friendly ***support staff***
3 a [*count*] : something that holds a person or thing up and stops that person or thing from falling down ▪ Inspectors found that some of the bridge's *supports* were weak. ▪ She *used* my arm as a *support* and limped to the chair. **b** [*noncount*] : the act of holding something up ▪ These sneakers are designed to give your feet extra *support*. — often used after *for* ▪ He grabbed the railing *for support*.
4 [*noncount*] : evidence which shows that something is true ▪ The results of the study give further *support* to the hypothesis. ▪ The police continue to gather *support* for their case.
in support of **1** : in a way that shows approval of (something) : in favor of (something) ▪ A majority voted *in support of* the bill. **2** : in order to support (something) ▪ He presented evidence *in support of* his hypothesis. [=evidence that helps to prove his hypothesis] ▪ The band is touring *in support of* their latest album. [=to help promote their latest album]
– see also LIFE SUPPORT

sup•port•er /sə'poɚtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a person who supports an idea, a politician, a cause, etc. ▪ the proposal's *supporters* ▪ the President's *supporters* ▪ a *supporter* of the Independent party

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2 : a fan of a sports team ▪ the team's loyal *supporters*
– see also ATHLETIC SUPPORTER

support group *noun, pl* ~ **groups** [*count*] : a group of people who have similar experiences and concerns and who meet in order to provide emotional help, advice, and encouragement for one another ▪ He joined an alcoholics' *support group*.

supporting *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : having a less important part than the main actor or actress ▪ She won the award for best *supporting* actress. ▪ He has a *supporting* role in the movie.
2 : holding something up : keeping something from falling down ▪ the house's *supporting* beams/walls
3 : showing that something is true ▪ There is no *supporting* evidence for her claim. [=there is no evidence that supports her claim]
– see also SELF-SUPPORTING

sup•port•ive /sə'poɚtɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : giving help or encouragement to someone ▪ She has very *supportive* parents. ▪ Try to be more *supportive* of your teammates.

support system *noun, pl* ~ **-tems** [*count*] : a group of people who give someone help, money, encouragement, etc. ▪ students who have good *support systems* at home

sup•pose /sə'poʊz/ *verb* **-pos•es**; **-posed**; **-pos•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to think of (something) as happening or being true in order to imagine what might happen ▪ *Suppose* a fire broke out. How would we escape? ▪ Just *suppose* for a moment that you agreed with me. ▪ *Supposing* he refuses to help, what do we do then?
2 a : to believe (something) to be true ▪ The renovations will cost much more than we originally *supposed*. ▪ Who do you *suppose* [=*think*] will win? **b :** to believe (something) to be possible — usually used following the pronoun *I* ▪ *I suppose* [=(*chiefly US*) *I guess*] you're right. ▪ *I suppose* that could happen, but it's not likely. ▪ You could say, *I suppose*, that he was not ready for marriage. ▪ "Do you *suppose* it's true?" "Yes, *I suppose* it is." ✧ In responding to a question, the phrase ***I suppose (so)*** is used as a way of agreeing or saying "yes" when you are not certain or not very excited or interested. ▪ "The pink one is prettier, isn't it?" "*I suppose*." ▪ "Do you want to come along?" "*I suppose so*." ✧ The phrase ***I suppose not*** is used as an informal way of agreeing with a negative statement or of saying "no." ▪ "That wasn't a very smart thing to do, was it?" "*I suppose not*."
3 — used to ask a question in a polite way ▪ Do you *suppose* you could help me make dinner? = ***I don't suppose*** you could help me make dinner? [=could you help me make dinner?] ▪ *I don't suppose* you found the keys, did you? [=did you find the keys?]

be supposed **1 a :** to be expected *to do* something ▪ They *are supposed to arrive* tomorrow. ▪ She *was supposed to be* here an hour ago. ▪ The movie *was supposed to earn* a lot of money at the box office, but it didn't. **b :** to be intended or expected *to be* (something) ▪ The party *was supposed to be* a surprise. **c** — used to show that you are angry or offended by something; followed by *to + verb* ▪ *Was* that *supposed to be* funny? I thought it was quite rude. ▪ "Well, you've done it again." "***What's that supposed to mean***?" [=what do you mean by that comment?] **2 a** — used to say what someone should do; followed by *to + verb* ▪ You *are supposed to listen* to your parents. ▪ I'*m supposed to clean* my room before I go outside. ▪ What *are* we *supposed to do* [=what should/can we do] in a situation like this? ▪ Do what you'*re supposed to*. **b** — used to say what someone is allowed to do; followed by *to + verb* ▪ We *were* not *supposed to leave* the room. ▪ *Are* you *supposed to be* here after the building has closed? **3** — used to indicate what people say about someone or something; followed by *to + verb* ▪ She *is supposed to be* the best doctor in town. [=people say that she's the best doctor in town] ▪ That breed of dog *is supposed to be* good with kids. ▪ The word *is supposed to be* derived from Latin.

sup•posed /sə'poʊzəd/ *adj, always used before a noun* : claimed to be true or real — used to say that a particular description is probably not true or real even though many people believe that it is ▪ a *supposed* cure for cancer ▪ *supposed* experts

sup•pos•ed•ly /sə'poʊzədli/ *adv* : according to what someone has said or what is generally believed to be true or real ▪ These detergents are *supposedly* better for the environment. ▪ He has *supposedly* changed since then, but I'm doubtful that he really has. ▪ *Supposedly*, she left a message on my answering machine. I never actually got it.

sup•po•si•tion /ˌsʌpə'zɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : an idea or theory that you believe is true even though you do not have proof [*count*] an idle *supposition* [=*assumption*] ▪ a *supposition* that proved correct ▪ Her decision was made ***on the supposition that*** we would all agree. [=when she made her decision she supposed/assumed that we would all agree] [*noncount*] This is just idle *supposition*.

sup•pos•i•to•ry /sə'pɑːzəˌtori, *Brit* sə'pɒzətri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *medical* : a small piece of solid medicine that is placed in the rectum or vagina and left there to dissolve

sup•press /sə'prɛs/ *verb* **-press•es**; **-pressed**; **-pressing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to end or stop (something) by force ▪ Political dissent was brutally *suppressed*. ▪ *suppressing* a rebellion
2 : to keep (something) secret : to not allow people to know about or see (something) ▪ The governor tried to *suppress* the news. ▪ The judge may decide to *suppress* the evidence. [=to not allow the evidence to be used at a trial] ▪ She ordered the magazine (to be) *suppressed*.
3 a : to not allow yourself to feel, show, or be affected by (an emotion) ▪ He struggled to *suppress* his feelings of jealousy. ▪ She could not *suppress* her anger. ▪ I had to *suppress* an urge to tell him what I really thought. **b :** to stop yourself from doing something (such as smiling, coughing, or laughing) that might bother other people ▪ I found it hard to *suppress* a smile [=to keep myself from smiling] when he told me about what happened. ▪ She tried to *suppress* a cough/laugh. [=she tried not to cough/laugh]
4 : to slow or stop the growth, development, or normal functioning of (something) ▪ a drug that *suppresses* the immune system ▪ The pill works by *suppressing* your appetite.
– **sup•pres•sion** /sə'prɛʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ political *suppression* ▪ the *suppression* of evidence ▪ the *suppression* of your emotions ▪ appetite *suppression*

sup•pres•sant /sə'prɛsn̩t/ *noun, pl* **-sants** [*count*] : a drug that prevents or controls something ▪ cough *suppressants* ▪ an appetite *suppressant*

su•pra•na•tion•al /ˌsuːprə'næʃənl/ *adj, formal* : involving more than one country ▪ a *supranational* treaty

su•prem•a•cist /sə'prɛməsɪst/ *noun, pl* **-cists** [*count*] : a person who believes that one group of people is better than all other groups and should have control over them ▪ racial/religious/cultural *supremacists* ▪ a *supremacist* group/organization — see also WHITE SUPREMACIST

su•prem•a•cy /sə'prɛməsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality or state of having more power, authority, or status than anyone else : the state of being supreme ▪ military/economic *supremacy* ▪ a battle/struggle for *supremacy*

su•preme /sə'priːm/ *adj*
1 : highest in rank or authority ▪ NATO's *supreme* commander ▪ She ***reigns supreme*** [=is the best] in the world of tennis.
2 : highest in degree or quality : greatest or highest possible ▪ The board has *supreme* authority over such issues. ▪ She has an air of *supreme* confidence about her. ▪ the *supreme* example of what not to do ▪ a problem of *supreme* importance ▪ It's a matter of *supreme* indifference to her. ▪ He made ***the supreme sacrifice*** [=he died] for his country.
– **su•preme•ly** *adv* ▪ *supremely* [=*extremely*] confident/indifferent/imaginative ▪ *supremely* boring/unimportant

Supreme Being *noun*
the Supreme Being *literary* : GOD 1

supreme court *or* **Supreme Court** *noun* [*singular*] : the highest court of law in a country or U.S. state ▪ *Supreme Court* justices/decisions ▪ The case went all the way to ***the (U.S.) Supreme Court***.

su•pre•mo /sə'priːmoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-mos** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a person who has the most authority or power in a particular activity ▪ drug *supremos* ▪ a banking *supremo*

Supt. (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **Supt** *abbr* superintendent

sur•charge /'sɚˌʧɑɚʤ/ *noun, pl* **-charg•es** [*count*] : an amount of money that must be paid in addition to the regular price ▪ The airline has added a $20 fuel *surcharge* on all international flights.

[1]sure /'ʃɚ, *Brit* 'ʃɔː/ *adj* **sur•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *not used before a noun* : not having any doubt about something : convinced or certain ▪ I am *sure* (that) everything will be fine. ▪ We are quite/completely *sure* (that) we will be finished on time. ▪ She's not *sure* who will be there. ▪ Are you *sure* you want to go? ▪ Are you *sure* about that? ▪ She'll be there, I'm *sure* of it. ▪ Are you *sure* of the results?

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2 : not allowing any doubt or possibility of failure ▪ The return of the robins is a *sure* sign of spring. ▪ The letter is a *sure* indication that she cares. ▪ Pizza is a *sure* crowd pleaser. ▪ The *surest* way to lose weight is with diet and exercise. ▪ One *sure* way to improve your health is to stop smoking. ▪ He's a ***sure bet*** to receive the award. [=he's sure/certain to receive the award] ▪ It's a ***sure thing*** that they'll win. [=it is certain that they'll win] ▪ Flowers and chocolates are always *sure things* [=people always like to be given flowers and chocolates], but consider giving your wife something different this year. — see also SURE THING (below)

3 — used to say that something will definitely happen or that someone will definitely do something; usually followed by *to + verb* ▪ It's *sure to be* a great party. ▪ I'll be *sure to call* when I get home. ▪ They are *sure to win*. ▪ Her latest movie is *sure to make* you laugh. ▪ Whatever you say, he's *sure to disagree* with you.

4 : known to be true or correct ▪ What is *sure* [=*definite*, *indisputable*] is that they have a problem, and we have the means to fix it. ▪ Nothing else is *sure*. ▪ ***One thing is (for) sure***, we'll never eat there again. [=we certainly will never eat there again]

5 a : firm or solid ▪ a *sure* hold/grip ▪ a hiking boot that provides *sure* footing [=that helps to keep your foot from slipping] — often used figuratively ▪ He lacks a *sure* grasp of the issue. [=he does not understand the issue well] ▪ She has a *sure* command of the French language. **b** : calm, steady, and confident ▪ the *sure* hands of a surgeon

be sure — used to tell someone not to forget *to do* something ▪ *Be sure to lock* the door when you leave.

for sure : without a doubt : definitely or certainly ▪ No one knows *for sure* [=*for certain*] what happened. ▪ That was a mistake *for sure*. = That *for sure* was a mistake. ▪ (*US, informal*) "Do you want to come to the party?" "*For sure*." [=I certainly do] ▪ "We don't want that to happen again." "***That's for sure***!" [=that is certainly true]

make sure : to find out or do something so that you have no doubt about whether something is true, correct, will happen, etc. ▪ *Make sure* (that) you turn the oven off. ▪ Remember to *make sure* (that) all the doors are locked. ▪ They *made sure* everyone knew where they were supposed to be. ▪ *Make sure* it doesn't happen again.

sure of yourself **1** : confident in your abilities ▪ He was never very *sure of himself* as a comedian. **2** *somewhat disapproving* : overly confident or arrogant ▪ They seem awfully *sure of themselves*.

sure thing *informal* — used to say "yes" or to agree to a request or suggestion ▪ "Can you be here in five minutes?" "*Sure thing*." — see also [1]SURE 2 (above)

to be sure *formal* — used to say that you admit that something is true ▪ It will be challenging, *to be sure*, but I am confident that we will succeed.

[2]sure *adv, informal*

1 a — used to say "yes" or to agree to a request or suggestion ▪ "Can you help me with this?" "*Sure*." [=*certainly*] **b** — used to disagree with a negative statement or suggestion ▪ "I don't think he's coming." "*Sure* he is. He's just a little late." ▪ "Don't you like popcorn?" "*Sure* I like popcorn. I just don't want any right now."

2 — used to emphasize that you agree with the first part of the statement that you are about to make ▪ *Sure*, she's very talented, but other factors could limit her success.

3 *US* — used as an informal way to accept someone's thanks ▪ "Thank you for your help." "*Sure*." [=*you're welcome*]

4 *US* — used for emphasis ▪ I *sure* am tired. ▪ This *sure* beats working. ▪ "Do you want to come?" "I *sure* do!" ▪ (*impolite*) I ***sure as hell*** hope you know what you're doing!

sure enough — used to say that what happened was not surprising or unexpected ▪ We were finally ready to go outside, and *sure enough*, it started to rain.

sure•fire /ˈʃɚˈfajɚ, *Brit* ˈʃɔːˈfajə/ *adj, always used before a noun, informal* : certain not to fail : sure to be successful ▪ *surefire* solutions ▪ The movie is a *surefire* hit/success with teenagers. ▪ There is no *surefire* way to predict the outcome.

sure•foot•ed /ˈʃɚˈfʊtəd, *Brit* ˈʃɔːˈfʊtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not likely to slip or fall when walking, climbing, or running ▪ a *surefooted* athlete ▪ as *surefooted* as a mountain goat — often used figuratively ▪ a *surefooted* leader [=a confident leader who is not likely to make mistakes] ▪ *surefooted* leadership

– **sure•foot•ed•ly** *adv* ▪ He *surefootedly* made his way through the difficult terrain. – **sure•foot•ed•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

sure–hand•ed /ˈʃɚˈhændəd, *Brit* ˈʃɔːˈhændəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US* : not likely to drop something (such as a ball) that you are holding or catching ▪ a *sure-handed* ball player — often used figuratively ▪ a confident and *sure-handed* director [=a director who is not likely to make mistakes] ▪ *sure-handed* leadership

– **sure–hand•ed•ly** *adv* – **sure–hand•ed•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

sure•ly /ˈʃɚli, *Brit* ˈʃɔːli/ *adv*

1 : in a confident way ▪ She answered quickly and *surely*.

2 *formal* **a** : without a doubt : CERTAINLY ▪ He will *surely* be missed. ▪ This is *surely* the best dessert you have ever made. ▪ *Surely* you must admit that it was a good decision. **b** — used in negative statements to show surprise that something could be true ▪ "Are they going to get away with it?" "*Surely* not." ▪ *Surely* you don't think that we are responsible for this! ▪ *Surely* you haven't forgotten my name!

slowly but surely see SLOWLY

sure•ness /ˈʃɚnəs, *Brit* ˈʃɔːnəs/ *noun* : a feeling that you know what you want to do and that you are able to do it [*singular*] He spoke with a newfound *sureness* [=*confidence*] in his voice. [*noncount*] She performs with the *sureness* of a veteran actress. ▪ the artist's *sureness* of touch/technique/hand

sure•ty /ˈʃɚrəti, *Brit* ˈʃɔːrəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*count*] *law* : money that you give as a guarantee that you will do what you are legally required to do (such as to appear in court) ▪ a *surety* of $10,000 = a $10,000 ***surety bond***

2 *law* : someone who agrees to be legally responsible if another person fails to pay a debt or to perform a duty [*count*] As *sureties*, they will be liable in his place. [*noncount*] She will ***stand surety*** for him. [=she agrees to be legally responsible if he fails to do what he promised]

3 [*noncount*] *formal* : the state of being or feeling sure or certain ▪ She answered with *surety*. [=*certainty*]

[1]surf /ˈsɚf/ *verb* **surfs**; **surfed**; **surf•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to ride on ocean waves using a special board (called a surfboard) ▪ He learned to *surf* when he was living in California. — see also WINDSURF

2 : to look for information or other interesting things on the Internet [+ *obj*] *surfing* the Internet/Web [*no obj*] *surfing* on the Internet/Web — see also CHANNEL SURFING, SURFING

– **surf•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[2]surf *noun* [*noncount*] : large waves that fall on the shore and the white foam and sound that they produce ▪ We could hear the roar of the *surf*. — see color picture on page C7

[1]sur•face /ˈsɚfəs/ *noun, pl* **-fac•es**

1 [*count*] : an outside part or layer of something ▪ The painting's *surface* is covered with fine cracks. ▪ The bowl has a shiny *surface*. ▪ The *surface* of wood was rough. ▪ Be careful of icy *surfaces* on the roads. ▪ a textured *surface*

2 [*count*] : the upper layer of an area of land or water — usually singular ▪ Hot lava bubbled up to the Earth's *surface*. ▪ exploring the *surface* of Mars ▪ The pipes are buried deep below the *surface*. ▪ The pond's *surface* was covered with leaves. ▪ bubbles rose/floated to the *surface* (of the water)

3 [*count*] : the flat, top part of something (such as a table or desk) that you can work on ▪ kitchen work *surfaces*

4 ***the surface*** : the part of someone or something that is easy to see or notice : the outer quality or appearance of someone or something that may not show true or hidden problems, feelings, etc. ▪ ***On the surface*** the plan seems simple. ▪ She seemed fine *on the surface*, but underneath, she was suffering. ▪ Their relationship has a lot of problems simmering ***below/beneath/under the surface***. ▪ His true feelings ***lie close to the surface***. [=they are easy to see] ▪ The tension between them is beginning to ***rise to the surface***. [=it is becoming easy to see]

5 [*count*] : a flat or curved side of an object ▪ Each *surface* of the die is marked with one to six black dots.

scratch the surface see [1]SCRATCH

[2]surface *verb* **-faces**; **-faced**; **-fac•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to rise to the surface of water ▪ The whale *surfaced* and then dove back down. ▪ The submarine *surfaced*.

2 [*no obj*] : to appear or become obvious after being hidden or not seen ▪ The information *surfaced* many years later. ▪ After several years, the actress *surfaced* in a comedy. ▪ Suspicions eventually *surfaced*.

3 [+ *obj*] : to put a surface on (something, such as a road) ▪ The road needs to be *surfaced* again.

4 [*no obj*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : to wake up and get out of bed ▪ She hasn't *surfaced* yet.

[3]surface *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : involving only the parts that are easy to see or notice : SUPERFICIAL ▪ *surface* friendships ▪ Despite the *surface* differences between the two candidates, they are very similar in most ways.
2 : involving the removal of the surface of a large area of land to get at coal or other material that is near to the surface ▪ *surface* mining ▪ a *surface* mine

surface area *noun* [*singular*] : the amount of area covered by the surface of something ▪ The lake has roughly the same *surface area* as 10 football fields.

surface mail *noun* [*noncount*] : mail that is carried on land rather than by air or by sea

surface tension *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : the force that causes the molecules on the surface of a liquid to be pushed together and form a layer

surface–to–air missile *noun, pl* ~ **-siles** [*count*] : a missile that is fired from the ground or a ship and directed at an airplane

surface–to–surface missile *noun, pl* ~ **-siles** [*count*] : a missile that is fired from the ground or a ship and directed at a target on the ground

surf and turf *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : seafood and steak served together as a meal at a restaurant ▪ We both ordered the *surf and turf*.

surf·board /ˈsɚfˌboɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] : a long, light, narrow board that is used for surfing



surfboard

sur·feit /ˈsɚfət/ *noun* [*singular*] *formal* : an amount that is too much or more than you need — + *of* ▪ a *surfeit of* choices

surf·ing /ˈsɚfɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the activity or sport of riding ocean waves on a special board (called a surfboard) ▪ Her hobbies include diving and *surfing*. ▪ We *went surfing* yesterday.
2 : the activity of looking for information or interesting things on the Internet ▪ Web *surfing* — see also CHANNEL SURFING

[1]surge /ˈsɚdʒ/ *verb* **surg·es**; **surged**; **surg·ing** [*no obj*]
1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move very quickly and suddenly in a particular direction ▪ We all *surged* toward the door. ▪ She *surged* past the other runners. ▪ Thoughts of what could happen were *surging* through his mind. ▪ She has been *surging* in the polls. [=she is quickly becoming more popular as a candidate]
2 : to suddenly increase to an unusually high level ▪ Housing prices have *surged* in recent months. ▪ Interest in the sport has been *surging*.
– **surging** *adj* ▪ *surging* oil costs ▪ *surging* demand/growth ▪ the country's *surging* population ▪ a *surging* interest in the sport

[2]surge *noun, pl* **surges** [*count*]
1 : a sudden, large increase ▪ The sport is enjoying a *surge* in popularity. ▪ a *surge* of support for the candidate ▪ a *surge* of excitement — see also UPSURGE
2 : a sudden movement of many people ▪ There was a sudden *surge* toward the door. ▪ There has been a *surge* of immigrants into the city.
3 : a large wave of water ▪ an ocean *surge*
4 : a sudden increase in the amount of electricity that is flowing through an electrical circuit ▪ an electrical/power *surge*

sur·geon /ˈsɚdʒən/ *noun, pl* **-geons** [*count*] : a doctor who performs operations that involve cutting into someone's body in order to repair or remove damaged or diseased parts : a doctor who performs surgery ▪ a brain/heart *surgeon* — see also PLASTIC SURGEON

surgeon general *noun, pl* **surgeons general** *or* **surgeon generals** [*count*] : the chief medical officer of a branch of the military or of a public health service ▪ a health warning from the (U.S.) *Surgeon General*

surge protector *noun, pl* ~ **-tors** [*count*] : a device that prevents an electrical surge from damaging electronic equipment

sur·gery /ˈsɚdʒəri/ *noun, pl* **-ger·ies**
1 : medical treatment in which a doctor cuts into someone's body in order to repair or remove damaged or diseased parts [*noncount*] He's a specialist in brain *surgery*. ▪ The doctor has recommended *surgery*. ▪ He has recently undergone *surgery* on his shoulder. ▪ The patient is still *in surgery*. [=still being operated on] ▪ The doctor has been *in surgery* [=performing an operation] for two hours. [*count*] (*chiefly US*) ▪ She is now recovering from her *surgery*. [=*operation*] ▪ a doctor who has performed many *surgeries* — see also PLASTIC SURGERY
2 [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : the area in a hospital where surgery is performed ▪ The patient was taken directly to *surgery*. — compare OPERATING ROOM
3 [*count*] *Brit* : a place where a doctor or dentist treats people ▪ I was waiting in the doctor's *surgery*. [=(*US*) *office*]
4 [*noncount*] *Brit* : OFFICE HOURS 3
5 [*count*] *Brit* : a special period of time when people can visit a member of the British Parliament to ask questions

sur·gi·cal /ˈsɚdʒɪkəl/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 a : of or relating to the process of performing a medical operation : of or relating to surgery ▪ a simple *surgical* procedure/treatment **b** : used during surgery ▪ *surgical* instruments/gloves/masks/tape **c** : resulting from a surgery ▪ a *surgical* scar/fever
2 : very careful and accurate ▪ The work was done with *surgical* precision/exactness. ▪ a ***surgical strike*** [=a carefully planned military attack that does not damage the surrounding area]
– **sur·gi·cal·ly** /ˈsɚdʒɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The tumor will have to be *surgically* removed.

surgical spirit *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : RUBBING ALCOHOL

sur·ly /ˈsɚli/ *adj* **sur·li·er**; **-est** : rude and unfriendly ▪ *surly* customers
– **sur·li·ness** /ˈsɚlinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

sur·mise /sɚˈmaɪz/ *verb* **-mis·es**; **-mised**; **-mis·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to form an opinion about something without definitely knowing the truth : GUESS ▪ We can only *surmise* what happened. ▪ He must have *surmised* that I was not interested.
– **surmise** *noun, pl* **-mises** [*count, noncount*] ▪ This is no more than a *surmise*. [=*guess*]

sur·mount /sɚˈmaʊnt/ *verb* **-mounts**; **-mount·ed**; **-mount·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*
1 : to deal with (a problem or a difficult situation) successfully ▪ Women often have to *surmount* [=*overcome*] social barriers to advance their careers. ▪ *surmounting* obstacles
2 : to be placed at the top of (something) — usually used as *(be) surmounted* ▪ a chain-link fence that *is surmounted* [=*topped*] by barbed wire
– **sur·mount·able** /sɚˈmaʊntəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ These setbacks are *surmountable*.

sur·name /ˈsɚˌneɪm/ *noun, pl* **-names** [*count*] : the name that is shared by the people in a family ✧ In English, your surname comes after your first name and middle name. ▪ She took her husband's *surname* when they got married. — called also FAMILY NAME; compare LAST NAME

sur·pass /sɚˈpæs, *Brit* səˈpɑːs/ *verb* **-pass·es**; **-passed**; **-pass·ing** [+ *obj*] : to be better or greater than (someone or something) ▪ She soon *surpassed* [=*exceeded*] her teacher in skill and proficiency. ▪ Attendance is expected to *surpass* last year's record. ▪ Last quarter, sales *surpassed* two million. ▪ His work regularly *surpasses* all expectations.

sur·pass·ing /sɚˈpæsɪŋ, *Brit* səˈpɑːsɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : very great : to a much greater degree than others ▪ a woman of *surpassing* grace and beauty
– **sur·pass·ing·ly** *adv* ▪ *surpassingly* difficult

sur·plice /ˈsɚpləs/ *noun, pl* **-plic·es** [*count*] : a loose, white piece of clothing that is worn by priests or singers at church services

[1]sur·plus /ˈsɚpləs/ *noun, pl* **-plus·es** : an amount (such as an amount of money) that is more than the amount that is needed [*noncount*] If there is any *surplus*, it will be divided equally. [*count*] crop *surpluses* ▪ There is a *surplus* of workers and not enough jobs. ▪ The state currently has a $3 million ***budget surplus***. [=has $3 million more than it needs to pay for all of its planned expenses] — opposite DEFICIT; see also TRADE SURPLUS

[2]surplus *adj* : more than the amount that is needed ▪ *surplus* food/cloth/equipment ▪ The government bought the *surplus* grain to help growers.
surplus to requirements *Brit, formal* : no longer needed ▪ His services had become *surplus to requirements*.

[1]sur·prise /sɚˈpraɪz/ *noun, pl* **-pris·es**

S

1 [*count*] **a :** an unexpected event, piece of information, etc. ▪ What a pleasant *surprise* to see you! ▪ It's no *surprise* that he doesn't want to go. ▪ Is it any *surprise* that she should feel disappointed? ▪ The news ***came as a (complete/total) surprise*** to everyone. [=everyone was surprised by the news] ▪ It ***came as no surprise*** to me. [=I was not surprised by it] ▪ The teacher ***sprang a surprise*** on us and gave a pop quiz. ▪ They are ***in for a (big/real) surprise*** [=they are going to be very surprised] when they come home. **b :** an unexpected gift, party, etc. ▪ I have a special *surprise* for the children. ▪ The trip was a *surprise* for her birthday. ▪ Is the party a *surprise*?

2 [*noncount*] **:** the feeling caused by something that is unexpected or unusual ▪ She expressed *surprise* at their decision. [=she said that she was surprised by their decision] ▪ Imagine our *surprise* when they sold their house and moved to the Bahamas. ▪ ***Much to our surprise***, she refused. [=we were very surprised when she refused] ▪ He stared at her ***in surprise***. ▪ The attackers were relying on the ***element of surprise***. [=they were relying on their attack being unexpected]

3 — used as an interjection ▪ *Surprise*! Happy Birthday!

catch/take (someone or something) by surprise **1 :** to happen to (someone or something) unexpectedly **:** to surprise (someone or something) ▪ The question *caught* him *by surprise*. ▪ The organization was *taken* completely *by surprise* by the announcement. **2 :** to attack, capture, or approach (someone or something) without warning ▪ The enemy troops *took* us completely *by surprise*. ▪ Photographers *caught* the couple *by surprise* as they were leaving a restaurant.

surprise, surprise *informal* — used to say in a joking or ironic way that something is not surprising at all ▪ "She's going to be late again." "*Surprise, surprise*."

[2]surprise *verb* **-prises; -prised; -pris·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (someone) to feel surprised ▪ The results will *surprise* you. ▪ Nothing you could say would *surprise* me. ▪ They *surprised* everyone by moving to the Bahamas. ▪ He *surprised* her at work with a vase of flowers. [=he unexpectedly gave her a vase of flowers while she was at work]

2 : to find, attack, or meet (someone or something) unexpectedly ▪ A police officer *surprised* the burglars. ▪ The troops were *surprised* by an attack from the north.

[3]surprise *adj, always used before a noun* **:** not expected **:** causing a feeling of surprise ▪ a *surprise* best seller/success ▪ She made a *surprise* announcement/appearance at the concert. ▪ I got a *surprise* call/visit from the governor. ▪ We threw him a ***surprise party***. [=we secretly planned a party for him and did not tell him about it until he arrived]

surprised *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** having or showing the feeling that people get when something unexpected or unusual happens **:** feeling or showing surprise ▪ She had a *surprised* expression on her face. ▪ Are you *surprised* that they aren't going? ▪ I'm not *surprised*. I always thought he would do it. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ I am *surprised to hear* about the changes. ▪ They seemed very *surprised to see* us. — often + *at* or *by* ▪ I wasn't at all *surprised by* the news. ▪ You would be *surprised at* how much things have changed.

surprising *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** unexpected or unusual **:** causing surprise ▪ *surprising* results ▪ It's not *surprising* that he doesn't want to go. ▪ The changes to the campus were *surprising*. ▪ He shows a *surprising* lack of concern for others. ▪ A *surprising* number of people were laid off at the factory.

– sur·pris·ing·ly /sə'praɪzɪŋli/ *adv* ▪ Not *surprisingly*, he agreed. ▪ She earns a *surprisingly* low salary. ▪ The event went *surprisingly* well, considering the bad weather.

sur·re·al /sə'ri:l/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** very strange or unusual **:** having the quality of a dream ▪ a *surreal* atmosphere/experience ▪ The whole thing was completely *surreal*.

sur·re·al·ism /sə'ri:jə,lɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a 20th-century art form in which an artist or writer combines unrelated images or events in a very strange and dreamlike way

– sur·re·al·ist /sə'ri:jəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

– surrealist *adj* ▪ a *surrealist* painting

sur·re·al·is·tic /sə,ri:jə'lɪstɪk/ *adj*

1 : very strange **:** SURREAL ▪ It was a *surrealistic* experience.

2 : of or relating to surrealism ▪ a *surrealistic* painter/painting

[1]sur·ren·der /sə'rɛndɚ/ *verb* **-ders; -dered; -der·ing**

1 : to agree to stop fighting, hiding, resisting, etc., because you know that you will not win or succeed [*no obj*] The enemy finally *surrendered* after three days of fighting. ▪ The gunman *surrendered* and was taken into custody. — often + *to* ▪ After a short chase, the suspect *surrendered to* the police. [+ *obj*] The suspect ***surrendered himself*** (to the police).

2 [+ *obj*] **:** to give the control or use of (something) to someone else ▪ The troops were forced to *surrender* the fort. ▪ He *surrendered* [=*handed over*] his weapon to the police. ▪ They were required to *surrender* their passports. ▪ They *surrendered* their rights. ▪ the *surrendering* of land to the government

3 : to allow something (such as a habit or desire) to influence or control you — often + *to* [*no obj*] She *surrendered* [=*gave in*] *to* temptation and ordered dessert. ▪ He refused to *surrender to* despair. [+ *obj*] He refused to ***surrender himself to*** despair.

[2]surrender *noun* [*singular*]

1 : an agreement to stop fighting, hiding, resisting, etc., because you know that you will not win or succeed **:** an act of surrendering ▪ Their *surrender* was formalized in a treaty. ▪ They demanded an unconditional *surrender*.

2 : the act of giving the control or use of something to someone else ▪ the *surrender* of territory

3 : the act of allowing yourself to be influenced or controlled by someone or something ▪ a *surrender* to desire

sur·rep·ti·tious /ˌsɚəp'tɪʃəs/ *adj* **:** done in a secret way ▪ She had a *surreptitious* relationship with her employee. ▪ a *surreptitious* glance

– sur·rep·ti·tious·ly *adv* ▪ He contacted her *surreptitiously*.

– sur·rep·ti·tious·ness *noun* [*noncount*]

sur·rey /'sɚi/ *noun, pl* **-reys** [*count*] *US* **:** a light, old-fashioned carriage that has two wide seats and four wheels and that is pulled by a horse

sur·ro·ga·cy /'sɚəgəsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the practice by which a woman (called a surrogate mother) becomes pregnant and gives birth to a baby in order to give it to someone who cannot have children ▪ choosing between adoption and *surrogacy*

sur·ro·gate /'sɚəgət/ *noun, pl* **-gates** [*count*]

1 : a person or thing that takes the place or performs the duties of someone or something else ▪ He could not attend the meeting, so he sent his *surrogate*. ▪ The governor and her *surrogates* asked the public to support the change.

2 : SURROGATE MOTHER ▪ They had their baby through a *surrogate*.

– surrogate *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ She considered them her *surrogate* family.

surrogate mother *noun, pl* **~ -ers** [*count*] **:** a woman who agrees to become pregnant in order to give the baby to someone who cannot have children

[1]sur·round /sə'raʊnd/ *verb* **-rounds; -round·ed; -round·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to be on every side of (someone or something) ▪ A wall *surrounds* the old city. — often used as *(be) surrounded* ▪ The lake *is surrounded* by cottages.

2 : to move close to (someone or something) on all sides often in order to stop a person from escaping ▪ Police *surrounded* the house. ▪ They had the suspect *surrounded*. ▪ She was suddenly *surrounded* by a crowd of excited fans.

3 : to be closely related or connected to (something) ▪ There's a lot of uncertainty *surrounding* the decision. ▪ His departure was *surrounded* by secrecy.

4 *of a family, group, etc.* **:** to always be near (someone) — often + *with* ▪ Her family *surrounded* her *with* love and attention. [=her family gave her a lot of love and attention] — often used as *(be) surrounded* ▪ As a child she *was surrounded* by her large, loving family.

surround yourself with (someone or something) **:** to cause (certain types of people or things) to be near you ▪ He *surrounds himself with* very talented people. ▪ They *surround themselves with* luxuries. [=they have many luxuries]

[2]surround *noun, pl* **-rounds** [*count*] **:** a border or an area that is around the outside edge of something ▪ a fireplace/bathtub *surround* ▪ the park's urban *surrounds*

surrounding *adj, always used before a noun* **:** near or around someone or something ▪ the *surrounding* area/neighborhood/land

sur·round·ings /sə'raʊndɪŋz/ *noun* [*plural*] **:** the places, conditions, or objects that are around you **:** ENVIRONMENT ▪ They will need some time to become familiar with their new *surroundings*.

sur·tax /'sɚ,tæks/ *noun, pl* **-tax·es** [*count*] **:** a tax that is charged on income which is more than a certain amount and that is charged in addition to the normal income tax

sur·veil·lance /sɚ'veɪləns/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the act of carefully watching someone or something especially in order

to prevent or detect a crime ▪ government *surveillance* of suspected terrorists ▪ The bank robbery was recorded by *surveillance* video cameras. ▪ ***electronic surveillance*** [=the act of using electronic devices to watch people or things] ▪ The police ***kept*** her ***under surveillance***. [=watched her closely]

[1]sur•vey /ˈsɚˌveɪ/ *noun, pl* **-veys** [*count*]

1 : an activity in which many people are asked a question or a series of questions in order to gather information about what most people do or think about something : POLL ▪ The *survey* found/revealed some surprising tendencies among the population. ▪ We conducted an opinion *survey* on the issue and found that most people agree. ▪ a *survey* on American drinking habits

2 : an act of studying something in order to make a judgment about it ▪ *Surveys* of each department were conducted earlier this year. ▪ A *survey* of recent corporate layoffs reveals a new trend in business management.

3 : an act of measuring and examining an area of land ▪ A new land *survey* changed the borders of their property.

4 : a general description of or report about a subject or situation ▪ a *survey* [=*overview*] of current events ▪ *surveys* of English literature

5 *Brit* : a close examination of a building to see if it is in good condition ▪ A *survey* [=(*US*) *inspection*] must be done before the house can be sold.

[2]sur•vey /sɚˈveɪ/ *verb* **-veys**; **-veyed**; **-vey•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to ask (many people) a question or a series of questions in order to gather information about what most people do or think about something ▪ A total of 250 city residents were *surveyed* about the project. ▪ 64 percent of the people *surveyed* said that the economy was doing well. ▪ The magazine *surveyed* its readers on their romantic relationships. [=the magazine took/conducted a survey of its readers to find out about their romantic relationships]

2 : to look at and examine all parts of (something) ▪ The teacher *surveyed* the room. ▪ People were *surveying* the damage after the storm.

3 : to measure and examine (an area of land) ▪ Engineers *surveyed* the property to see what could be built on it.

4 : to give a general description or report of (something, such as a subject or a situation) ▪ The class *surveys* American history before the Civil War.

5 *Brit* : to examine (a building) to make sure it is in good condition ▪ The house must be *surveyed* [=(*US*) *inspected*] before it can be sold.

survey course *noun, pl* ~ **courses** [*count*] *US* : a class at a college or university that gives general information about a subject for students who have not studied it before : an introductory course at a college or university

sur•vey•or /sɚˈvejɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ors** [*count*]

1 : someone whose job is to measure and examine an area of land ▪ a land *surveyor*

2 *Brit* : someone whose job is to examine buildings ▪ *Surveyors* [=(*US*) *inspectors*] condemned the building. — see also QUANTITY SURVEYOR

sur•viv•al /sɚˈvaɪvəl/ *noun, pl* **-als**

1 [*noncount*] : the state or fact of continuing to live or exist especially in spite of difficult conditions ▪ The refugees depend on foreign aid for their *survival*. ▪ Small businesses are fighting/struggling for *survival*. ▪ the *survival* of an old folktale ▪ The doctor said her ***chance of survival*** [=chance that she would get better and continue to live] was about 50 percent. — often used before another noun ▪ The scouts learned basic *survival* skills/techniques. ▪ Patients have a high *survival* rate if the cancer is detected early. ▪ an animal's ***survival instinct*** [=an animal's ability to know what to do to stay alive] ▪ He uses his wits as a ***survival mechanism***. [=as a way of protecting himself from being hurt by other people]

2 [*count*] : something from an earlier period that still exists or is done — usually singular ▪ The holiday custom is a *survival* from colonial times.

survival of the fittest **1** : NATURAL SELECTION **2** — used to refer to a situation in which only the people or things that are strongest, most skillful, etc., are able to succeed or to continue to exist ▪ In the business world, it's *survival of the fittest*.

sur•viv•al•ist /sɚˈvaɪvəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a person who believes that government and society will soon fail completely and who stores food, weapons, etc., in order to be prepared to survive when that happens

– **survivalist** *adj* ▪ *survivalist* techniques

sur•vive /sɚˈvaɪv/ *verb* **-vives**; **-vived**; **-viv•ing**

1 [*no obj*] **a** : to remain alive : to continue to live ▪ I don't see how any creature can *survive* under those conditions. ▪ bacteria that *survive* in extreme temperatures ▪ (*humorous*) He didn't think he could *survive* without golf. — often + *on* ▪ The plant *survives on* very little water. ▪ They managed to *survive on* his small salary. ▪ (*humorous*) I mainly *survived on* peanut butter and jelly sandwiches when I was in college. **b** : to continue to exist ▪ Only a few written records *survive* from those times. ▪ These ancient practices still *survive* in some regions. ▪ Some of the original bridges *survive*. ▪ Many businesses are struggling to *survive* in today's economy.

2 [+ *obj*] : to remain alive after the death of (someone) : OUTLIVE ▪ Only his son *survived* him. ▪ She *survived* her husband by only a few years. — often used as *(be) survived* ▪ She *is survived* by her three children.

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to continue to be alive or to exist after (something) ▪ They *survived* the crash/flood. ▪ The fruit trees didn't *survive* [=*live through*] the harsh winter. ▪ This type of plant cannot *survive* [=*withstand*] temperatures below freezing. **b** : to continue to function, succeed, etc., in spite of (something) ▪ He *survived* a political scandal and was elected to the state legislature. ▪ The company *survived* the recession. ▪ helpful hints for *surviving* the holidays

– **sur•viv•able** /sɚˈvaɪvəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ This form of cancer is *survivable* if it's detected early.

– **surviving** *adj* ▪ one of the few *surviving* traditions ▪ His son is his sole *surviving* heir.

sur•vi•vor /sɚˈvaɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-vors** [*count*]

1 a : a person who continues to live after an accident, illness, war, etc. ▪ She interviewed *survivors* of the flood. ▪ a Holocaust/cancer *survivor* ▪ The plane crashed and there were no *survivors*. ▪ There was only one *survivor* of the accident. **b** : a member of a group who continues to live after other members have died ▪ Most of the people I went to school with are gone now. I'm one of the few *survivors*. **c** : a family member who remains alive after another person's death ▪ He died without any *survivors*.

2 : someone or something that continues to exist, function, compete, etc. ▪ The *survivors* of the first round of competition will be meeting today in the second round. ▪ This newspaper is the only *survivor* of six newspapers that were founded in the city in the 19th century.

3 : someone who is able to keep living or succeeding despite a lot of problems ▪ There's no question about it—Aunt Annie's a *survivor*.

sus•cep•ti•bil•i•ty /səˌsɛptəˈbɪlətɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 : the state of being easily affected, influenced, or harmed by something — usually + *to* [*count*] — usually singular ▪ They are concerned about the city's *susceptibility to* attack. ▪ A weak immune system increases your *susceptibility to* disease. [*noncount*] A weak immune system causes increased *susceptibility to* disease.

2 ***susceptibilities*** [*plural*] *chiefly Brit, formal* : a person's feelings ▪ We do not want to offend their *susceptibilities*. [=we do not want to offend them]

sus•cep•ti•ble /səˈsɛptəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : easily affected, influenced, or harmed by something ▪ The virus can infect *susceptible* individuals. — often + *to* ▪ He is very *susceptible to* colds. [=he catches colds easily] ▪ a surface highly *susceptible to* scratches ▪ He is *susceptible to* flattery.

2 *formal* : capable of being affected by a specified action or process — + *of* ▪ a contract that is *susceptible of* modification [=a contract that can be modified]

su•shi /ˈsuːʃi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a Japanese dish of cold cooked rice shaped in small cakes and topped or wrapped with other ingredients (such as pieces of raw fish)

[1]sus•pect /səˈspɛkt/ *verb* **-pects**; **-pect•ed**; **-pect•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to think that (someone) is possibly guilty of a crime or of doing something wrong ▪ He's *suspected* in four burglaries. — often + *of* ▪ The police *suspect* him *of* murder. ▪ No one *suspects* you *of* cheating. **b** : to think that (something) is possibly the cause of something bad — usually + *of* ▪ The pesticide is *suspected of* causing cancer. **c** : to think that (a crime) has possibly been committed ▪ The police do not *suspect* murder in this case. ▪ The fire chief *suspects* arson.

2 : to think that (something, especially something bad) possibly exists, is true, will happen, etc. ▪ We *suspected* a trap. ▪ I *suspect* it will rain. ▪ Call the doctor immediately if you *suspect* you've been infected. ▪ The latest research confirms what scientists have long *suspected*. ▪ I *suspect* she's not who she says she is. ▪ "We haven't done our homework." "I *suspected* as much."

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3 : to have feelings of doubt about (something) : to be suspicious about (something) ▪ I *suspected* his motives in giving me the money. ▪ I have reason to *suspect* her sincerity when she makes promises like that.

– **suspected** /sə'spɛktəd/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *suspected* arsonist ▪ The pesticide is a *suspected* carcinogen. ▪ a *suspected* case of smallpox

²sus•pect /'sʌˌspɛkt/ *noun, pl* **-pects** [*count*]

1 : a person who is believed to be possibly guilty of committing a crime ▪ a murder *suspect* ▪ One *suspect* has been arrested. ▪ She is a possible/prime *suspect* in connection with the kidnapping.

2 : a thing that is thought of as a possible cause of something bad ▪ The prime *suspect* for the food poisoning is the potato salad.

the usual suspects : the usual people or things that are suspected or thought of in a particular situation — often used humorously ▪ The breakfast menu had all *the usual suspects* [=the usual things]—eggs, pancakes, waffles, and French toast.

³sus•pect /'sʌˌspɛkt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not able to be trusted : causing feelings of doubt or suspicion ▪ The *suspect* [=*suspicious*] vehicle was reported to the police. ▪ The witness's claim was *suspect*. [=*dubious, questionable*] ▪ The room had a *suspect* odor.

sus•pend /sə'spɛnd/ *verb* **-pends**; **-pend•ed**; **-pend•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to force (someone) to leave a job, position, or place for a usually short period of time as a form of punishment ▪ He was *suspended* from the team for missing too many practices. ▪ The police officers were *suspended* without pay for their conduct. ▪ The principal *suspended* the student from school for fighting.

2 a : to stop (something) for a usually short period of time ▪ The city *suspended* bus service during the storm. ▪ The company was forced to *suspend* operations. ▪ They have *suspended* the peace talks. ▪ The plot is ridiculous, but if you can ***suspend (your) disbelief*** [=allow yourself to believe that something is true even though it seems impossible], it's an enjoyable movie. **b** : to make (something) happen later : to delay (something) ▪ The judge *suspended* [=*postponed*] the hearing for one week. ▪ I advise *suspending* judgment until the investigation is over. **c** : to make (something) invalid or ineffective for a usually short period of time ▪ Her license to practice law was *suspended*. ▪ We can *suspend* the rules just this once. ▪ He's driving with a *suspended* license.

3 a : to hang something so that it is free on all sides except at the point of support ▪ They *suspended* the lantern from the ceiling. ▪ A pot of stew was *suspended* over the fire. ▪ a wire ***suspended between*** two poles [=hung so that it is attached at each end to a pole] **b** : to prevent (something) from falling or sinking by some invisible support — usually used as *(be) suspended* ▪ Dust *was suspended* [=was floating] in the air. ▪ The structure appears to *be suspended* in space.

suspended animation *noun* [*noncount*] : a state in which the processes of the body (such as blood circulation) stop or become very slow for a period of time while a person or animal is unconscious ▪ animals that sleep through the winter in a state of *suspended animation* — often used figuratively ▪ The project has been in (a state of) *suspended animation* for over 15 years.

suspended sentence *noun, pl* ~ **-tences** [*count*] *law* : a legal arrangement in which a person who has been found guilty of a crime is not sentenced to jail but may be sentenced for that crime at a future time if he or she commits another crime during a specified period ▪ The judge handed down a *suspended sentence* to the first-time offender.

sus•pend•er /sə'spɛndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers**

1 *suspenders* [*plural*] *US* : straps that are used for holding up pants and that go over a person's shoulders — called also (*Brit*) *braces*; see color picture on page C14

2 [*count*] *Brit* : GARTER 2

suspender belt *noun, pl* ~ **belts** [*count*] *Brit* : GARTER BELT

sus•pense /sə'spɛns/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling or state of nervousness or excitement caused by wondering what will happen ▪ I can't bear/stand the *suspense*. ▪ The *suspense* builds as the story progresses. ▪ a novel of *suspense* ▪ Alfred Hitchcock was a master of *suspense*. ▪ The movie is a *suspense* thriller. ▪ I don't know who won and ***the suspense is killing me***. [=I am very anxious to know who won] ▪ She kept him ***in suspense*** [=waiting anxiously] for two whole days before she agreed to marry him.

– **sus•pense•ful** /sə'spɛnsfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *suspenseful* story/situation/movie

sus•pen•sion /sə'spɛnʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 : the act of forcing someone to leave a job, position, or place for a usually short period of time as a form of punishment : the act of suspending someone [*count*] He was angry about his *suspension* from the team. ▪ His record shows several *suspensions* from school. [*noncount*] He's ***under suspension*** for breaking the rules.

2 [*singular, noncount*] : the act of stopping or delaying something for a usually short period of time ▪ (a) *suspension* of peace talks

3 : the act of making something invalid or ineffective for a usually short period of time [*count*] a 30-day license *suspension* ▪ a *suspension* of the rules [*noncount*] She was punished by *suspension* of her driver's license.

4 [*count*] *technical* : a substance (usually a liquid) that has very small pieces of a solid material mixed throughout it

5 [*noncount*] *technical* : the parts of a vehicle that connect the body to the tires and allow the vehicle to move more smoothly over uneven surfaces ▪ the car's front/rear *suspension*

suspension bridge *noun, pl* ~ **bridges** [*count*] : a bridge that is hung from two or more cables that are held up by towers

sus•pi•cion /sə'spɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-cions**

1 [*noncount*] : a feeling that someone is possibly guilty of a crime or of doing something wrong ▪ Her strange behavior has aroused *suspicion*. [=has made people think that she is doing something wrong] ▪ He is ***under suspicion of*** [=suspected of] selling illegal drugs. ▪ He was arrested ***on suspicion of*** robbery. [=he was arrested because the police suspect that he committed a robbery] ▪ They are not ***above/beyond suspicion***. [=they are not considered to be obviously or certainly innocent and unable to be suspected]

2 [*count*] : a feeling that something bad is likely or true ▪ There has long been a *suspicion* that the painting is a fake. ▪ There was not the slightest *suspicion* of a trap. [=no one suspected a trap] ▪ I thought the water might be making us sick, and my *suspicions* were confirmed by the lab tests. ▪ The note aroused her *suspicions* that he was having an affair. ▪ I have a ***sneaking suspicion*** that those cookies aren't really homemade.

3 : a feeling of doubt [*noncount*] The new policies are regarded by many with *suspicion*. ▪ His story has raised some *suspicion*. [*count*] I have my *suspicions* about his motives.

4 [*singular*] : a very small amount *of* something : TRACE ▪ a *suspicion of* garlic

the finger of suspicion see ¹FINGER

sus•pi•cious /sə'spɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : causing a feeling that something is wrong or that someone is behaving wrongly : causing suspicion ▪ We were instructed to report any *suspicious* activity/behavior in the neighborhood. ▪ The *suspicious* vehicle was reported to police. ▪ He died under *suspicious* circumstances. [=under circumstances that suggest a crime may have been committed] ▪ *Suspicious* characters were seen hanging around the bank. ▪ He found a *suspicious* lump on his back and was afraid it might be cancer.

2 : having or showing a feeling that something is wrong or that someone is behaving wrongly : feeling or showing suspicion ▪ Officials are *suspicious* about her death. ▪ His manner made me *suspicious*. — often + *of* ▪ She became *suspicious of* his behavior. ▪ The dog is *suspicious of* strangers. [=the dog does not trust strangers] ▪ We noticed the *suspicious* stare of the security guard.

– **sus•pi•cious•ly** *adv* ▪ "Is there someone in the bedroom?" he asked *suspiciously*. ▪ The security guard stared at us *suspiciously*. ▪ He was acting/behaving *suspiciously*. ▪ The answers on the two students' tests are *suspiciously* alike. ▪ This sounds *suspiciously* like an excuse to get out of work.

suss /'sʌs/ *verb* **suss•es**; **sussed**; **suss•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal*

1 : to find or discover (something) by thinking — usually + *out* ▪ They had to *suss out* [=*figure out*] whether he was telling the truth. ▪ I think I've ***got him sussed out***. [=I understand what kind of person he is]

2 : to inspect or investigate (something) in order to gain more knowledge — usually + *out* ▪ He carefully *sussed out* the situation.

sus•tain /sə'steɪn/ *verb* **-tains**; **-tained**; **-tain•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to provide what is needed for (something or someone) to exist, continue, etc. ▪ There is not enough oxygen to *sustain* [=*support*] life at very high altitudes. ▪ Hope *sustained* us during that difficult time. ▪ The movie *sustained* our interest [=kept us interested] from beginning to end. ▪ The country is enjoying a period of *sustained* [=*continuing*] economic growth. ▪ a *sustained* discussion/effort
2 *formal* : to hold up the weight of (something) ▪ The roof, unable to *sustain* the weight of all the snow, collapsed.
3 *formal* : to deal with or experience (something bad or unpleasant) : SUFFER ▪ The army *sustained* heavy losses. ▪ He *sustained* serious injuries in the accident.
4 *law* : to decide or state that (something) is proper, legal, or fair ▪ The judge *sustained* the motion. ▪ The lawyer's objection was *sustained*.
5 *formal* : to show that (something) is true or correct : to confirm or prove (something) ▪ The report *sustains* their story/claims. ▪ The evidence does not *sustain* a guilty verdict.

sus·tain·able /sə'steɪnəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : able to be used without being completely used up or destroyed ▪ *sustainable* energy resources ▪ a *sustainable* water supply
2 : involving methods that do not completely use up or destroy natural resources ▪ *sustainable* agriculture/farming/techniques
3 : able to last or continue for a long time ▪ *sustainable* development/growth
– **sus·tain·abil·i·ty** /sə,steɪnə'bɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]
– **sus·tain·ably** /sə'steɪnəbli/ *adv*

sus·te·nance /'sʌstənəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal*
1 : something (such as food) that keeps someone or something alive ▪ Tree bark provides deer with *sustenance* in periods of drought. ▪ The village depends on the sea for *sustenance*.
2 : something that gives support, help, or strength ▪ She draws spiritual *sustenance* from daily church attendance. ▪ reading for intellectual *sustenance*

[1]su·ture /'su:ʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** [*count*] *medical* : a stitch or a series of stitches used to close a cut or wound

[2]suture *verb* **-tures**; **-tured**; **-tur·ing** [+ *obj*] *medical* : to sew together (a cut, wound, etc.) : to close (something) with a suture ▪ The surgeon *sutured* the incision.

SUV /,ɛs,ju:'vi:/ *noun, pl* **SUVs** [*count*] : a large vehicle that is designed to be used on rough surfaces but that is often used on city roads or highways — called also *sport-utility vehicle*; see picture at CAR

svelte /'svɛlt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : thin in an attractive or graceful way : SLENDER ▪ She has a *svelte* figure. ▪ a *svelte* young actor ▪ a *svelte* aircraft

SW *abbr* southwest, southwestern

[1]swab /'swɑ:b/ *noun, pl* **swabs** [*count*]
1 : a small piece of soft material sometimes on the end of a small stick that is used for applying medicine, cleaning a wound, etc. ▪ Use a cotton *swab* dipped in alcohol to disinfect the area.
2 : a small amount of material taken with a swab as a sample from a person's body ▪ The doctor took a throat *swab* and sent it to the lab.

[2]swab *verb* **swabs**; **swabbed**; **swab·bing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to wipe or clean (something, such as a wound) with a swab ▪ The nurse *swabbed* the cut with a disinfectant.
2 : [2]MOP 1 ▪ sailors *swabbing* the decks

swad·dle /'swɑ:dl̩/ *verb* **swad·dles**; **swad·dled**; **swaddling** [+ *obj*] : to wrap (someone, especially a baby) tightly with a blanket, pieces of cloth, etc. ▪ He *swaddled* the baby in a blanket.

swaddling clothes *noun* [*plural*] : narrow strips of cloth that were wrapped around babies in the past ▪ an infant wrapped in *swaddling clothes*

swag /'swæg/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* + *old-fashioned* : stolen property : LOOT ▪ The robbers divided the *swag*.

[1]swag·ger /'swægɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*] : a way of walking or behaving that shows you have a lot of confidence ▪ He has a *swagger* that annoys some of his teammates.

[2]swagger *verb* **-gers**; **-gered**; **-ger·ing** [*no obj*] : to walk in a very confident way : to walk with a swagger ▪ He *swaggered* [=*strutted*] into the shop like he owned the place.

Swa·hi·li /swɑ'hi:li/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a language widely used in East Africa and the Congo region

swain /'sweɪn/ *noun, pl* **swains** [*count*] *old-fashioned* + *humorous* : a man who is a woman's lover ▪ a fair maiden and her *swain*

[1]swal·low /'swɑ:loʊ/ *verb* **-lows**; **-lowed**; **-low·ing**
1 a : to take (something) into your stomach through your mouth and throat [+ *obj*] He *swallowed* the grape whole. [*no obj*] Chew your food well before you *swallow*. **b** [*no obj*] : to move the muscles in your throat as if you are swallowing something often because you are nervous ▪ I *swallowed* before answering. ▪ The boss said, "Come in." I ***swallowed hard*** and walked in. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ If she insults you, just *swallow hard* [=make an effort to control yourself] and don't say anything.
2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to flow over and cover (something) completely — often + *up* ▪ The wave *swallowed up* the small vessel. — often used figuratively ▪ More small companies are being *swallowed* (*up*) [=*taken over, absorbed*] by giant conglomerates. ▪ We watched as he was *swallowed up* by the crowd. [=as he disappeared into the crowd] **b** : to use up (an amount of money) — usually + *up* ▪ The cost of childcare *swallows up* most of her income.
3 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to accept or believe (something) ▪ Her story is pretty hard to *swallow*. ▪ I can usually take criticism, but this is more than I can *swallow*.
4 [+ *obj*] : to not allow yourself to show or be affected by (an emotion) ▪ We have to *swallow* our disappointment/anger about the election and keep trying to make things better. ▪ She had to ***swallow her pride*** and ask for help.
(a) bitter pill to swallow see [1]PILL

[2]swallow *noun, pl* **-lows** [*count*] : an amount that is swallowed at one time ▪ She took a *swallow* of water to wash down the pill. : the act of swallowing something ▪ He drank the water in/with one *swallow*. — compare [3]SWALLOW

[3]swallow *noun, pl* **-lows** [*count*] : a small bird that has long wings and a deeply forked tail — compare [2]SWALLOW

swam *past tense of* [1]SWIM

swa·mi /'swɑ:mi/ *noun, pl* **-mis** [*count*] : a Hindu priest or religious teacher

[1]swamp /'swɑ:mp/ *noun, pl* **swamps** : land that is always wet and often partly covered with water [*noncount*] The area is mostly *swamp*. [=*swampland*] [*count*] Alligators live in the lowland *swamps*.
– **swampy** /'swɑ:mpi/ *adj* **swamp·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *swampy* land

[2]swamp *verb* **swamps**; **swamped**; **swamp·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to cover (something) with water ▪ The sea level rose and *swamped* the coastal villages. ▪ The boat sank after it was *swamped* by waves.
2 : to cause (someone or something) to have to deal with a very large amount of things or people at the same time — usually used as *(be) swamped* ▪ The agency has *been swamped* by requests for assistance. ▪ I'*m swamped* with work right now. [=I'm extremely busy right now] ▪ Because of the new laws, we *were swamped* with paperwork. ▪ In the summer, the town *is swamped* with/by tourists.

swamp·land /'swɑ:mp,lænd/ *noun, pl* **-lands** : wet land that is partly covered with water : SWAMP [*noncount*] attempting to build on *swampland* [*plural*] the ecology of the coastal *swamplands*

[1]swan /'swɑ:n/ *noun, pl* **swans** *also* **swan** [*count*] : a large usually white bird that lives on or near water and that has a very long and graceful neck


swan

[2]swan *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **swans**; **swanned**; **swan·ning** [*no obj*] *chiefly Brit, informal* + *disapproving* : to go to or move about a place in a very relaxed and aimless way for your own pleasure ▪ She's always *swanning* off to some exotic locale. ▪ He's been *swanning* around foreign countries for the last six months.

[1]swank /'swæŋk/ *adj* **swank·er**; **-est** *chiefly US* : very fashionable and expensive : SWANKY ▪ a *swank* club/hotel/restaurant

[2]swank *verb* **swanks**; **swanked**; **swank·ing** [*no obj*] *Brit, informal* + *disapproving* : to behave in a way that is intended to impress people ▪ rich people *swanking* around in their expensive cars

swanky /'swæŋki/ *adj* **swank·i·er**; **-est** *informal* : very fashionable and expensive ▪ a *swanky* club/hotel/restaurant

swan song *noun, pl* ~ **songs** [*count*] : the last performance or piece of work by an actor, athlete, writer, etc. ▪ She has announced that this tournament will be her *swan song*.

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[=this will be her last tournament]

[1]swap *also Brit* **swop** /ˈswɑːp/ *verb* **swaps**; **swapped**; **swap•ping** *informal*

1 : to give something to someone and receive something in return : to trade or exchange (things) [+ *obj*] He *swapped* his cupcake for a candy bar. ▪ He *swapped* desserts with his brother. = He and his brother *swapped* desserts. ▪ I'll *swap* my sandwich for your popcorn. = I'll *swap* you my sandwich for your popcorn. ▪ I *swapped* seats with my sister so she could see the stage better. ▪ We often get together and *swap* [=*exchange*] recipes. ▪ We spent some time ***swapping stories*** about our college days. [=telling each other stories about our college days] [*no obj*] I liked her blue notebook and she liked my red one, so we *swapped*. ▪ He wanted the window seat so we *swapped*. = (*Brit*) He wanted the window seat so we ***swapped over***.

2 : to replace (something) with something else [+ *obj*] He *swapped* (out) his hard drive for a bigger one. ▪ The nurse *swapped* [=*switched*] the patients' charts by mistake. [*no obj*] (*Brit*) Our company decided to ***swap over*** to a new supplier.

[2]swap *noun, pl* **swaps** [*count*] **:** an act of giving or taking one thing in return for another thing : a trade or exchange ▪ They made the *swap* in secret. ▪ an even *swap*

swap meet *noun, pl* **~ meets** [*count*] *US* **:** an event at which people can buy, sell, or trade used items

sward /ˈswoɚd/ *noun, pl* **swards** [*count, noncount*] *literary* **:** an area of land covered with grass

[1]swarm /ˈswoɚm/ *noun, pl* **swarms** [*count*] **:** a very large number of insects moving together ▪ a *swarm* of bees/mosquitoes/ants/locusts — often used figuratively ▪ The tourists arrived in *swarms*.

[2]swarm *verb* **swarms**; **swarmed**; **swarm•ing**

1 [*no obj*] **:** to move in a large group ▪ Bees were *swarming* near the hive. ▪ Spectators *swarmed* into the stadium.

2 a [*no obj*] **:** to be surrounded or filled *with* a large group of insects, people, etc., moving together ▪ The hive was *swarming with* bees. ▪ The island was *swarming with* tourists. **b** [+ *obj*] **:** to surround (something or someone) with a large group ▪ Police *swarmed* the smuggler's hideout. ▪ The movie star was *swarmed* by adoring fans. ▪ Enemy soldiers *swarmed* the castle.

swar•thy /ˈswoɚði/ *adj* **swar•thi•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] **:** having dark skin ▪ a *swarthy* man/complexion

swash•buck•ler /ˈswɑːʃˌbʌklɚ/ *noun, pl* **-lers** [*count*] **:** a person or a character in a movie, book, etc., who is very brave and has many exciting adventures

– **swash•buck•ling** /ˈswɑːʃˌbʌkəlɪŋ/ *adj* [*more~; most~*] ▪ *swashbuckling* heroes ▪ a *swashbuckling* tale/adventure

swas•ti•ka /ˈswɑːstɪkə/ *noun, pl* **-kas** [*count*] **:** a symbol in the form of a cross with its ends bent at right angles all in the same direction ✧ The swastika was used as a symbol of the German Nazi Party.

swat /ˈswɑːt/ *verb* **swats**; **swat•ted**; **swat•ting** [+ *obj*] **:** to hit (someone or something) with a quick motion ▪ She *swatted* the fly with a magazine. ▪ The cat was *swatting* the injured mouse with its paw. ▪ He *swatted* the tennis ball out of bounds.

– **swat** *noun, pl* **swats** [*count*] ▪ He took a *swat* at the ball but missed. ▪ She gave the ball a *swat*. [=she swatted the ball]

SWAT /ˈswɑːt/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* **:** a police or military unit that is specially trained to handle very dangerous situations — usually used before another noun ▪ a *SWAT* team ✧ *SWAT* is an abbreviation of "special weapons and tactics."

swatch /ˈswɑːʧ/ *noun, pl* **swatch•es** [*count*] **:** a small piece of cloth that is used as a sample for choosing colors, fabrics, etc. ▪ She looked at fabric *swatches* to select material for the drapes.

swath /ˈswɑːθ/ *or* **swathe** /ˈswɑːð/ *noun, pl* **swaths** *or* **swathes** [*count*]

1 : a long, wide strip of land ▪ An aerial view of the countryside shows wide *swathes* of green.

2 : an area of grass or grain that has been cut or mowed ▪ He ***cut a swath through*** the field with his scythe. — often used figuratively ▪ The tornado *cut a swath through* the county.

swathe /ˈswɑːð/ *verb* **swathes**; **swathed**; **swath•ing** [+ *obj*] *literary* **:** to wrap or cover (someone or something) ▪ The nurse *swathed* the wounded soldier's leg in bandages. ▪ Her neck was *swathed* in jewels. ▪ mountains *swathed* in mist

[1]sway /ˈsweɪ/ *verb* **sways**; **swayed**; **sway•ing**

1 [*no obj*] **:** to move slowly back and forth ▪ branches *swaying* in the breeze ▪ He *swayed* a moment before he fainted.

2 [+ *obj*] **:** to cause (someone) to agree with you or to share your opinion ▪ The lawyer tried to *sway* the jury. ▪ She persisted in her argument, but I wouldn't let her *sway* me. — often used as *(be) swayed* ▪ He can *be* easily *swayed*.

[2]sway *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a slow movement back and forth ▪ the *sway* of the ship ▪ the sexy *sway* of her hips

2 : a controlling force or influence ▪ He has them ***under his sway***. [=he controls them] ▪ He has come/fallen *under the sway* of terrorists. ▪ The ancient Romans ***held sway*** over most of Europe. ▪ The theory still *holds sway* today. [=still influences people today]

[1]swear /ˈsweɚ/ *verb* **swears**; **swore** /ˈswoɚ/; **sworn** /ˈswoɚn/; **swear•ing**

1 a : to state (something) very strongly and sincerely [+ *obj*] I *swear* (that) I was there. [=I was definitely there; I am telling you the truth when I say that I was there] ▪ Her English is so good that you would *swear* she has been studying it for years. [=you would really think that she has been studying it for years, even though she has not] ▪ You'd *swear* (that) the jewels are real. [=the jewels look very real even though they are not] ▪ I ***could have sworn*** that I left my keys on the counter. [=I'm very surprised that my keys are not on the counter because I definitely remember putting them there] ▪ (*US*) She ***swore up and down*** [=*insisted*] (that) she didn't do it. ▪ (*Brit*) He ***swore blind*** [=*insisted*] (that) he was innocent. [*no obj*] I didn't do anything wrong. ***I swear (on my mother's grave)***. [=I am being absolutely honest when I say that I didn't do anything wrong] ▪ I wouldn't ***swear to it*** [=I'm not absolutely sure about it], but I think he's written three books so far. **b :** to promise very strongly and sincerely to do or not do something [+ *obj*] He *swore* [=*vowed*] to seek revenge. ▪ He *swore* revenge on the killers. ▪ I *swear* (that) I'll never do that again. [*no obj*] I ***swear to God***, I'll kill him if he comes back. ▪ I'll never do that again. *Swear to God*. [=I promise you that I'll never do that again]

2 [*no obj*] **:** to use offensive words when you speak ▪ Don't *swear* in front of the children. — often + *at* ▪ The other driver *swore at* me and drove away.

3 : to make a formal or official promise especially in a court of law [+ *obj*] I do solemnly *swear* to tell the whole truth. ▪ They *swore* (an oath of) allegiance to the United States of America. [=they formally promised that they would be loyal to the United States of America] [*no obj*] Witnesses are required to ***swear on the Bible*** [=to put a hand on the Bible and make a formal promise to tell the truth] before they testify.

4 [+ *obj*] **:** to cause (someone) to make a promise ▪ He ***swore us to secrecy/silence***. [=he made us promise not to tell anyone his secret] — often used as *(be) sworn* ▪ Witnesses *are sworn* to tell the truth.

I swear *informal* — used for emphasis ▪ *I swear*, every time I see her she's got a new boyfriend. ▪ *I swear*, if I had a nickel for every time you did that, I'd be rich.

swear by [*phrasal verb*] ***swear by (something)*** **:** to have or express a lot of confidence in (something) : to say that (something) is very good or useful ▪ She *swears by* this diet. ▪ His method sounds pretty strange, but he *swears by* it.

swear in [*phrasal verb*] ***swear (someone) in*** *or* ***swear in (someone)*** **:** to place (someone) in a new office or position by having an official ceremony in which that person makes a formal promise to do the work properly, to be honest and loyal, etc. ▪ When do they *swear* him *in*? — often used as *(be) sworn in* ▪ The new president will *be sworn in* tomorrow. — see also SWEARING-IN

swear off [*phrasal verb*] ***swear off (something)*** *chiefly US* **:** to stop doing, having, or being involved in (something) ▪ He was so disgusted by the election results that he *swore off* politics for good. ▪ She tried to *swear off* chocolate, but she couldn't do it.

– see also SWORN

[2]swear *noun, pl* **swears** [*count*] *US, informal* **:** SWEARWORD ▪ I heard him say a *swear*.

swearing–in *noun, pl* **swearings–in** [*count*] **:** an occasion or ceremony in which someone begins a new official job or position by making a formal promise to do the work properly, to be honest and loyal, etc. — see also *swear in* at [1]SWEAR

swear•word /ˈsweɚˌwɚd/ *noun, pl* **-words** [*count*] **:** an offensive word ▪ a movie filled with violent images and rough *swearwords*

[1]sweat /ˈswɛt/ *verb* **sweats; sweat** *or* **sweat·ed; sweat·ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to produce a clear liquid from your skin when you are hot or nervous ▪ He *sweats* a lot when he exercises. ▪ The dancers were *sweating* [=(more formally) *perspiring*] profusely. ▪ (*informal*) He was ***sweating like a pig***. [=sweating a lot]

2 [*no obj*] *informal* : to work very hard ▪ They *sweated* and saved so their children could go to college. — often + *over* ▪ She was *sweating over* her law books all afternoon. ▪ He *sweated over* the wording of his speech for several days.

3 *informal* **a** : to feel worried or nervous about something [*no obj*] We'll let them *sweat* a while longer. — often + *over* ▪ After they took the test, they were *sweating over* [=worrying about] their scores. [+ *obj*] We'll let them ***sweat it out*** for a while longer. **b** [*no obj*] : to go through an experience that causes a lot of emotional stress or worry — usually + *through* ▪ The cops made him *sweat through* 15 minutes of intense questioning before they let him go. ▪ I *sweated* [=*struggled*] *through* geometry in high school. **c** [+ *obj*] *US* : to worry or be nervous about (something) ▪ "The car won't start—what are we going to do?" "Don't ***sweat it***. I know all about fixing cars." ▪ Don't ***sweat the small stuff***. [=don't worry about minor things]

4 [*no obj*] : to produce small drops of liquid on the surface ▪ Cheese *sweats* during ripening. ▪ A pitcher of ice water *sweats* on a hot day.

5 [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to cook (something) slowly in a covered pan with a little fat ▪ *Sweat* sliced onions in a little olive oil until they are soft.

sweat blood see BLOOD

sweat bullets *US, informal* : to be very nervous or worried ▪ I was *sweating bullets* while I waited to talk to my boss.

sweat off [*phrasal verb*] ***sweat off (something)*** *or* ***sweat (something) off*** : to lose (an amount of weight) by sweating (especially by exercising a lot) ▪ He's trying to *sweat off* a few more pounds.

sweat out [*phrasal verb*] ***sweat out (something)*** *or* ***sweat (something) out*** *informal* **1** : to wait nervously until the end of (something) ▪ It was a close game, and the fans were really ***sweating it out*** at the end. **2** *US* **a** : to work hard at (something) ▪ She was ***sweating it out*** on the treadmill. [=she was exercising and sweating on the treadmill] **b** : to get or achieve (something, such as a victory) by working very hard ▪ He managed to *sweat out* a narrow victory in the semifinals. **3** : to end (an illness) by exercising and sweating ▪ He's trying to *sweat out* his cold at the gym.

[2]sweat *noun*

1 [*noncount*] : the clear liquid that forms on your skin when you are hot or nervous : PERSPIRATION ▪ We were drenched/bathed in *sweat* after the workout. ▪ The runners were dripping with *sweat*. ▪ Her forehead was covered with beads of *sweat*.

2 [*count*] : the state or condition of someone who is sweating ▪ nervous *sweats* — usually singular ▪ After a few minutes of exercise, we had ***worked up a sweat***. [=we were sweating] ▪ I ***broke into a sweat*** as I struggled up the hill. = I ***broke out in a sweat*** as I struggled up the hill. [=I began to sweat as I struggled up the hill] — see also COLD SWEAT

3 [*noncount*] : hard work ▪ It took a lot of *sweat* and toil to build the house. ▪ We helped them not with money but with our blood and *sweat*.

4 [*noncount*] : moisture that forms in drops on a surface ▪ He wiped the *sweat* [=*condensation*] off the bottle.

break a sweat (*US*) *or Brit* ***break sweat*** : to begin to sweat ▪ He started running and soon *broke a sweat*. ▪ He loaded all five boxes without *breaking a sweat*. — often used figuratively to say that something is not hard for someone to do ▪ He gave a perfect performance and didn't *break a sweat*. ▪ She rattled off the answers without *breaking a sweat*. [=she gave the answers very easily]

by the sweat of your brow : by doing hard, physical work ▪ He earned his money *by the sweat of his brow*.

in a sweat *informal* : very nervous or worried about something ▪ He's *in a sweat* about his exams. ▪ There's no need to ***get in a sweat*** about minor details.

no sweat *informal* : with little or no difficulty : EASILY ▪ I can do that *no sweat*. ▪ "Can you move that big board for me?" "Sure, *no sweat*." ▪ "Thanks a lot for your help." "*No sweat*." [=helping was not difficult and I was glad to do it]

sweat·band /ˈswɛtˌbænd/ *noun, pl* **-bands** [*count*]

1 : a band of material that you wear around your head or wrist to absorb sweat while you are exercising

2 : a band of material along the inner edge of a hat or cap to absorb sweat

sweated labour *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : people who work hard and in poor conditions for low pay ▪ goods made cheaply by *sweated labour*; *also* : the type of work done by such people

sweat equity *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : value in a property, business, etc., that results from the work that a person does to improve it ▪ He's built up a lot of *sweat equity* in his house.; *also* : the work itself ▪ He put countless hours of *sweat equity* into that old house.

sweat·er /ˈswɛtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a warm usually knitted piece of clothing for the upper part of your body: such as **a** : one that is put on by pulling it over your head : PULLOVER — called also (*Brit*) *jumper*; see color picture on page C15 **b** *US* : one that opens like a jacket and that is fastened in the front with buttons or a zipper — called also *cardigan*

sweater vest *noun, pl* ~ **vests** [*count*] *US* : a sleeveless sweater worn over a shirt — called also (*Brit*) *tank top*

sweat·pants /ˈswɛtˌpænts/ *noun* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : pants made from a thick, soft material that are worn mostly when you are exercising — see color picture on page C14

sweats /ˈswɛts/ *noun* [*plural*] *US, informal*

1 : SWEATPANTS

2 : SWEAT SUIT

sweat·shirt /ˈswɛtˌʃɚt/ *noun, pl* **-shirts** [*count*] : a piece of clothing for the upper part of your body that is made from a thick, soft material — see color picture on page C14

sweat·shop /ˈswɛtˌʃɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-shops** [*count*] : a place where people work long hours for low pay in poor conditions ▪ clothing made in *sweatshops* ▪ *sweatshop* conditions/labor/workers

sweat suit *noun, pl* ~ **suits** [*count*] *US* : clothing that consists of a matching sweatshirt and sweatpants

sweaty /ˈswɛti/ *adj* **sweat·i·er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : causing you to sweat ▪ *sweaty* work ▪ a hot and *sweaty* afternoon

2 : wet with sweat ▪ We were hot and *sweaty* after playing basketball. ▪ *sweaty* palms ▪ My clothes are all *sweaty* from my workout.

swede /ˈswiːd/ *noun, pl* **swedes** [*count, noncount*] *Brit* : RUTABAGA

Swede /ˈswiːd/ *noun, pl* **Swedes** [*count*] : a person born, raised in, or living in Sweden

[1]sweep /ˈswiːp/ *verb* **sweeps; swept** /ˈswɛpt/; **sweep·ing**

1 a *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to remove (something, such as dust or dirt) from a surface with a broom or brush or with a quick movement of your hand, fingers, etc. ▪ He *swept* the dirt off the driveway. ▪ He *swept* the crumbs from the table. **b** : to remove dust, dirt, etc., from (something) with a broom or brush [+ *obj*] She *swept* the floor. ▪ I need to *sweep* the kitchen. ▪ Are you finished *sweeping* the porch? [*no obj*] Have you *swept* yet? — see also SWEEP OUT (below), SWEEP UP (below)

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** [*no obj*] : to move or pass quickly, forcefully, or smoothly ▪ A storm *swept* across the plains. ▪ Fires *swept* through the forest. — often used figuratively ▪ She ***swept to victory*** on a wave of popularity. **b** [*no obj*] : to move or walk in a smooth, quick, and impressive way ▪ She proudly *swept* into the room. ▪ The limo *swept* up to the door. **c** [+ *obj*] : to push or move (something) quickly or forcefully ▪ He *swept* the curtains aside. ▪ She *swept* the books off the desk. **d** [+ *obj*] : to push, carry, or lift (someone or something) with great force ▪ The debris was *swept* [=*carried*] out to sea by the tide. ▪ She was *swept* toward the door by the crowd. ▪ He *swept* her into his arms. — often used figuratively ▪ We were *swept* along/away by her enthusiasm. ▪ The party was ***swept into power*** in the last election.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] *of a feeling or emotion* : to be felt suddenly ▪ Fear *swept* over/through her. [=she suddenly felt afraid] ▪ A feeling of relief *swept* over him.

4 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to move (your hand, arm, etc.) in a wide, curving motion ▪ He *swept* his arm across the table.

5 [+ *obj*] : to pass over (all of an area or place) in a continuous motion ▪ The teacher's gaze *swept* the classroom. ▪ A searchlight *swept* the area. ▪ Strong winds *sweep* the mountainside.

6 [+ *obj*] : to become very popular or common suddenly in (a

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particular place) ▪ It's the latest craze *sweeping* the nation.
7 [+ *obj*] : to win everything that can be won in (something, such as an election) in an easy or impressive way ▪ The opposition party *swept* the election.
8 [+ *obj*] *US, sports* : to win all of the games in a series of games against another team ▪ They *swept* their rivals in a three-game series. ▪ They *swept* the series/doubleheader. ▪ They were *swept* in the play-offs last year.
9 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to brush or pull (your hair) away from your face ▪ She *swept* her hair up/back and clipped it in place.
10 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to form a long, smooth curve ▪ The property *sweeps* down to the water's edge.
sweep aside [*phrasal verb*] ***sweep (something) aside*** *or* ***sweep aside (something)*** : to treat (something) as not important : to ignore (something) ▪ He *swept aside* [=*brushed aside*] questions about his son's arrest. ▪ He *swept aside* [=*dismissed*] their objections, refusing to change his plans.
sweep away [*phrasal verb*] ***sweep (something) away*** *or* ***sweep away (something)*** : to destroy or remove (something) completely ▪ Floods *swept away* several houses. ▪ an ancient civilization *swept away* by war ▪ His performance today *swept away* any doubts about his ability to play.
sweep out [*phrasal verb*] ***sweep (something) out*** *or* ***sweep out (something)*** : to remove dust, dirt, etc., from (something) by using a broom or brush ▪ Please *sweep out* the room when you're done working.
sweep (someone) off his/her feet : to make (someone) suddenly become very attracted to you in a romantic way ▪ She says that he *swept* her *off her feet*, and they were married six months later.
sweep (something) under the rug (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* ***sweep (something) under the carpet*** : to hide (something that is illegal, embarrassing, or wrong) ▪ He tried to *sweep* his past mistakes *under the rug*. ▪ This is not something we can just *sweep under the rug*.
sweep the board *chiefly Brit* : to win everything that can be won in a competition ▪ She *swept the board* at the awards ceremony.
sweep up [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***sweep up*** *or* ***sweep (something) up*** *or* ***sweep up (something)*** **a** : to remove dust, dirt, etc., from (something) by using a broom or brush ▪ When I was *sweeping up*, I found an earring that I had lost. ▪ Can you please *sweep up* the porch? **b** ***sweep (something) up*** *or* ***sweep up (something)*** : to remove (something, such as dust, dirt, etc.) from a surface by using a broom or brush ▪ She *swept up* the broken glass. **2** ***sweep (someone or something) up*** *or* ***sweep up (someone or something)*** : to pick up (someone or something) in one quick, continuous motion ▪ She *swept* the baby *up* and carried her to the crib.

²sweep *noun, pl* **sweeps**
1 [*count*] : an act of cleaning an area with a broom or brush — usually singular ▪ He gave the floor/room a quick *sweep*. [=he swept the floor/room quickly]
2 [*count*] : a long, smooth movement often in a wide curve — often + *of* ▪ He brushed the crumbs away with a *sweep of* his hand.
3 [*count*] : a large area of land often forming a wide curve — + *of*; usually singular ▪ the *sweep of* the coastline
4 [*singular*] : everything that is included in something : the full range or extent of something — + *of* ▪ The book attempts to cover the whole *sweep of* American history.
5 [*count*] : a search for something over a large area — usually singular ▪ The search party made a *sweep* of the forest.
6 [*count*] *US, sports* : an occurrence in which one team wins all the games in a series of games against another team ▪ They won the series in a *sweep*. ▪ a World Series *sweep* — see also *clean sweep* at ¹CLEAN
7 ***sweeps*** [*plural*] *US* : a time during the year when television stations try to see which shows are the most popular in order to decide how much can be charged for advertising ▪ The network is trying to increase ratings during (the) *sweeps*. ▪ *sweeps* week/month
8 [*count*] : CHIMNEY SWEEP

sweep•er /'swi:pɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a person or machine that sweeps something — see also MINESWEEPER
2 *soccer* : a player whose position is behind other defending players

¹sweeping *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : including or involving many things : wide in range or amount ▪ *sweeping* changes/reforms ▪ a *sweeping* view of the valley ▪ The election was a ***sweeping victory*** [=a victory that is won by a large margin] for the party.
2 *disapproving* : too general : including or involving too many things or people ▪ *sweeping* claims/generalizations ▪ a *sweeping* condemnation
3 *always used before a noun* : having a curving form : forming a curve ▪ a *sweeping* coastline ▪ He dismissed the idea with a *sweeping* motion of his arm.

²sweeping *noun* [*singular*] : an act of cleaning an area with a broom or brush ▪ The porch needs a good *sweeping*.

sweep•stakes /'swi:p,steɪks/ *noun* [*plural*] : a race or contest in which the winner receives all the prize money

¹sweet /'swi:t/ *adj* **sweet•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : containing a lot of sugar ▪ *sweet* dishes/foods ▪ *sweet* desserts ▪ She likes her coffee *sweet*. ▪ a *sweet* wine ▪ That candy is too *sweet*.
2 : very gentle, kind, or friendly ▪ a *sweet* elderly couple ▪ He's a really *sweet* guy. ▪ She has a *sweet* smile. ▪ It was *sweet* of her to take care of them.
3 *chiefly Brit* : very pretty or cute ▪ The baby looks *sweet* [=*adorable*] in her bonnet.
4 a : having a very pleasant smell, sound, or appearance ▪ the *sweet* fragrance/scent of spring flowers ▪ *sweet* music/voices ▪ a *sweet*-smelling perfume **b** : clean and fresh ▪ The spring air was *sweet*. ▪ The water from the well is *sweet*. **c** *US* : not salty or salted ▪ *sweet* butter
5 : making you feel happy or pleased ▪ Victory/success/revenge is *sweet*. : very pleasant ▪ "Good night and ***sweet dreams***." [=I hope you will sleep well and have pleasant dreams]
6 *chiefly US, informal* : very good or impressive ▪ Prosecutors offered him a *sweet* deal if he'd testify. ▪ a *sweet* job offer ▪ This video game is pretty *sweet*. [=*cool*] ▪ "I got backstage passes." "*Sweet*!"
be sweet on *old-fashioned* + *informal* : to be in love with (someone) ▪ He's *been sweet on* her since they were kids.
home sweet home see ¹HOME
keep someone sweet *Brit, informal* : to be kind and friendly so that someone will do something for you later
short and sweet see ¹SHORT
sweet nothings see ³NOTHING
your own sweet time see ¹TIME

²sweet *noun, pl* **sweets**
1 a [*count*] : a food that contains a lot of sugar : a sweet food ▪ I'm trying to cut down on *sweets*. **b** [*count*] *Brit* : a piece of candy ▪ a bag of *sweets* **c** [*count, noncount*] *Brit* : a sweet food served at the end of a meal : DESSERT
2 [*noncount*] *old-fashioned* — used to address someone you love ▪ Good morning, ***my sweet***

sweet–and–sour /ˌswi:tn̩'sawɚ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : having a flavor that is both sweet and sour ▪ *sweet-and-sour* chicken/pork

sweet•bread /'swi:tˌbrɛd/ *noun* [*count, noncount*] : a part (called the pancreas) of a young cow or sheep that is eaten as food — usually plural

sweet corn *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *US* : a kind of corn (sense 1) that contains a lot of sugar
2 ***sweetcorn*** *Brit* : ¹CORN 1b

sweet•en /'swi:tn̩/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (something) sweet or sweeter in taste ▪ She *sweetened* her coffee. ▪ He *sweetened* his cereal a little.
2 : to make (something) more valuable or attractive ▪ He *sweetened* the deal with a large signing bonus.
sweeten the pill see ¹PILL
sweeten up [*phrasal verb*] ***sweeten up (someone)*** *or* ***sweeten (someone) up*** *informal* : to be very nice to (someone) in order to get something ▪ He's been trying to *sweeten* his mother *up* so she'll lend him the car.
– **sweet•en•er** /'swi:tn̩ɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ She used an artificial *sweetener* in the pie instead of sugar.

sweet FA /-'ɛf'eɪ/ *also* **sweet Fan•ny Ad•ams** /-'fæni-'ædəmz/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit slang* : nothing at all ▪ You've done *sweet FA* to help me and I'm angry! ▪ Don't listen to him. He knows *sweet FA* about this.

sweet•heart /'swi:tˌhɑɚt/ *noun, pl* **-hearts**
1 a [*count*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : a person you love very much ▪ childhood/college *sweethearts* **b** — used to address someone you love ▪ How was your day, *sweetheart*? [=*darling, dear*] ▪ *Sweetheart*, what's the matter?
2 [*count*] : a kind or helpful person : someone who is very nice ▪ Be a *sweetheart* and help your grandmother. ▪ She is such a little *sweetheart*.

sweetheart deal *noun, pl* ~ **deals** [*count*] *chiefly US* : an unusually good arrangement or agreement that helps someone who has a lot of influence or who knows someone important ▪ He got a *sweetheart deal* on the new job/car because he knows the manager.

sweet•ie /'swi:ti/ *noun, pl* **-ies** *informal*
1 a [*count*] : a person you love very much ▪ My *sweetie* and I will be at the party. **b** — used to address someone you love ▪ "How are you feeling, *sweetie*?"
2 [*count*] : a kind or helpful person : someone who is very nice ▪ She's a total/real *sweetie*.
3 [*count*] *Brit* : a candy or sweet — used especially by children or when speaking to children ▪ a jar of *sweeties*

sweetie pie *noun, pl* ~ **pies** *informal*
1 [*count*] : a person you love very much ▪ my *sweetie pie*
2 — used to address someone you love ▪ "*Sweetie pie*, what's wrong?"

sweet•ish /'swi:tɪʃ/ *adj* : slightly or somewhat sweet in taste or smell ▪ a *sweetish* red wine

sweet•ly /'swi:tli/ *adv*
1 : in a kind or loving way ▪ He asked *sweetly* if she was all right. ▪ She smiled *sweetly* at him.
2 : smelling or tasting sweet ▪ a *sweetly* scented candle ▪ *sweetly* flavored dishes
3 : in a pleasant or appealing way ▪ *sweetly* melodious music

sweet•meat /'swi:t,mi:t/ *noun, pl* **-meats** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a piece of candy or a piece of fruit covered with sugar

sweet•ness /'swi:tnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the quality of tasting or smelling sweet ▪ I like the *sweetness* of the sauce.
2 : the quality of being kind or loving ▪ the *sweetness* of his nature ▪ I'll never forget the *sweetness* of her smile.
3 : the quality of being pleasant or appealing ▪ the *sweetness* of the melody
sweetness and light : pleasant and enjoyable ▪ Life is not all *sweetness and light*. ▪ She was yelling at us all morning, but when the guests arrived, she was all *sweetness and light*.

sweet pea *noun, pl* ~ **peas** [*count*] : a climbing plant with flowers that have a sweet smell

sweet pepper *noun, pl* ~ **-pers** [*count*] : a type of hollow vegetable (called a pepper) that is usually red, green, or yellow, that has a mild flavor, and that can be eaten raw or cooked ▪ a red/green *sweet pepper*

sweet potato *noun, pl* ~ **-toes** [*count, noncount*] : a large root of a tropical plant that has orange skin and orange flesh, that is eaten as a vegetable, and that tastes sweet — see color picture on page C4; compare YAM

sweet–talk /'swi:t,tɑ:k/ *verb* **-talks**; **-talked**; **-talk•ing** [+ *obj*] : to say nice things to (someone) in order to persuade that person to do something — often + *into* ▪ He tried to *sweet-talk* her *into* doing his work for him.
– **sweet talk** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Don't fall for his *sweet talk*.

sweet tooth *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : a liking for sweet foods ▪ He's always ***had a sweet tooth***. [=he has always liked sweets]

[1]swell /'swɛl/ *verb* **swells**; **swelled**; **swelled** *or* **swol•len** /'swoʊlən/; **swell•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to become larger than normal ▪ Her broken ankle *swelled* badly. — often + *up* ▪ The bee sting made my whole arm *swell up*.
2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a river) larger or more full than normal ▪ Heavy rains *swelled* the river.
3 : to increase in size or number [*no obj*] The population has *swelled/swollen* in recent years. ▪ The economy is *swelling* at an annual rate of five percent. [+ *obj*] Immigrants have *swelled* the population.
4 [*no obj*] : to become louder ▪ The music *swelled*.
5 : to cause (something, such as a sail) to stretch outward and become full [+ *obj*] The breeze *swelled* (out) the sails. [*no obj*] The sails *swelled* (out) in the breeze.
6 [*no obj*] : to feel an emotion strongly — + *with* ▪ His heart *swelled with* pride. [=he felt very proud]
a swelled head see [1]HEAD
– **swollen** *adj* ▪ a *swollen* ankle/gland ▪ a *swollen* river

[2]swell *noun, pl* **swells**
1 [*count*] : an upward and downward movement of the water in the sea ▪ The storm has brought high winds and heavy *swells* along the coast.
2 [*noncount*] : the curved or rounded shape of something ▪ the *swell* of a pregnant woman's belly
3 [*singular*] **a** : an increase in size or number ▪ a *swell* in the population **b** : an increase in loudness ▪ the *swell* of the music **c** : an increase in the strength of an emotion ▪ a *swell* of enthusiasm/fear/hope — see also GROUNDSWELL
4 [*count*] *informal + old-fashioned* : a socially important or fashionable person ▪ a party for a bunch of *swells*

[3]swell *adj, US, informal + old-fashioned* : very good : EXCELLENT ▪ That was a *swell* party. ▪ He's a *swell* guy.

swell•ing /'swɛlɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**
1 [*count*] : an area on someone's body that is larger than normal because of an illness or injury ▪ There was a *swelling* above her eye.
2 [*noncount*] : the condition of being larger than normal ▪ The *swelling* around her eye should subside in a few days.

swel•ter /'swɛltɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** [*no obj*] : to be very hot and uncomfortable ▪ We were *sweltering* in the summer heat.

swel•ter•ing /'swɛltərɪŋ/ *adj* : very hot ▪ a *sweltering* summer day

swept *past tense and past participle of* [1]SWEEP

swerve /'swɚv/ *verb* **swerves**; **swerved**; **swerv•ing** [*no obj*] : to change direction suddenly especially to avoid hitting someone or something ▪ The car *swerved* [=*turned*] sharply to avoid hitting the deer. ▪ He lost control of the car and *swerved* toward a tree.

[1]swift /'swɪft/ *adj* **swift•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : happening or done quickly or immediately ▪ a *swift* and accurate response ▪ a *swift* kick
2 : moving or able to move very fast ▪ a *swift* horse/runner ▪ a *swift* river current
3 *US, informal* : smart or intelligent — usually used in negative statements ▪ She's a nice kid, but she's not too *swift*. ▪ "I locked myself out of my car." "That wasn't very *swift*."
– **swift•ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ He answered *swiftly*.
– **swift•ness** /'swɪftnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]swift *noun, pl* **swifts** [*count*] : a small bird that has long, narrow wings

swig /'swɪg/ *verb* **swigs**; **swigged**; **swig•ging** [+ *obj*] *informal* : to drink (something) quickly and in large amounts : to swallow a lot of (a drink) ▪ She was *swigging* [=*gulping*] water from a bottle after her workout.
– **swig** *noun, pl* **swigs** [*count*] ▪ He took a *swig* of whisky.

[1]swill /'swɪl/ *verb* **swills**; **swilled**; **swill•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to drink (something) quickly in large amounts ▪ They were *swilling* (down) beer and playing cards.
2 a [*no obj*] *of a liquid* : to move around in a container ▪ She watched the water *swill* around in the bucket. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (a liquid) to move around in a container ▪ He *swilled* the water around in the pot.
3 [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to clean (something) by pouring water on it ▪ He *swilled* the floor with buckets of water.

[2]swill *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : food for animals (such as pigs) made from scraps of food and water
2 *informal* : food or drink that is very bad or unappealing ▪ I refuse to eat this *swill*. [=*garbage*]

[1]swim /'swɪm/ *verb* **swims**; **swam** /'swæm/; **swum** /'swʌm/; **swim•ming**
1 a [*no obj*] : to move through water by moving your arms and legs ▪ He's teaching the children to *swim*. ▪ She *swam* across the pool. ▪ I can't *swim*. ▪ He *swam* (for) almost a mile. — see also SWIMMING **b** [+ *obj*] : to move through or across (an area of water) by swimming ▪ He *swam* the English Channel. **c** [+ *obj*] : to swim by using (a specified method) ▪ The racers must *swim* the backstroke. **d** [*no obj*] *of a fish, bird, etc.* : to move through or over water ▪ We watched the fish *swimming* in the river. ▪ Ducks *swam* in/on the pond.
2 [*no obj*] : to be completely covered with a liquid — usually used as *(be) swimming in* ▪ The potatoes *were swimming in* butter/gravy.
3 [*no obj*] **a** : to feel dizzy or unable to think clearly because you are sick, confused, etc. ▪ I felt weak and my ***head was swimming***. ▪ All the facts and figures he was reciting were starting to make my *head swim*. [=starting to make me feel confused, unable to think clearly, etc.] **b** *of something you are looking at* : to seem to be moving around because you are tired, sick, etc. ▪ The room *swam* before my eyes.
sink or swim see [1]SINK
swim with/against the tide see [1]TIDE

[2]swim *noun, pl* **swims** [*count*] : an act or period of swimming — usually singular ▪ We have time for a quick *swim* before

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dinner. ▪ Would you like to ***go for a swim***? ▪ The schools competed in a ***swim meet***. [=a swimming competition with many races]

in/into the swim (of things) *informal* : involved in an activity or informed about a situation ▪ She likes to be *in the swim of things*. ▪ When he gets *into the swim of things*, he'll be much happier.

swim•mer /ˈswɪmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-mers** [*count*] : a person who swims ▪ She's a good/strong/fast *swimmer*. : a person who is swimming ▪ There were a few *swimmers* at the lake this morning.

swimming *noun* [*noncount*] : the sport or activity of moving through water by moving your arms and legs ▪ *Swimming* keeps her fit. ▪ I am ***going swimming*** later today. — see also SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING

swimming bath *noun, pl* ~ **baths** [*count*] *Brit* : a public swimming pool that is usually indoors

swimming cap *noun, pl* ~ **caps** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a tight rubber cap that you wear while you swim to keep your hair dry

swimming costume *noun, pl* ~ **-tumes** [*count*] *Brit* : SWIMSUIT

swimming hole *noun, pl* ~ **holes** [*count*] *US* : a place in a river, pond, etc., where people swim ▪ The boys cooled off at the *swimming hole*.

swim•ming•ly /ˈswɪmɪŋli/ *adv, informal* : very well ▪ We expect everything to ***go swimmingly***.

swimming pool *noun, pl* ~ **pools** [*count*] : a large structure that is filled with water and that is used for swimming ▪ Our neighbors have a *swimming pool* in their backyard. ▪ a public *swimming pool*

swimming trunks *noun* [*plural*] : special shorts that men and boys wear for swimming — called also *trunks*; see color picture on page C13

swim•suit /ˈswɪmˌsu:t/ *noun, pl* **-suits** [*count*] : special clothing that women and girls wear for swimming — called also (*chiefly US*) *bathing suit*, (*Brit*) *swimming costume*; see color picture on page C13

swim•wear /ˈswɪmˌweɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : special clothing worn for swimming

swin•dle /ˈswɪndl/ *verb* **swin•dles**; **swin•dled**; **swindling** [+ *obj*] : to take money or property from (someone) by using lies or tricks : CHEAT — usually + *out of* ▪ He *swindled* elderly women *out of* their savings.

– **swindle** *noun, pl* **swindles** [*count*] ▪ an insurance *swindle* ▪ bank *swindles* – **swin•dler** /ˈswɪndlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-dlers** [*count*]

swine /ˈswaɪn/ *noun, pl* **swine** [*count*]

1 : PIG 1 ▪ methods of raising *swine* ▪ a herd of *swine*

2 *informal* : a very bad person ▪ He's such a *swine*! ▪ He's a filthy *swine*.

cast/throw pearls before swine see ¹PEARL

swine•herd /ˈswaɪnˌhɚd/ *noun, pl* **-herds** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a person whose job is to take care of pigs

¹swing /ˈswɪŋ/ *verb* **swings**; **swung** /ˈswʌŋ/; **swing•ing**

1 : to move backward and forward or from side to side while hanging from something [*no obj*] The sheets *swung* on the clothesline. ▪ The clock's pendulum stopped *swinging*. [+ *obj*] She sat on the edge of the table, *swinging* her legs. ▪ She *swung* the bag by the handle. [=she held the handle of the bag and made the bag swing]

2 *always followed by an adverb, adjective, or preposition* : to move with a smooth, curving motion [*no obj*] The monkeys were *swinging* from branch to branch high up in the trees. ▪ The door *swung* open/shut. [+ *obj*] He *swung* himself (up) into the truck. ▪ I *swung* my suitcase into the backseat of the car. ▪ She sat on the counter and *swung* her legs over to the other side. ▪ She *swung* the door open.

3 : to move (your arm, a tool, etc.) with a quick, curving motion especially to try to hit something [+ *obj*] Be careful how you *swing* that ax. ▪ She *swung* the bat but missed the ball. ▪ She *swung* her purse at me. [*no obj*] She *swung* (at the ball) but missed. ▪ He ***swung at me*** [=tried to hit me with his fist] for no reason.

4 [*no obj*] : to move back and forth on a special type of seat (called a swing) ▪ a playground where kids go to *swing*

5 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to turn or move quickly in a particular direction [*no obj*] The road *swings* to the left sharply after a few miles. — often + *around* ▪ He *swung around* to look at the clock. [+ *obj*] She *swung* the car into the driveway. ▪ He *swung* the flashlight toward the noise.

6 a *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to change suddenly from one state or condition to another ▪ Sales *swung* up sharply at the end of the year. ▪ The game suddenly *swung* in favor of the home team. ▪ His mood can *swing* wildly from cheerful to angry. ▪ They have to be ready to ***swing into action*** [=to start doing something quickly] at a moment's notice. **b** [+ *obj*] : to change or influence (something) in an important way ▪ His strong performance in the second half *swung* the game in our favor. ▪ Her promise to lower taxes may have *swung* [=changed the outcome of] the presidential election. ▪ They may still *swing* their votes to the other candidate.

7 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to do or manage (something) successfully ▪ Do you think you can *swing* the job? ▪ She isn't able to *swing* [=*afford*] a new car on her income. ▪ If he can ***swing it***, he'll visit next month.

8 [*no obj*] *informal + somewhat old-fashioned* : to be lively or exciting ▪ The bar really *swings* on weekends. ▪ The party was *swinging*.

9 [*no obj*] *old-fashioned* : to die by hanging ▪ He *swung* for his crimes.

swing both ways *informal* : to be bisexual

swing by *also* ***swing over*** [*phrasal verb*] *US, informal* : to make a brief visit ▪ I'll *swing by* [=*stop by*] after work to drop off the paperwork.

swing the balance : to change a situation so that one person, group, etc., is more able or likely to succeed than another ▪ Both candidates are qualified, but her experience could *swing the balance* in her favor.

²swing *noun, pl* **swings**

1 [*count*] **a** : an act of moving something with a quick, sweeping motion : an act of swinging a bat, fist, etc. ▪ One *swing* of the hammer was all it took to drive the nail through the board. ▪ She needs to work on her (golf) *swing*. [=she needs to practice the way she swings a golf club] ▪ He ***took a swing*** at the pitch. [=he swung at the pitch; tried to hit the ball with his bat] ▪ Some drunk *took a swing* at me. [=tried to hit me] **b** : the movement of something that swings backward and forward or from side to side ▪ the *swing* of a pendulum

2 [*count*] : a usually sudden change from one state or condition to another ▪ upward/downward *swings* in the stock market ▪ She couldn't deal with his unpredictable ***mood swings***. [=changes in his mood]

3 [*count*] : a seat that hangs from ropes or chains and that moves back and forth ▪ The kids were playing on the *swings*. ▪ We sat on the porch *swing* and watched the neighbors. — see picture at PLAYGROUND

4 [*noncount*] : a style of jazz music that has a lively rhythm and that is played mostly for dancing

go with a swing *Brit, informal* : to be lively and enjoyable ▪ What a great party! It really *went with a swing*!

in full swing : at the highest level of activity ▪ Work on the project is *in full swing*. ▪ The party was *in full swing* by the time we arrived.

in/into the swing of *informal* : fully involved and comfortable with (a regular activity, process, etc.) ▪ After a while, she ***got into the swing of*** her job. [=she got used to her job and was able to do it well] ▪ I've been away on vacation but I should ***be (back) in the swing of things*** in a few days.

swings and roundabouts *Brit, informal* — used to say that two choices or situations are basically the same because they have an equal number of advantages and disadvantages ▪ It is a case of *swings and roundabouts*.

³swing *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : of or relating to the style of jazz music called swing ▪ a *swing* band ▪ *swing* music/dancing

2 : not certain to vote for a particular candidate or party in an election and therefore often able to decide the result of the election ▪ *swing* voters/states

swing bridge *noun, pl* ~ **bridges** [*count*] : a bridge that can be moved or raised so that tall boats can pass under it

swinge•ing /ˈswɪnʤɪŋ/ *adj, Brit*

1 : very large and difficult to deal with ▪ Homeowners now face *swingeing* increases in their bills. ▪ *swingeing* fines/penalties/taxes ▪ *swingeing* cuts in pay

2 : very critical or severe ▪ a *swingeing* criticism of the government's policies

swing•er /ˈswɪŋɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 *informal + old-fashioned* : someone who is lively, entertaining, and fashionable

2 : someone who has sex with many people ▪ She and her husband are *swingers*. [=they have a relationship in which

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each of them is allowed to have sex with many other people]

swing·ing /ˈswɪŋɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal + old-fashioned* : lively or exciting ▪ This music is really *swinging*. ▪ a *swinging* party

swinging door *noun, pl* ~ **doors** [*count*] *US* : a door that can be pushed open from either side and that swings shut when it is released — called also (*Brit*) *swing door*

swing set *noun, pl* ~ **sets** [*count*] *US* : a wooden or metal structure that has swings hanging from it and that may have a slide or other things attached to it for children to play on

swing shift *noun, pl* ~ **shifts** [*count*] *US* : a scheduled period of work that begins in the afternoon and ends at night ▪ He works the *swing shift*.

[1]swipe /ˈswaɪp/ *verb* **swipes**; **swiped**; **swip·ing**

1 : to reach toward and try to hit (something) with a swinging motion [+ *obj*] The cat *swiped* the dog across the nose. [*no obj*] — usually + *at* ▪ The cat *swiped at* the dog.

2 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to steal (something) ▪ They *swiped* some candy from the store. ▪ She *swiped* my idea.

3 [+ *obj*] : to pass (a credit card, ATM card, etc.) through a machine that reads information from it ▪ The cashier *swiped* the credit card and gave it back to me.

[2]swipe *noun, pl* **swipes** [*count*]

1 *informal* : a criticism or insult that is directed toward a particular person or group ▪ She ***took a swipe at*** her former company in her latest column.

2 : a swinging movement of a person's hand, an animal's paw, etc., that is done in an attempt to hit something ▪ a *swipe* of the cat's paw ▪ He ***took a swipe at*** the ball. [=he swung at the ball and tried to hit it]

swipe card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] : a special plastic card with a magnetic strip that has information which can be read by special machines

[1]swirl /ˈswɚl/ *verb* **swirls**; **swirled**; **swirl·ing** : to move in circles or to cause (something) to move in circles [+ *obj*] She *swirled* the drink (around) in her glass. [*no obj*] The water *swirled* around/down the drain. ▪ strong *swirling* winds — often used figuratively ▪ Rumors are *swirling* about/around the team. [=there are a lot of rumors about the team]

[2]swirl *noun, pl* **swirls** [*count*]

1 : a twisting or swirling movement, form, or object ▪ A *swirl* of smoke rose from the chimney. ▪ He painted *swirls* of color on the canvas. ▪ ice cream with chocolate *swirls*

2 : a state of busy movement or activity — usually + *of* ▪ She was caught up in the *swirl of* events.

[1]swish /ˈswɪʃ/ *verb* **swish·es**; **swished**; **swish·ing** : to move with or cause (something) to move with a soft sweeping or brushing sound [*no obj*] He watched as the windshield wipers *swished* back and forth. ▪ The horse's tail *swished* back and forth. [+ *obj*] The horse *swished* its tail back and forth.

– **swish** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ The horse shooed the flies away with a *swish* of its tail.

[2]swish *adj, Brit, informal* : fashionable and expensive : SWANKY ▪ a *swish* hotel

[1]Swiss /ˈswɪs/ *adj* : of or relating to Switzerland or its people ▪ *Swiss* history ▪ the *Swiss* ski team

[2]Swiss *noun*

the Swiss : the people of Switzerland ▪ the traditions of *the Swiss*

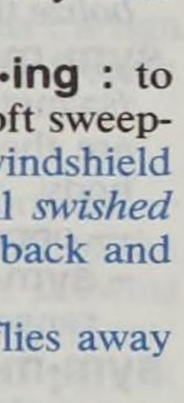
Swiss chard *noun* [*noncount*] : CHARD

Swiss cheese *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of cheese that is hard and pale yellow and that has many large holes

Swiss roll *noun, pl* ~ **rolls** [*count, noncount*] *Brit* : JELLY ROLL

[1]switch /ˈswɪʧ/ *noun, pl* **switch·es** [*count*]

1 : a small device that starts or stops the flow of electricity to something (such as a lamp or a machine) when it is pressed or moved up and down ▪ She flicked a *switch* and turned the lamp/lights on. ▪ a light/dimmer *switch* ▪ He threw the *switch* to stop the machine. — see also DIP SWITCH, TOGGLE SWITCH



switch

2 : a sudden change from one thing to another — usually singular ▪ a *switch* from the old way of doing things ▪ There has been a *switch* in plans. [=the plans have changed] ▪ If you're not happy in your current job, maybe it's time to ***make a switch*** (to another job). ▪ "He says he'll do it himself." "Well, ***that's a switch***." [=that's something unusual] — see also BAIT AND SWITCH

3 *US* : a device for moving the rails of a track so that a train may be turned from one track to another

4 : a thin stick that can be easily bent

[2]switch *verb* **switches**; **switched**; **switch·ing**

1 : to make a change from one thing to another : to start doing or using something that is different [*no obj*] I *switched* to a new doctor. ▪ He kept *switching* back and forth between topics. ▪ She *switched* back to/from her original insurance company. ▪ We *switched* over to a different telephone service. [+ *obj*] Why did you *switch* jobs?

2 : to make a change from one thing to another by turning or pushing a button or moving a switch, lever, etc. [*no obj*] He *switched* (over) to a different channel. [+ *obj*] Stop *switching* channels.

3 [+ *obj*] : to change or replace (something) with another thing ▪ They *switched* places/positions/roles/sides. ▪ He *switched* (around) his last two appointments. ▪ (*US*) He is going to ***switch (shifts) with*** me Monday. [=he will work my shift and I will work his shift on Monday]

switch gears see [1]GEAR

switch off [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***switch (something) off*** *or* ***switch off (something)*** : to turn off (something) by turning or pushing a button or moving a switch, lever, etc. ▪ He *switched off* the light/lamp. **2** *informal* : to stop paying attention ▪ When the topic turned to the stock market, he *switched off*. [=*tuned out*]

switch on [*phrasal verb*] ***switch (something) on*** *or* ***switch on (something)*** : to turn on (something) by turning or pushing a button or moving a switch, lever, etc. ▪ I *switched on* the TV and watched the news.

switch·back /ˈswɪʧˌbæk/ *noun, pl* **-backs** [*count*] : a road, trail, or section of railroad tracks that has many sharp turns for climbing a steep hill

switch·blade /ˈswɪʧˌbleɪd/ *noun, pl* **-blades** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a knife that has a blade inside the handle which springs out when a button is pressed — called also (*Brit*) *flick-knife*

switch·board /ˈswɪʧˌboɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] : a system used to connect telephone calls with many separate phone lines in a building ▪ She used to work as a *switchboard* operator. ▪ Angry callers flooded/jammed the company's *switchboard*. [=made telephone calls to the company]

switch·er·oo /ˌswɪʧəˈruː/ *noun, pl* **-oos** [*count*] *US, informal* : an unexpected or secret change ▪ They changed to a different system without telling anyone that they had ***pulled a switcheroo***.

switch–hit·ter /ˈswɪʧˈhɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *baseball* : a batter who bats right-handed against a left-handed pitcher and left-handed against a right-handed pitcher

– **switch–hit** /ˈswɪʧˈhɪt/ *verb* **-hits**; **-hit**; **-hit·ting** [*no obj*] ▪ His father taught him how to *switch-hit* when he was a kid.

[1]swiv·el /ˈswɪvəl/ *noun, pl* **-els** [*count*] : a device that joins two parts so that one of the parts can turn or spin while the other part does not move ▪ a ***swivel chair*** [=a chair with the seat mounted on a swivel so that it turns freely]

[2]swivel *verb* **-els**; *US* **-eled** *or Brit* **-elled**; *US* **-el·ing** *or Brit* **-el·ling** : to turn around [*no obj*] He *swiveled* [=*spun*] around to see who was calling him. ▪ She *swiveled* in her seat to check the time. [+ *obj*] The owl *swiveled* [=*twisted*] its head around. ▪ She *swiveled* the chair around to face us.

swollen see [1]SWELL

swoon /ˈswuːn/ *verb* **swoons**; **swooned**; **swoon·ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to become very excited about someone or something — usually + *over* ▪ Teenage girls *swooned over* the band's lead singer.

2 *old-fashioned* : to suddenly become unconscious : FAINT ▪ She almost *swooned* from fright.

– **swoon** *noun* [*singular*] *old-fashioned* ▪ She fell into a *swoon*. [=she swooned]

swoop /ˈswuːp/ *verb* **swoops**; **swooped**; **swoop·ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to fly down through the air suddenly — usually + *down* ▪ A hawk *swooped down* and caught a rabbit in the field.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to arrive at a place suddenly and unexpectedly ▪ The police *swooped* in and captured the criminals.

in/at one fell swoop see [3]FELL

– **swoop** *noun, pl* **swoops** [*count*] ▪ the *swoop* of a hawk

swoosh /ˈswuːʃ/ *verb* **swoosh·es**; **swooshed**; **swoosh-ing** [*no obj*] : to make sound by moving quickly through the air ▪ The ball *swooshed* by/past my head.

– **swoosh** *noun, pl* **swooshes** [*count*] ▪ I heard a loud

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swoosh as the ball flew past my head.

swop *Brit spelling of* SWAP

sword /ˈsoɚd/ *noun, pl* **swords** [*count*] : a weapon with a long metal blade that has a sharp point and edge

beat/turn swords into plowshares *literary* : to stop fighting wars and begin to live peacefully

cross swords see ²CROSS

put (someone) to the sword *literary* : to kill (someone) with a sword

sword of Dam·o·cles /-ˈdæməˌkliːz/ : something bad and frightening that might happen at any time ▪ a threat that hangs over us like a/the *sword of Damocles*

sword·fish /ˈsoɚdˌfɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **-fish** [*count*] : a very large fish that lives in the ocean, that has a long, pointed upper jaw which looks like a sword, and that is eaten as food

sword·play /ˈsoɚdˌpleɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the art or skill of fighting with a sword

swords·man /ˈsoɚdzmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a person who fights with a sword ▪ a skilled *swordsman*

swore *past tense of* ¹SWEAR

¹sworn *past participle of* ¹SWEAR

²sworn /ˈswoɚn/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 — used to describe people who have openly stated their feelings, opinions, etc. ▪ He's a *sworn* conservative. ▪ They are ***sworn enemies/friends.***

2 : made or given by someone who has made a formal promise to tell the truth ▪ *sworn* testimony/statements

¹swot /ˈswɑːt/ *noun, pl* **swots** [*count*] *Brit, informal + disapproving* : a person who works or studies too much ▪ At university he had a reputation as a *swot*. [=(*US*) *grind*]

²swot *verb* **swots**; **swotted**; **swotting** [*no obj*] *Brit, informal* : to study very hard for an exam — + *for* ▪ He's been *swotting for* the French exam.

swot up [*phrasal verb*] ***swot up*** *or* ***swot (something) up*** *or* ***swot up (something)*** : to study (something) very hard ▪ She *swotted up* for the French exam. = She *swotted up* French for the exam. — often + *on* ▪ He needs to *swot up on* French verbs.

swum *past participle of* ¹SWIM

swung *past tense and past participle of* ¹SWING

syb·a·rit·ic /ˌsɪbəˈrɪtɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *literary* : relating to, desiring, or involving expensive comforts and pleasures ▪ *sybaritic* desires/pleasures/entertainments/excesses ▪ a *sybaritic* lifestyle

syc·a·more /ˈsɪkəˌmoɚ/ *noun, pl* **-mores** [*count*]

1 : a tree of the eastern and central U.S. that has light-brown bark that peels off in thin flakes

2 : a type of European maple tree with five-pointed leaves

sy·co·phant /ˈsɪkəfənt/ *noun, pl* **-phants** [*count*] *formal + disapproving* : a person who praises powerful people in order to get their approval

– **sy·co·phan·cy** /ˈsɪkəfənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Her praise was obvious *sycophancy*. – **sy·co·phan·tic** /ˌsɪkəˈfæntɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ *sycophantic* praise/flattery

syl·lab·ic /səˈlæbɪk/ *adj, linguistics* : of or relating to syllables ▪ *syllabic* accent/stress

syl·la·ble /ˈsɪləbəl/ *noun, pl* **-la·bles** [*count*] : any one of the parts into which a word is naturally divided when it is pronounced ▪ The word "doctor" has two *syllables*. ▪ "Doctor" is a two-*syllable* word. ▪ The first *syllable* of the word "doctor" is given stress.

in words of one syllable see ¹WORD

syl·la·bus /ˈsɪləbəs/ *noun, pl* **-bi** /-ˌbaɪ/ *or* **-bus·es** [*count*] : a list of the topics or books that will be studied in a course

syl·lo·gism /ˈsɪləˌʤɪzəm/ *noun, pl* **-gisms** [*count*] *formal* : a formal argument in logic that is formed by two statements and a conclusion which must be true if the two statements are true ▪ An example of a *syllogism* is: "All men are human; all humans are mortal; therefore all men are mortal."

sylph /ˈsɪlf/ *noun, pl* **sylphs** [*count*] *literary* : a thin and graceful woman or girl

– **sylph·like** /ˈsɪlfˌlaɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *sylphlike* young woman

syl·van /ˈsɪlvən/ *adj, literary* : having a lot of woods or trees ▪ a *sylvan* setting ▪ *sylvan* surroundings

sym·bi·o·sis /ˌsɪmbiˈoʊsəs/ *noun, pl* **-o·ses** /-ˈoʊˌsiːz/

1 *biology* : the relationship between two different kinds of living things that live together and depend on each other [*count*] — usually singular ▪ The bacteria exist in a *symbiosis* with the plant's roots. [*noncount*] The bird lives in *symbiosis* with the hippopotamus.

2 *formal* : a relationship between two people or groups that work with and depend on each other [*count*] — usually singular ▪ There is a *symbiosis* between celebrities and the media. [*noncount*] Their professional association was one of *symbiosis*.

– **sym·bi·ot·ic** /ˌsɪmbiˈɑːtɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *symbiotic* relationship – **sym·bi·ot·i·cal·ly** /ˌsɪmbiˈɑːtɪkli/ *adv*

sym·bol /ˈsɪmbəl/ *noun, pl* **-bols** [*count*]

1 : an action, object, event, etc., that expresses or represents a particular idea or quality — often + *of* ▪ The wearing of black clothing is often a *symbol of* mourning in Western cultures. ▪ The lion is a *symbol of* courage. ▪ The flag is a *symbol of* our country. — see also SEX SYMBOL, STATUS SYMBOL

2 : a letter, group of letters, character, or picture that is used instead of a word or group of words ▪ The company's *symbol* [=*logo*] is a red umbrella. — usually + *for* ▪ "K" is the *symbol for* a strikeout in baseball. ▪ "Cl" is the chemical *symbol for* chlorine. ▪ "+" is the *symbol for* addition.

sym·bol·ic /sɪmˈbɑːlɪk/ *also* **sym·bol·i·cal** /sɪmˈbɑːlɪkəl/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] : expressing or representing an idea or quality without using words ▪ The lighting of the candles is *symbolic*. ▪ a purely *symbolic* act/gesture [=an act/gesture that is intended as a symbol of something but that does not have any real effect] — often + *of* ▪ Wedding rings are *symbolic of* eternal love. ▪ The dove is *symbolic of* peace.

2 [*more ~; most ~*] : relating to or being used as a symbol ▪ The number 7 has *symbolic* significance/importance [=has significance/importance as a symbol] in their religion. ▪ The sharing of the wine has *symbolic* meaning.

3 : using symbols ▪ *symbolic* writing

– **sym·bol·i·cal·ly** /sɪmˈbɑːlɪkli/ *adv* ▪ *Symbolically*, the color green represents envy. ▪ The storm is *symbolically* important in the story.

sym·bol·ism /ˈsɪmbəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the use of symbols to express or represent ideas or qualities in literature, art, etc. ▪ The story was filled with religious *symbolism*.

2 : the particular idea or quality that is expressed by a symbol ▪ What is the *symbolism* of the lion in the picture? [=what does the lion symbolize in the picture?]

sym·bol·ize *also Brit* **sym·bol·ise** /ˈsɪmbəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es**; **-ized**; **-iz·ing** [+ *obj*] : to be a symbol of (something) ▪ The lion *symbolizes* [=*represents*] courage. ▪ She came to *symbolize* the women's movement in America.

sym·met·ri·cal /səˈmɛtrɪkəl/ *also* **sym·met·ric** /səˈmɛtrɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having sides or halves that are the same : having or showing symmetry ▪ The human body is *symmetrical*. ▪ a *symmetrical* design/pattern — opposite ASYMMETRICAL

– **sym·met·ri·cal·ly** /səˈmɛtrɪkli/ *adv* ▪ *symmetrically* arranged/divided

sym·me·try /ˈsɪmətri/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality of something that has two sides or halves that are the same or very close in size, shape, and position : the quality of having symmetrical parts ▪ the *symmetry* of the human body ▪ The building has perfect *symmetry*.

sym·pa·thet·ic /ˌsɪmpəˈθɛtɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : feeling or showing concern about someone who is in a bad situation : having or showing feelings of sympathy ▪ He received much help from *sympathetic* friends. — often + *to* or *toward* ▪ She is very *sympathetic to/toward* the poor.

2 *not used before a noun* : having or showing support for or approval of something — often + *to* or *toward* ▪ He was not *sympathetic to/toward* their cause. [=he did not support their cause]

3 : having pleasant or appealing qualities : causing feelings of sympathy ▪ The book doesn't really have any *sympathetic* [=*likable*] characters. ▪ I didn't find the hero in the movie very *sympathetic*.

– **sym·pa·thet·i·cal·ly** /ˌsɪmpəˈθɛtɪkli/ *adv* ▪ She *sympathetically* asked how she could help. ▪ The character was treated *sympathetically*.

sym·pa·thize *also Brit* **sym·pa·thise** /ˈsɪmpəˌθaɪz/ *verb* **-thiz·es**; **-thized**; **-thiz·ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to feel sorry for someone who is in a bad situation : to feel sympathy for someone because you understand that person's problems ▪ I *sympathize* but how can I help? — often + *with* ▪ I *sympathize with* you. — compare EMPATHIZE

2 : to feel or show support for or approval of something — + *with* ▪ She *sympathized with* their cause.

– **sym·pa·thiz·er** *also Brit* **sym·pa·this·er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ The group has many *sympathizers*. [=*supporters*]

sym·pa·thy /ˈsɪmpəθi/ *noun, pl* **-thies**

1 : the feeling that you care about and are sorry about someone else's trouble, grief, misfortune, etc. : a sympathetic feeling [*noncount*] She went to her best friend for *sympathy*. ▪ Letters of *sympathy* were sent to the families of the victims. — often + *for* ▪ There is a lot of *sympathy for* the families of the victims. ▪ I have no *sympathy for* her. [*count*] My deepest *sympathies* go out to the families of the victims. ▪ Our *sympathies* are with them. — often + *for* ▪ She has/feels a deep *sympathy for* the families of the victims. — compare EMPATHY; see also TEA AND SYMPATHY

2 : a feeling of support for something [*noncount*] — often + *for* ▪ He expressed *sympathy for* the rebels. [*plural*] She has liberal/conservative *sympathies*. — often + *with* ▪ Her *sympathies* are/lie *with* the rebels.

3 [*noncount*] : a state in which different people share the same interests, opinions, goals, etc. ▪ There was no *sympathy* between them. — often + *with* ▪ He's not ***in sympathy with*** the other members of the group. = He's ***out of sympathy with*** the other members. ▪ He seems to be *in sympathy with* our views. [=to agree with and support our views]

sym·phon·ic /sɪmˈfɑːnɪk/ *adj* : of or relating to a symphony or symphony orchestra ▪ *symphonic* music

sym·pho·ny /ˈsɪmfəni/ *noun, pl* **-nies** [*count*]

1 : a long piece of music that is usually in four large, separate sections and that is performed by an orchestra

2 : SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

symphony orchestra *noun, pl* ~ **-tras** [*count*] : a large orchestra of musicians who play classical music together and are led by a conductor ▪ She's a member of the Chicago *Symphony Orchestra*.

sym·po·sium /sɪmˈpoʊzijəm/ *noun, pl* **-sia** /-zijə/ *or* **-siums** [*count*] *formal*

1 : a formal meeting at which experts discuss a particular topic ▪ Professors and graduate students attended the *symposium*. — often + *on* ▪ a *symposium on* cloning

2 : a collection of articles on a particular subject — often + *on* ▪ The organization will be publishing a *symposium on* genetic research.

symp·tom /ˈsɪmptəm/ *noun, pl* **-toms** [*count*]

1 : a change in the body or mind which indicates that a disease is present ▪ cold/flu *symptoms* — often + *of* ▪ *symptoms of* heart disease ▪ a *symptom of* depression

2 : a change which shows that something bad exists : a sign of something bad — often + *of* ▪ Layoffs and salary freezes are *symptoms of* a company in financial trouble.

symp·tom·at·ic /ˌsɪmptəˈmætɪk/ *adj*

1 *medical* **a** : showing that a particular disease is present — usually + *of* ▪ A fever and runny nose are *symptomatic of* the flu. [=are symptoms of the flu] **b** : relating to or showing symptoms of a disease ▪ *symptomatic* relief/improvement/treatments ▪ The patient was not *symptomatic*. [=the patient did not have any symptoms] — opposite ASYMPTOMATIC

2 *formal* : showing the existence of a particular problem — usually + *of* ▪ The child's behavior is *symptomatic of* an unstable home life. ▪ Poor sales are *symptomatic* [=*characteristic*] *of* a poor economy.

– **symp·tom·at·i·cal·ly** /ˌsɪmptəˈmætɪkli/ *adv*

syn·a·gogue /ˈsɪnəˌgɑːg/ *noun, pl* **-gogues** [*count*] : a building that is used for Jewish religious services

syn·apse /ˈsɪˌnæps/ *noun, pl* **-aps·es** [*count*] *biology* : the place where a signal passes from one nerve cell to another

– **syn·ap·tic** /səˈnæptɪk/ *adj* ▪ *synaptic* connections

sync *also* **synch** /ˈsɪŋk/ *noun*

in sync **1** : in a state in which two or more people or things move or happen together at the same time and speed ▪ The dancers moved *in sync*. ▪ The film's sound and picture need to be *in sync*. — often + *with* ▪ She moved *in sync with* her partner. **2** : in a state in which two or more people or things agree with or match one another and work together properly ▪ Our ideas are *in sync*. — often + *with* ▪ The quarterback was *in sync with* his receivers. ▪ The President is not *in sync with* [=the President does not understand] the interests and concerns of the people. ▪ Her views are *in sync with* [=her views agree with] our own.

out of sync **1** : in a state in which two or more people or things do not move or happen together at the same time and speed ▪ Some of the soldiers were marching *out of sync*. ▪ The soundtrack was *out of sync* so they stopped the film. — often + *with* ▪ She was *out of sync with* the other dancers.

2 : in a state in which two or more people or things do not agree with or match one another ▪ All the clocks in the office are *out of sync*. [=all the clocks show different times] — often + *with* ▪ His actions are completely *out of sync with* our goals.

– see also LIP-SYNCH

syn·chro·nize *also Brit* **syn·chro·nise** /ˈsɪŋkrəˌnaɪz/ *verb* **-niz·es**; **-nized**; **-niz·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to cause (things) to agree in time or to make (things) happen at the same time and speed ▪ They *synchronized* their watches. [=they adjusted their watches so that they all showed the same time] ▪ The dancers practiced until they *synchronized* their movements.

2 [*no obj*] : to happen at the same time and speed ▪ The sound and picture have to *synchronize* perfectly. — often + *with* ▪ The sound has to *synchronize with* the picture.

– **syn·chro·ni·za·tion** *also Brit* **syn·chro·ni·sa·tion** /ˌsɪŋkrənəˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *synchronization* of sound and action ▪ The dancers moved in perfect *synchronization*.

synchronized swimming *noun* [*noncount*] : a sport in which swimmers move together in patterns to music

– **synchronized swimmer** *noun, pl* ~ **-mers** [*count*]

syn·chro·nous /ˈsɪŋkrənəs/ *adj, formal + technical* : happening, moving, or existing at the same time ▪ *synchronous* developments/movements

syn·chro·ny /ˈsɪŋkrəni/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal + technical* : a state in which things happen, move, or exist at the same time ▪ The objects moved ***in synchrony with*** each other. [=at the same time]

syn·co·pat·ed /ˈsɪŋkəˌpeɪtəd/ *adj, of music* : of, relating to, or having a rhythm that stresses the weak beats instead of the strong beats ▪ *syncopated* beats ▪ a *syncopated* melody/rhythm

syn·co·pa·tion /ˌsɪŋkəˈpeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *music* : musical rhythm in which stress is given to the weak beats instead of the strong beats

[1]syn·di·cate /ˈsɪndɪkət/ *noun, pl* **-cates** [*count*]

1 a : a group of people or businesses that work together ▪ A *syndicate* owns the company. — often + *of* ▪ The company is owned by a *syndicate of* investors. ▪ The money for the project was provided by a *syndicate of* banks. **b** : a group of people who are involved in organized crime ▪ a crime *syndicate*

2 : a business that sells something (such as a piece of writing, comic strip, or photograph) to several different newspapers or magazines for publication at the same time : a business that syndicates something

3 : a group of newspapers that are managed by one company ▪ a newspaper *syndicate*

[2]syn·di·cate /ˈsɪndəˌkeɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat·ed**; **-cat·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to sell (something, such as a piece of writing, comic strip, or photograph) to many different newspapers or magazines for publication at the same time ▪ The company *syndicates* her work. — often used as *(be) syndicated* ▪ His column *is syndicated* in all the major newspapers. ▪ a *syndicated* column/columnist

2 : to sell (a series of television or radio programs) to many different stations at the same time ▪ The company *syndicated* the show to local stations. — often used as *(be) syndicated* ▪ The program has *been syndicated* nationally. ▪ a *syndicated* program

– **syn·di·ca·tion** /ˌsɪndəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The television show's *syndication* begins next fall. ▪ The show is now ***in syndication***. [=reruns of the show are being shown on different stations that have paid to show them]

syn·drome /ˈsɪnˌdroʊm/ *noun, pl* **-dromes** [*count*] : a disease or disorder that involves a particular group of signs and symptoms ▪ a rare *syndrome* ▪ psychological *syndromes* — see also CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME, DOWN SYNDROME, PREMENSTRUAL SYNDROME, SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME, TOURETTE'S SYNDROME, TOXIC SHOCK SYNDROME

syn·er·gy /ˈsɪnəʤi/ *noun, pl* **-gies** *technical* : the increased effectiveness that results when two or more people or businesses work together [*count*] A *synergy* has developed among the different groups working on this project. [*noncount*] two companies that have found *synergy*

syn·od /ˈsɪnəd/ *noun, pl* **-ods** [*count*]

1 : a formal meeting of church leaders

2 : a group of church leaders who are in charge of making

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decisions and laws related to the church

syn•o•nym /ˈsɪnəˌnɪm/ *noun, pl* **-nyms** [*count*]
1 : a word that has the same meaning as another word in the same language ▪ "Small" and "little" are *synonyms*. — often + *for* or *of* ▪ Can you think of a *synonym for* "original"? ▪ "Small" is a *synonym of* "little." — opposite ANTONYM
2 : a word, name, or phrase that very strongly suggests a particular idea, quality, etc. — + *for* ▪ He is a tyrant whose name has become a *synonym for* oppression.

syn•on•y•mous /səˈnɑːnəməs/ *adj*
1 : having the same meaning ▪ "Small" and "little" are *synonymous*. [=are synonyms] ▪ *synonymous* words — often + *with* ▪ "Small" is *synonymous with* "little."
2 *not used before a noun* : strongly suggesting a particular idea, quality, etc. : very strongly associated with something — + *with* ▪ The company's name is *synonymous with* quality.
– **syn•on•y•mous•ly** *adv* ▪ two words that are used *synonymously*

syn•op•sis /səˈnɑːpsəs/ *noun, pl* **syn•op•ses** /səˈnɑːpˌsiːz/ [*count*] *formal* : a short description of the most important information about something : a summary or outline ▪ a plot *synopsis* — often + *of* ▪ She gave us a brief *synopsis of* the report/story.
– **syn•op•tic** /səˈnɑːptɪk/ *adj* ▪ He gave a *synoptic* overview of the project.

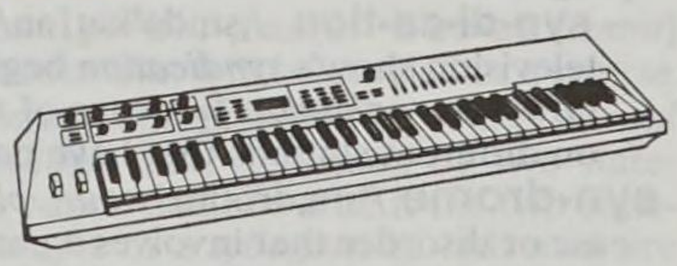
syn•tac•tic /sɪnˈtæktɪk/ *or* **syn•tac•ti•cal** /sɪnˈtæktɪkəl/ *adj, linguistics* : of or relating to syntax ▪ *syntactic* rules/structures
– **syn•tac•ti•cal•ly** /sɪnˈtæktɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The sentence is *syntactically* incorrect.

syn•tax /ˈsɪnˌtæks/ *noun* [*noncount*] *linguistics* : the way in which words are put together to form phrases, clauses, or sentences ▪ "I saw that she a cookie ate" is an example of incorrect *syntax*.

syn•the•sis /ˈsɪnθəsəs/ *noun, pl* **-the•ses** /-θəˌsiːz/
1 [*count*] *formal* : something that is made by combining different things (such as ideas, styles, etc.) — often + *of* ▪ The band's sound is a *synthesis of* jazz and rock music. ▪ His theory is actually a *synthesis of* several other theories.
2 *technical* : the production of a substance by combining simpler substances through a chemical process [*count*] — usually singular; often + *of* ▪ the *synthesis of* water from hydrogen and oxygen [*noncount*] protein *synthesis* — see also PHOTOSYNTHESIS
3 [*noncount*] : the production of sounds or speech by using electronic equipment ▪ voice/speech *synthesis*

syn•the•size *also Brit* **syn•the•sise** /ˈsɪnθəˌsaɪz/ *verb* **-siz•es**; **-sized**; **-siz•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *formal* **a** : to make (something) by combining different things ▪ She *synthesized* the treatment from traditional and modern philosophies of medicine. **b** : to combine (things) in order to make something new ▪ He *synthesized* old and new ideas to form his theory.
2 *technical* : to make (something) from simpler substances through a chemical process ▪ Scientists *synthesize* new drugs. ▪ Glands *synthesize* the enzymes. ▪ Amino acid is *synthesized* in the body.
3 : to produce (sounds, speech, etc.) by using electronic equipment ▪ He *synthesized* the drumbeat. [=he created the drumbeat by using a synthesizer]
– **synthesized** *also Brit* **synthesised** *adj* ▪ *synthesized* proteins/drugs ▪ *synthesized* music ▪ a *synthesized* voice ▪ The drumbeat is *synthesized*.

syn•the•siz•er *also Brit* **syn•the•sis•er** /ˈsɪnθəˌsaɪzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : an electronic machine that produces and controls sound and is used especially in music and for reproducing speech ▪ The band used a *synthesizer* for the drumbeat.



synthesizer

[1]syn•thet•ic /sɪnˈθɛtɪk/ *adj* : made by combining different substances : not natural ▪ *synthetic* drugs/chemicals/rubber ▪ The material is *synthetic*. [=*man-made*]
– **syn•thet•i•cal•ly** /sɪnˈθɛtɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The fibers are *synthetically* produced.

[2]synthetic *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] : something made by combining different artificial substances ▪ The drug is a *synthetic*. — usually plural ▪ The fabric is made of *synthetics*.

syph•i•lis /ˈsɪfələs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a very serious disease that is spread through sexual intercourse
– **syph•i•lit•ic** /ˌsɪfəˈlɪtɪk/ *adj* ▪ *syphilitic* symptoms/patients

syphon *variant spelling of* SIPHON

sy•ringe /səˈrɪnʤ/ *noun, pl* **-ring•es** [*count*] : a device made of a hollow tube and a needle that is used to force fluids into or take fluids out of the body

syr•up /ˈsirəp/ *noun, pl* **-ups**
1 [*noncount*] : a sweet, thick liquid made of sugar and water with flavoring or medicine added to it ▪ a medicinal *syrup* ▪ ice cream and chocolate *syrup* — see also COUGH SYRUP
2 [*count, noncount*] : a sweet, thick liquid made from the juice of a fruit or plant ▪ She poured *syrup* all over her pancakes. ▪ fruit *syrups* — see also CORN SYRUP, MAPLE SYRUP

syr•upy /ˈsirəpi/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : thick and sweet like syrup ▪ a *syrupy* liquid ▪ ice cream topped with a *syrupy* fruit sauce
2 *disapproving* : too romantic or emotional ▪ a *syrupy* [=*sappy*] love song

sys•tem /ˈsɪstəm/ *noun, pl* **-tems**
1 [*count*] : a group of related parts that move or work together ▪ a *system* of rivers ▪ railroad *systems* ▪ a security/telephone/heating *system* ▪ an alarm *system* ▪ a stereo/computer *system* — see also ECOSYSTEM, PA SYSTEM, PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM, SOLAR SYSTEM, SOUND SYSTEM
2 [*count*] **a** : a body of a person or animal thought of as an entire group of parts that work together — usually singular ▪ The disease affected her entire *system*. ▪ Greasy foods are not good for your *system*. ▪ No drugs were found in his *system*. **b** : a group of organs that work together to perform an important function of the body ▪ the digestive/reproductive/respiratory *system* — see also CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM, IMMUNE SYSTEM, NERVOUS SYSTEM
3 [*count*] : a way of managing, controlling, organizing, or doing something that follows a set of rules or a plan ▪ the legal *system* ▪ The players like the coach's *system*. ▪ Under the new *system*, students will have to pass an exam to graduate. ▪ She devised a new filing *system*. ▪ We need a better *system* for handling incoming e-mail. — often + *of* ▪ the state's *system of* education ▪ a democratic *system of* government ▪ Every religion has its own *system of* beliefs and practices. — see also HONOR SYSTEM, METRIC SYSTEM, OPERATING SYSTEM
4 ***the system*** *disapproving* : a powerful government or social organization that controls people's lives ▪ You can't beat *the system*. ▪ We spent our youth rebelling against *the system*.
all systems (are) go see [2]GO
a shock to the/your system see [1]SHOCK
get it out of your system *informal* **1** : to do something that you have been wanting to do so that you no longer feel a strong desire to do it ▪ You keep talking about making a cross-country trip. I think you just need to do it and *get it out of your system*. **2** : to get rid of a strong emotion (such as anger) by doing something ▪ He really angered her, so she went for a walk to *get it out of her system*.
the buddy system see [1]BUDDY

sys•tem•at•ic /ˌsɪstəˈmætɪk/ *adj* : using a careful system or method : done according to a system ▪ We used a *systematic* approach to solve the problem. ▪ She made a *systematic* study of the evidence. ▪ He is very *systematic* [=*methodical*] in his work. ▪ the *systematic* production of cars
– **sys•tem•at•i•cal•ly** /ˌsɪstəˈmætɪkli/ *adv* ▪ We approached the problem *systematically*.

sys•tem•a•tize *also Brit* **sys•tem•a•tise** /ˈsɪstəməˌtaɪz/ *verb* **-tiz•es**; **-tized**; **-tiz•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*
1 : to make (something) into a system ▪ The country is *systematizing* yearly exams for high-school students.
2 : to organize (something) by using a system ▪ The computer program *systematizes* the data and enters it into a table.

sys•tem•ic /sɪˈstɛmɪk/ *adj*
1 *formal* : of or relating to an entire system ▪ The company made some *systemic* changes to the way it operated. ▪ The problem seems to be *systemic*.
2 *medical* : of, relating to, or affecting the entire body ▪ a *systemic* disease

systems analysis *noun, pl* ~ **-y•ses** [*count*] : the process of studying a procedure or business in order to identify its goals and purposes and create systems and procedures that will achieve them in an efficient way
– **systems analyst** *noun, pl* ~ **-lysts** [*count*]

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